



Guiden Sutton Parish Council

[Main Menu](#)

[Home](#)

[Introduction](#)

[History](#)

[Parish Councillors](#)

[Role of PC](#)

[PC Meeting Dates](#)

[PC Minutes](#)

[PC Newsletters](#)

[Community](#)

[Association](#)

[Marigold Newsletter](#)

[Political](#)

[Representatives](#)

[Police](#)

[Schools](#)

[Local Transport](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

[What's On](#)

[Lottery Results](#)

[Local Weather](#)

[Links](#)

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 7 November 2005 in Guiden Sutton Village Hall

Chairman: Cllr P M
Paterson

Present: Cllrs Armitage,
Bayton, Fisher, Hughes,
Paterson, Proudlove.

In attendance: City Cllr J
R Boughton, PC M Baker

Public Speaking Time.

Mr and Mrs P Hindley, 6
Orchard Croft and Mrs H
Crane, 4 Orchard Croft
requested the Clerk should
read letters they had
submitted concerning the
possible use of the dell for
provision for youth. The
Chairman responded and
indicated there was a
desire to provide facilities
for young people. No
action would be taken for
the foreseeable future on

the provision of facilities in the two City Council owned amenity areas within the parish. A request that a public seat might be provided in the dell had originated on behalf of elderly residents.

Action: Noted.

1. Apologies: Cllr G Young (employment), Cllr P Astbury (employment)

Action: Noted and accepted.

The Clerk further reported the apologies of City Cllr B J Bailey and County Cllr J E Burke.

2 Procedural matters.

(i) Declarations of interest. Members were reminded that they should declare any personal interest which they had in any matter or item to be considered at the meeting. Any declaration must be made before the matter, or item, was considered or as soon as the Member became aware a declaration was required. Similarly, if the interest was also a prejudicial one, this must be declared and the Member must leave the room and not seek to influence any decision made. Declarations were a

personal matter for each Member to decide. The decision to declare, or not, was the responsibility of the Member based on the particular circumstances.

(ii) Confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 10 October, 2005. The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 10 October, 2005 were proposed by Cllr Armitage, seconded by Cllr Hughes and agreed.

(iii) Dates of future meetings: These were confirmed as 12 December 2005, 9 January, 6 February, 6 March, 3 April, 8 May, 12 June and 17 July, 2006.

Provisional) 11 September, 9 October, 6 November and 11 December, 2006.

(iv) Quality Parish Council status. There was nothing further to report this stage.

(vi) Attendance at Remembrance Day service/ wreath laying. It was noted the service would be held on Sunday 13 November, 2005 at 1000

at Guilden Sutton Methodist Church followed by a service of remembrance at the War Memorial. **Action:**
Chairman of the Council to lay a wreath.

3 Planning.

(i) New applications.

05/00971/FUL corn/grain shed at Tile Farm, Wicker Lane, CH3 7EL for Mr and Mrs S Arden. **Cllr Hughes.** The decision notice was awaited. The Clerk reported that public notice had been given by Mr Arden of his intention to apply to the Environment Agency to use water from the River Gowy on no more than 30 days a year, when the river was high, to create a marshland area for wildlife. **Action: Noted.**

05/01384/CPO
remodelling of depot including construction of vehicle maintenance facility, mobile office and stores, refuelling facility and provision of security fencing, lighting and CCTV, provision of lorry and office staff parking, turning circle, new ramped access to storage area and reopening rear access to

site for cars at Guilden Sutton Highways Depot, Guilden Sutton CH3 7EX for Edmund Nuttall Ltd.
Cllrs Fisher/Bayton.

The Clerk reported that no decision had been taken on this application. He understood that concerns remained as to the reopening of the rear exit.

Action: Position to be ascertained by City Cllr J R Boughton.

05/01407/FUL (amended) first floor extension at Newhall Rise, School Lane for J R Cox. **Cllrs Hughes/Fisher.** It had been agreed that no objection should be raised

05/01689/FUL additional roof pitch over a garage in addition to planning permission 05/0806/FUL at 6 Orchard Croft CH3 7SL for Mr and Mrs P Hindley. **Action: Further inquiries would be made by Cllr Paterson.**

05/01716/FUL part single/part two storey side extension at 1 Yew Tree Villas, Hare Lane for Mr and Mrs N Moores. (neighbouring parish notification.) Cllr Bayton reported. No objection would raised. **Action:**

Planning authority to be informed.

05/01776/FUL first floor side extension at 2 Guilden Sutton Lane, CH3 7EY for Mrs L Wilson.

Action: Further inquiries to be made by Cllr Hughes.

05/01781/FUL extension at 38 School Lane, CH3 7ET for Mr A Walters.

Action: Further inquiries to be made by Cllr Fisher.

(ii) Decisions:

There were no decisions to report.

(iii) General: (i) Village Design Statement/Parish Plan: Defra interim parish plan scheme. The Clerk reported the receipt of information from Cheshire Community Council, by letter dated 11 October 2005, as to grant aid available from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs towards the cost of preparing a parish plan. **Action: Noted.**

Although very few responses had been received following the initial consultation, all had been positive. It was

agreed a public meeting should be held in the early Spring to elicit interest.

Action. Matter to be further considered in the New Year. (ii)

Cheshire Planning Forum, Friday 14 October, 2005. Cllr Armitage reported. He referred to a meeting of the Sustainable Cheshire Forum to be held on Thursday

24 November, 2005 at Trafford Hall.

(iv) Strategic planning. (a) Chester City Council: consultation on further proposed modifications to deposit draft Chester District Local Plan. It was noted that comments were due by 4.45pm, Friday 2 December 2005. (b) North West Regional Spatial Strategy consultation, session 5. it was noted that comments were due by Friday 25 November, 2005.

4 Parish car park.

There were no action items to report.

5 Leisure Services.

5 Leisure Services.

(i) Playing Field (a) repairs to basketball net mesh. A further approach would be made by the Clerk to Play and Leisure to secure the necessary repairs. **Action: The Clerk.** (b) clearance of ditch. Mr Gresty had indicated the work had not yet been fully completed. (c) replacement goal post nets. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Play Area (a) CCTV protocol. A protocol was being prepared by the Clerk. (b) inspection check list. Cllr Fisher reported that part of the previous equipment was protruding through the safety surfacing. The Chairman indicated the necessary repairs had been carried out earlier in the day. The Clerk had pursued the condition of the benches with the supplier. (c) annual independent playground inspection. The Clerk had been informed, by correspondence dated 12 October 2005, that the issuing of reports for the 2005 annual inspection of playgrounds have been delayed due to the illness of the consultant. Any matters of immediate concern would have been notified to the council at

the time of inspection.
The report would be
forwarded to the Chairman
when available.

(iii) Public Footpaths (a)
Footpath No. 7 public
inquiry. The Clerk reported
the public inquiry had
taken place on Wednesday
19 October 19, 2005
followed by a site visit on
Thursday 20 October,
2005.

The only objectors to
appear had been Guilden
Sutton Parish Council,
represented by the Clerk
who had called the Vice
Chairman, Cllr R M
Armitage, Mickle Trafford
and District Parish Council
and Mr M Davies, Church
Lane, Guilden Sutton. It
had become apparent,
from remarks addressed
by the Inspector to the
Clerk, that the routes
already had the legal
status of byways open to
all traffic and the question
related to their recording
on the definitive map. This
had been disappointing.
The Inspector's decision
was awaited. (ii)
application for traffic
regulation order. The case
for a pre-emptive traffic
regulation order had been
presented to the Inspector
by the Clerk and Vice
Chairman. The Clerk had

indicated that new guidance was expected from the Secretary of State but the Inspector had pointed out this would be a matter for the County Council to implement. (b) sign Oxen Lane/ conditions, Oxen Bridge/ sign, Bird in Hand/sign Guilden Sutton Lane. It was not known what action, if any, had been taken in relation to the concerns reported by Cllr Fisher as to the post at the commencement of Oxen Lane at Wicker Lane and areas around the stiles at the Oxen Bridge and adjoining fields which had been referred to the Rights of Way Unit Maintenance Officer and to the Parish Paths Warden. His further reports as to the highway sign to Guilden Sutton 7/Mickle Trafford 1 on Guilden Sutton Lane which appeared to be missing and the condition of the Longster Trail sign in the vicinity of the Bird in Hand, which had snapped off at the base, had similarly been referred to the warden and the maintenance officer. The matter had again been pursued by the Clerk with the maintenance officer together with an inquiry as to the cost of replacement

wooden posts and signs.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance: contract. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Public Seats. The provision of seats would be revisited following the response from the City Council that no seat would be permitted in the Fox Cover amenity area on historical grounds and any provision in the dell should be subject to consultation with all adjoining neighbours and would not proceed in the event of objection.

(vi) Landscaping, Fox Cover. There was nothing further to report this stage.

(vii) provision for youth: The Chairman reported it was hoped that a youth club would commence in St John's Church Room sooner rather than later on the initiative of Mr E J Spencer and Mr B Dacre. This was welcomed. Cllr Proudlove informed the Council of the availability of a youth shelter. Guilden Sutton had been added to the list of interested parties and a decision would be made by the community safety

manager. **Action: Noted.**

6 Public transport. (i) ChesterBus (a) 0900 to Chester. Cllr Armitage understood the present usage of the service was as low as four passengers per day. (b) alighting/boarding Oaklands. A request was being made that drivers should use their best endeavours to park as close to the kerb as possible to assist elderly passengers. (c) request for 0830 service. Inquiries by the Clerk had shown an 0815 departure was available on the C80 service. In these circumstances, it was thought unlikely that a request for an 0830 departure would be successful. (ii) Chester Station. The Chairman reported she had attended a consultation event on the Chester Rail Gateway held on Thursday 13 October, 2005 which had dealt with developments and improvements proposed for the station concourse, station facilities, designs for the station square and proposed developments in the area. The case for the reopening of Mickle Trafford station had also been raised.

7 Highways:

(ii) local matters: (a) speed matters: indicator w/c 17 October 2005, Community Speed Watch, Set the Pace, Due to circumstances, it had not been possible for the Council to make as much use of the equipment as it would have wished. The Clerk would forward to Cllr Hughes the analysis and also the results of the use of the equipment earlier in the Autumn. **Action: The Clerk.** A response was awaited to the suggestion by Cllr Hughes that the 30mph signs at the approach to the parish playing field should be replaced by signs with a yellow border in order to reinforce the limit which had been referred to the highway authority. (see further beneath.) Cllr Hughes was considering the possibility of the Council supporting the Community Speed Watch and Set The Pace campaigns and would report further to a future meeting. It was not yet known if the Western Rural NPU trailer would be deployed within the parish. Members discussed the possibility of purchasing high visibility clothing for those

residents who wished to take advantage. The matter would be revisited. (b) Wicker Lane. The completion of the proposals for lining and signing from the vicinity of Cinder Lane to Station Lane was awaited. (ii) condition/provision for pedestrians. The issues referred to during public speaking time together with a request for an informal dialogue had been referred to the highway authority. A further approach would be made by the Clerk.

Action: The Clerk. Cllr Proudlove drew attention to measures which had been taken elsewhere in the country to make villages safer. These were noted for possible further consideration. (iii) Complaints by Mr Fenwick. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the outcome of the promised inquiries by the highway authority into the planning position. (iv) boundary sign. The highway authority had been informed the Council would be pleased to meet 50% of the cost of a village boundary sign towards the A51.

(c) gateway treatment,
Guilden Sutton Lane - red

patch SLOW marking, high visibility 30mph signs. A response was awaited following the renewed approach to County Cllr J E Burke on the basis the scheme at Wicker Lane would protect two of the three principal approaches to the village, leaving Guilden Sutton Lane less protected at the approach to the playing field. (d) fingerpost sign Hare Lane/ Belle Vue Lane. Following the request by Cllr Armitage, the Area Maintenance Engineer had been asked to deal with overgrowth which was obscuring this sign. (e) nameplate, School Lane. Following the request by Cllr Armitage, the Area Maintenance Engineer was being asked to arrange for the cleaning of this sign.

Action: The Clerk.

(iii) Lighting. (i) A 41. A response was still awaited to the Council's request for street lighting to be installed on the A41 between the Hoole Hall Roundabout and the existing lighting on the dual carriageway. (ii) Faults would be reported on Arrowcroft Road, Summerfield Road, Guilden Sutton Lane and Belle Vue Lane.

8 Finance:

(i) Income:

Bank of Scotland:

Interest (30
September) £
22.94

(ii) Payments

North Wales Newspapers
newsletter
distribution £
20.97 (including VAT
£3.12)

Hacker Youngexternal
audit £ 141.00
(including VAT £21.00)

Clerk

Mileage 8 miles
@40p £ 3.20

Parking
£ 0.60

Postage
(newsletter) £
12.44

£ 16.24

Proposed by Cllr Hughes

Seconded by Cllr Fisher
and agreed.

(iii) Balances:

Bank of Scotland

(25
October)
£15,464.51

Scottish Widows

(3
October)
£ 8,350.12

(iv) Report on contingency payments. There had been no change.

(v) Audit: (a) external audit 2004/05. The Clerk was pleased to report the receipt of a clean audit.
(b) Member audit first half year 2005/06. Further to the advice that it was not inappropriate for a Member to carry out an informal internal audit function, the Clerk would prepare accounts for the first six months of the current financial year for consideration by Cllr Hughes. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vi) Insurance 2005/06
The application to increase the Fidelity insurance limit to reflect the Council's balances would be

completed in due course. Further consideration would be given to a number of individual elements within the insurance.

(vii) Banking facilities. The Clerk was reviewing alternative providers of a suitable current account to enable this to be operated from the post office.

(viii) General. (a) Payment of duplicate affiliation fee (£14) to the Cheshire County Playing Fields Association. The Clerk reported the receipt of advice, by letter dated 1 November, 2005, that the initial payment to the association had in fact been received and banked. The Council would be reimbursed for the overpaid amount. (b) Income and Expenditure. The Chairman pointed out the Council's provision for mileage payments would be exceeded due to training undertaken by the Clerk in the first six months of the calendar year. **Action: Noted.**

9 Environment services:
(i) amenity cleansing. Cllr Bayton referred to the need for the annual sweep of the steps from the

Cinder Lane to Church Lane. **Action: request to be made to the City Council by the Clerk.**

(ii) dog fouling. (iii) litter bins. (iv) lengthsman. (v) sewers. There were no action items to report under these headings.

10 Trees and hedges. (i) Hedge, rear of Village Hall. The desirability of a reduction in the height of the hedge at the rear of the Village Hall was again visited. **Action: Clerk to inform Guilden Sutton Community Association.**

(ii) Chester City Council, draft tree policy. The proposed policy was being considered by Cllr Bayton as Parish Tree Warden (iii) Ash, Five Ways, Wicker Lane **City Cllr J R Boughton.** There was nothing further report at this stage. (iv) Cheshire Landscape Trust. There was nothing further report at this stage.

11 Cheshire Association of Local Councils. (i) Annual meeting 13 October, 2005, Middlewich Civic Hall. Cllr Armitage had attended as a member of the executive committee. The Council had been represented by Cllr Hughes and the Clerk. The motion requesting the

County Council not to pursue any further orders to upgrade the status of footpaths to byways open to all traffic in view of the impending change in the legislation had been debated. An amendment had been necessary to take account of the fact that there were circumstances in which parish councils would support the designation of a route as a BOAT. The motion had been supported by a majority of those voting although fewer votes had been cast either for or against the motion than there had been abstentions. The President had commented that would no doubt be taken into account by the executive committee in its consideration of the motion.

12 Chester City Council (i) Parish Partnership Reception Thursday 27 October, 2005. The Council had been represented by Cllr Fisher and the Clerk. Cllr Armitage had attended as chairman of the Chester Area Meeting. Cllr Fisher expressed disappointment at the low attendance by parish councillors generally. (ii) Gowry North Area Committee,

Emergency information. An approach had been made by the Clerk to the Post Office as to its interest in having a supply of emergency information bottles. This had been declined. **Action: Supply to be obtained and distributed through the newsletter.** (iii) Proposed changes to the city council's housing allocation policy. **Action. A response would be made by the Clerk.**

13 Cheshire County Council. There were no action items to report.

14 Cheshire Community Council: (a) Affiliation to Cheshire County Playing Fields Association. See minute 8 (viii) above.

15 CPRE. There were no action items to report.

16 Health. There were no action items to report.

17 Policing. (i) PC Baker. The Council was pleased to welcome PC Baker to the meeting. PC Baker reported on current issues and responded to Member's questions. The Chairman thanked PC Baker for his attendance.

(b) The thrust of the letter from the Home Secretary to a national newspaper which indicated that attendance of officers at meetings of parish councils was seen as part of policing in the future had been referred to the rural inspector.

18 Newsletter. Cllr Hughes expressed concern as to the presentation of an item. Cllr Armitage believed it to have been useful.

19 Memorial garden. There were no action items to report.

20 Bulb planting. It was agreed that in 2006 and in future years until countermanded, the Clerk should order

3 No. bags of daffodils each July. Support would be canvassed for a bulb planting session on Saturday

19 November, 2005 at 1000. **Action: The Clerk.**

21 Parish ICT. Cllr Fisher indicated he was to attend a meeting in December.

22 Primary School. Cllr

Fisher reported that at the first meeting to be held with the new headteacher, Mr M Paterson had been elected chairman and Mrs J Williams as vice chairman of the governing body.

23 Parish noticeboards. The Clerk was seeking estimates for the repainting of the parish noticeboards and of the public seats within the parish together with any necessary repairs. **Action:**
The Clerk.

24 Withdrawal of telephone kiosks. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

25 Twinning. The letter dated 10 October, 2005, from Mr Spencer and Mr Dacre, had been circulated to all Members of the Council. A view was expressed that the issue was not a matter for the Parish Council. **Action:**
Reply to be sent by the Clerk indicating Members of the Council would be willing to meet Mr Spencer and Mr Dacre to discuss the next steps.

26 Members' information items.

Footway lighting. Cllr Armitage referred to the indication by PC Baker that funding was available for the provision of lighting and suggested the issue of footway lighting at the rear of Orchard Croft should be taken up. It was noted this should be subject to consultation.

Action: The Clerk.

Home insulation. Cllr Fisher referred to the availability of grants towards the cost of roof and cavity wall insulation.

Action: Note to appear in the newsletter.

27 Information correspondence:

Proposed Ince resource recovery park.

Cheshire Association of Local Councils - newsletter 104; training 2005; training 2006; Local Council Review November 2005.

Chester City Council - licensing policy January 2005, Past Uncovered October 2005.

Cheshire County Council - A to Z, Autumn, 2005; Cheshire Matters October

2005; Statement of
Accounts 2004/05;
Cheshire Community
Strategy innovations fund
2005/06.

Cheshire Community
Council - The Playing
Field, Autumn 2005;
Cheshire County Playing
Fields Association and
report 2004/05.

CPRE - Countryside Voice
Autumn 2005.

Rural Enterprise Gateway.

GSPC newsletters 109/110.

Clerks and Councils Direct
November 2005 .

Matters considered in the
absence of the press and
public

28. Enforcement. Advice
was being sought as to the
use of two areas of land
within the parish.

29 Clerk's terms and
conditions. Members gave
further consideration to
this issue. The Clerk was
thanked for providing
details of the time which
he had spent on Council
business, which included
47.5 hours in preparation
for and attendance at the

BOAT Inquiry since January 2004 and 88 hours on normal council business during an eight week period in September and October, 2005. In the absence of the Clerk, the Council resolved to make an additional payment of £500 in respect of the BOAT work which included compensation for loss of earnings elsewhere, to make a special payment in respect of the work he had undertaken to become qualified as required for Quality Assurance purposes when full details were available and to consider the Clerk's Conditions of Employment, job description and normal remuneration at the December meeting.