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Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held
on
Monday 11 December 2006 in Guilden Sutton Village
Hall.

Chairman: Cllr R M Armitage.

Present: Cllrs Armitage, Brown, Carter, Fisher, Hughes, Moulton,
Paterson.

In attendance: City Cllr J R Boughton.

Public Speaking Time

1 Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr R J K Bayton, City Cllr B J
Bailey, County Cllr J E Burke and PC M Baker.

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.

Cllr Brown had previously declared a prejudicial interest in
planning application 06/01690/FUL, change flat roof to pitched
roof at front of property at 69 Oaklands CH3 7HG for Mr and Mrs
R Hankins, due to the proximity of her property to the application
site but would remain in the room for the reporting of the decision.

Cllr P M Paterson had previously declared a prejudicial interest in application 06/01752/FUL kitchen extension to front at 31 Oaklands CH3 7HE as she had employed the applicant as a contractor but would remain in the room for the reporting of the decision.

(ii) Confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 6 November 2006. The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 6 November 2006 were proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Paterson and agreed subject to the word 'parking' in minute 17 being replaced by 'waiting.'

(iii) Dates of future meetings.

Confirmed: 8 January, 5 February, 5 March, 16 April, 14 May, 18 June, 23 July, 3 September, 1 October, 12 November and 17 December, 2007.

(iv) Quality Council matters.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Local Recycling Champion.

See minute (4d) beneath.

3 Planning.

(i) New applications.

Telecommunications issues:

05/00107/FUL 37.5m high lattice mast on land at Tile Farm, Wicker Lane for T Mobile. City Cllr J R Boughton reported the height of the mast was to be reduced by 5m. Additional antennas would, however, be installed.

The Chairman believed the Council would be disappointed if it was not made aware even if an application was not required.

06/01690/FUL change flat roof to pitched roof at front of property at 69 Oaklands CH3 7HG for Mr and Mrs R Hankins. No objection had been raised.

06/01752/FUL kitchen extension to front at 31 Oaklands CH3 7HE for Mr Harding. No objection had been raised.

06/01832/FUL first floor side extension and rear single storey

extension and pitched roof over existing flat roof to front elevation at 7 Belle Vue Lane CH3 7EJ for Mr and Mrs Clowes.

The following response had been made:

'Members are not persuaded to depart from their previous decision to OBJECT to the proposal. There are continuing concerns about the potential for terracing and the detrimental impact such a precedent would have on the local distinctiveness of this part of the Oaklands estate.'

The Council appreciates the applicant has moved towards the supplementary planning document on house extensions but believes the harm to local distinctiveness arising from the first floor element of the proposal, should the neighbouring property choose to extend in a similar way, as described in para 4.1 of the SPD, outweighs the provisions of the guidance.

There is no objection to the single story elements of the proposal.

In reaching this decision, the Council has taken account of the reference in the introduction to the guidance which states: 'In the designated Green Belt, attention should be paid to ensuring extensions retain levels of openness and/or rural character respectively.'

It goes on to say: 'Whilst this document provides general guidelines, each site is unique and proposals will be judged on their own individual merits having regard to local distinctiveness and to the character of property and the area.'

Members are also mindful they objected to the two previous proposals on the application site.

The Council wishes to draw to the attention of the local planning authority the City Council's decision to refuse permission for a first floor extension at 31 Oaklands (05/02058/FUL) to which the Parish Council objected on the grounds of local distinctiveness.

For convenience, I again set out the Council's argument as to the potential for a fundamental change in the character of this part of the estate should such extensions be permitted at the substantial number of other similar properties which exist, there being 36 pairs of garages on the development which includes 7 Belle Vue Lane.

I also refer you to the earlier decision at 6 Orchard Croft, which preceded the refusal at 31 Oaklands, where proposals for a first floor extension were refused.

As stated above, the Council recognises the applicant has

moved towards the SLD on house extensions. However, that document also states in paragraph 4.1: 'The purposeis to protect the street scene and the character of the area by ensuring that areas originally designed and laid out as detached or semi detached development are retained as such.'

This part of Oaklands was originally laid out as a detached development.

I refer to the appeal decision relating to a two storey extension at the side of 12 Ryecroft in Elton, the file for which the LPA will hold.

The Inspector noted the extension would occupy the site of a garage at the property which was immediately adjacent to the garage of a neighbouring semi at No 14.

He said 'At present there is a clear view above these adjacent single storey garages between the two storey houses and this maintains a visual separation between them.'

The proposed extension would remove part of that separation and if a similar extension was built at No 14 'the appearance of a long terraced building would be created.'

This would have a 'particularly urban appearance' which would not be sympathetic to the relatively spacious suburban character of the estate - this being a characteristic which was also achieved by careful planning on the Oaklands estate.

Although the first floor would be setback slightly to avoid any future terracing effect, the Inspector believed there would be an insufficient break to guard against the danger of terracing.

Members believe it is difficult to see how the principle of the argument behind that decision to support refusal, albeit referring to semi detached properties, should not apply to the position at 7 Belle Vue Lane.

City Council policies require that:

Any proposal should have a positive impact on the local environment, in particular the built environment in Chester and the villages, by requiring that new development contributes to local distinctiveness.

All relevant issues should be taken into account in the decision making process and to ensure that the development can be satisfactorily achieved without harm to the environment and to quality of life.

The Local Distinctiveness policy goes further in that it aims to

secure a positive contribution to the local built environment.

The original design guidelines for development in Guilden Sutton were intended to preserve or improve the environment and ensure a high standard of new development. On this part of Oaklands estate, the feeling of spaciousness has been achieved through a low density of housing and by retaining valuable open views across the roofs of linked single and double garages between individual detached properties.

This is the local distinctiveness of the area and applies not only in prominent locations such as the gap between two properties at the head of a cul-de-sac or at the end of a footpath but also between individual properties within the street scene such as 7 Belle Vue Lane.

Should 4.1 in the SLD be followed to the letter, a significant number of properties could potentially be extended to the boundary, albeit with a 2m set back, giving rise to the harm identified by the inspector in Elton. This would be especially harmful where the gap between two detached properties themselves may not be great, of which there are examples.

Even with the alternative of a 1m step in from the boundary, a total gap of 2m above garages should both occupiers extend in a similar manner would represent a fundamental design change which my Council believes would be harmful to local distinctiveness and the open vistas therein which are a fundamental part of its character.

In the circumstances, the planning authority is requested to give careful consideration to the appropriateness of applying 4.1 to this particular proposal and particularly to the cumulative effect should other similar properties be extended in the same way.

It is invited to conclude the proposal should again be refused as the amendments proposed by the applicant, although moving towards the guidance, do not make sufficient difference to avoid harm to local distinctiveness.

Should officers be minded to grant approval, the Council would wish the ward Members to call in the proposal for determination by the Planning Board in view of the important principle involved.

Members also request the roof facing the neighbour at no 9 should be hipped and consideration should be given to the height of the proposed chimney.'

The Clerk reported the Planning Board had read the application as being part of the street scene in Belle Vue Lane and not the adjoining part of the Oaklands estate and had granted planning

permission. The application had been supported by both ward Members.

City Cllr J R Boughton reported further. He had intimated at the Planning Board that a Village Design Statement might have been helpful in supporting the Parish Council's case and commended consideration being given to this.

06/01329/FUL kitchen/breakfast room extension, conversion of loft space, demolition of existing store and stables and conversion of existing brick single storey barn to home office at The Woodlands, Wicker Lane, CH3 7EL for Mr and Mrs H Proudlove. Cllrs Fisher/Hughes. The following response had been made:

There is no objection but Members are concerned that the site does not become overdeveloped and ask for a condition indicating a general presumption against any further development or changes of use.'

Cllr Hughes pointed out the agricultural entrance to the property would be used by construction vehicles.

06/02060/REM detached dwelling, The Vicarage, Wicker Lane CH3 7EL for the Chester Diocesan Board of Finance. It was noted this development benefited from a previous outline approval. Cllr Fisher reported. The Council believed there would be no objection in principle but Members would be minded to object should the height of the proposed parsonage be higher than adjoining properties. The case officer would be asked to confirm the position. Members wished the trees to be retained to be protected during construction and the LPA to be satisfied that the garden area to be retained for the original vicarage met the requirements in supplementary planning documents. The attention of the LPA would be drawn to the concerns of occupiers that the sewer in Church Lane was at capacity and was surcharged during storm conditions leading to extensive flooding at the junction of Church Lane/Wicker Lane/School Lane/Station Lane.

6/02074/TPO felling of 1 no Scots Pine at Wood Farm, School Lane, CH3 7ET for Mr P Gresty. Mr A Young, Tree Warden, had informed the Clerk he had inspected the tree and had discussed the proposal with the applicant. Mr Young's opinion was the application to have the tree removed should be upheld. Members would advise the Clerk by Thursday 14 December 2006 should they have any observations. Advice would be sought that the 2 no replacement Oak and 5 no replacement Scots Pine to be planted would be protected.

(ii) Decision notices.

06/01329/FUL kitchen/breakfast room extension, conversion of loft space, demolition of existing store and stables and conversion of existing brick single storey barn to home office at The Woodlands, Wicker Lane, CH3 7EL for Mr and Mrs H Proudlove. Planning permission. The Clerk reported an informative had been attached to the decision referring to the fact the permission authorised substantial extensions to the dwelling and any proposals for further extensions were unlikely to be given permission unless an overriding case was made out.

06/01690/FUL change flat roof to pitched roof at front of property at 69 Oaklands CH3 7HG for Mr and Mrs R Hankins. Planning permission. The Clerk reported an informative had been attached to the decision advising the applicant to ensure that all works associated with the approved scheme, including the foundations and guttering, were contained wholly on land within the applicant's ownership.

06/01752/FUL kitchen extension to front at 31 Oaklands CH3 7HE for Mr Harding. Planning permission. The Clerk reported an informative had been attached to the decision advising the applicant to ensure that all works associated with the approved scheme, including the foundations and guttering, were contained wholly on land within the applicant's ownership. A Member referred to the use of a skip at the front of property and expressed concern this should not be used for business purposes.

06/01832/FUL first floor side extension and rear single storey extension and pitched roof over existing flat roof to front elevation at 7 Belle Vue Lane CH3 7EJ for Mr and Mrs Clowes. Planning permission. The Clerk reported a condition had been imposed requiring two car parking spaces to be made available within the curtilage of the site prior to the extension being brought into use and to be kept available for that purpose. Approval was required of drainage details from the flat roofed extension/garage. The applicants had been advised that for the avoidance of doubt the approval did not convey any consent to encroach beyond the application site boundary for foundations, guttering or any other permanent structure.

(ii) Appeal.

05/00971/FUL corn/grain shed at Tile Farm, Wicker Lane CH3 7EL for Mr and Mrs S Arden. The decision notice was awaited.

(iii) Parish Plan. Comments made by City Cllr J R Boughton as to the desirability of a Village Design Statement were reported above in connection with planning application 06/01832/FUL first

floor side extension and rear single storey extension and pitched roof over existing flat roof to front elevation at 7 Belle Vue Lane CH3 7EJ for Mr and Mrs Clowes. The Parish Plan Steering Group would be advised of City Cllr Boughton's comments.

(iv) Strategic planning.

(a) Chester City Council consultation on draft supplementary planning documents - telecommunications development. Further to the previous discussion as to the permitted development carried out by O2 at the Guilden Sutton Lane reservoir site, the following response had made:

Council welcomes the intention that operators should discuss their proposals with other organisations that may have an interest in the proposed development, such as Parish Councils, at the earliest opportunity before submitting an application.

A recent development by O2 in the Guilden Sutton Lane reservoir site in Guilden Sutton where additional equipment was fitted without increasing the height of the installation (15m) possibly points to a loophole as permitted development does not require an application.

'Given the effect of permitted development can, nonetheless, affect the visual amenity of the installation - in this case a Green Belt site - and cause concern to nearby establishments such as day nurseries, in addition to occupiers, my Council believes the SLD should provide for Parish Councils to be informed of PD by the LPA or by the operator. The Charter agreed between the principal authorities in Cheshire and Parish Councils provides for Parish Councils to be informed of matters arising in their area and it seems to Members that given the continued sensitivity of telecommunications installations, which is properly recognised by the City Council, it is reasonable that Parish Councils should be aware of all proposals, including those to be carried out under permitted development.

'The Council also believes that where mast sharing takes place, further stand alone masts are permitted on the same site or additional antennas are otherwise installed, there should be a certificate from the operator that the cumulative effect of emissions on the site are within the guidelines.'

(b) Open space and biodiversity audit, consultation workshop, Gowy North, 23 November 2006. Cllr Armitage reported.

(c) Cheshire County Council, adopted statement of community involvement for planning matters. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 13 November 2006, of advice from the County Council's environmental planning service as to the adoption of a statement of community involvement for planning matters.

Action: Noted

(d) Recycling issues. Cllr Carter reported. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 8 December 2006, of advice from the County Council's environmental planning service that the responses to the Parish Council's observations on the Cheshire Waste Local Plan were now available. Any comments on the responses were required by 12 January 2007. Action: The Clerk.

4 Parish car park.

(i) Grounds maintenance. The Clerk reported the receipt of an estimate from Messrs Gresty in the sum of £75 for the requested work to treat weeds in the border planting, sweep the asphalt and treat the border and adjoining hard surface with weed killer. It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Fisher and agreed that the estimate should be accepted should the quoted sum appear reasonable. Action: issue to be raised by Cllr Hughes and the Clerk with the grounds maintenance contractor at a site meeting to be held on Saturday 16 December 2006.

(ii) Overgrown hedge. It was noted the boundary hedge of an adjoining occupier was overgrowing. Cllr Armitage reported the occupier was to be seen. Action: Cllr Armitage.

(iii) Parked vehicle. The long stay parking of a vehicle had been referred to PC Baker. Appropriate action had been taken.

5 Leisure Services.

(i) Playing Field

(a) Facilities.

The Clerk reported the estimate from Oldfield Environmental for the eradication of moles in the sum of £180 had been accepted. Cllr Hughes indicated there was a reduction in the number of molehills.

(b) Grounds maintenance.

Renewed attempts would be made to obtain estimates for work to repair the goalmouths and any other areas suffering wear and tear at the site meeting to be held with Messrs Gresty by Cllr Hughes and the Clerk on Saturday 16 December.

(ii) Play Area

(a) CCTV.

The draft protocol prepared by the Clerk would be revisited at a future meeting. The application made to the City Council's Gowy North Area Committee for a grant towards the cost of improvements to the CCTV system identified by Cllr Hughes had been partly successful with the award of a grant of £700. The Clerk would seek advice from the City Council's CCTV manager as to alternative recommended contractors. Action: The Clerk.

A Member reported the preschool had cleared graffiti from the play area which had arisen during the weekend of 3-4 December. It was thought youths had also been present on the 9th inst when there had also been antisocial behaviour at other locations on the Oaklands estate. It was noted a higher resolution camera might assist in those responsible being identified. Action: issue to be revisited at the January meeting.

It was further noted the infra red sensor on the camera at the rear of the Village Hall appeared to be loose. Action: contractor to be advised.

(b) Inspection check list.

A response was awaited from Play and Leisure as to the condition of parts of the wet pour surface together with a fault which had developed with the self closing gate. Action: To be pursued.

(c) Grounds maintenance issues. It was noted the grounds maintenance contractor had yet to deal with weed removal from the boundary planting as requested. This would be raised at the site meeting to be held with Messrs Gresty by Cllr Hughes and the Clerk on Saturday 16 December.

(iii) Public Footpaths

(a) Footpath 7. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 21 November 2006, of a copy of the Inspector's final decision on the order. Action: noted.

(b) Replacement signs. Costs had been requested for treated softwood signs with the name of the path indicated in black paint on a full size arm.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance.

(a) Vale. It was reported that at a meeting of the City Council's Gowy North Area Committee, a senior representative of Vale had expressed regret at the unacceptable poor performance of the company which had led to the Parish Council ceasing the contract. Members were not satisfied that Vale was dealing

adequately with City Council owned grassed areas at the amenity area in Fox Cover and adjoining the footway at the rear of the Village Hall. Action: issue to be raised with the City Council.

(b) Messrs Gresty. Copies of recent correspondence had been furnished by the Clerk to Cllr Hughes for consideration.

(c) The basis of a specification for work during 2007 had been prepared by the Chairman and would be further developed. Action: The Clerk.

(d) Rich Brothers, Bridge Farm, Rowton. The Clerk would inform Messrs Rich Brothers of Rowton of the Council's overall grounds maintenance requirements when the specification referred to above had been completed.

(v) Public Seats.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(vi) Landscaping, Fox Cover.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(vii) Provision for youth.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

6 Public transport.

(a) Sale of ChesterBus. The Clerk was contacting Arriva as to reports the company would initially continue to serve villages such as Guilden Sutton should it be successful in taking over services at present operated by ChesterBus. Action: The Clerk.

7 Highways.

(i) Strategic.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Local matters.

(a) Speed indicator device.

Cllr Hughes reported on an analysis of the information provided by the City Council following the sessions held earlier in the Autumn. He was disappointed that 54% of the 1,300 movements recorded exceeded the speed limit and that 11% exceeded 40 mph. The maximum speed recorded was 55 mph. The Clerk

reminded Members the highway authority was carrying out a review of the speed limit on Guilden Sutton Lane and it was agreed the Chief Road Safety Engineer should be advised of the availability of this information within the highway authority.

Action: The Clerk.

The Clerk reported the receipt of advice from the County Engineer, by letter dated 13 November 2006 that speed indicator devices were now available throughout Cheshire. In Chester the Area Manager continued to be the contact or D Bowker Esq.

(b) Speed gun.

A request for the use of the gun would be made to the Area Manager. Further details of the availability of training would be sought by the Clerk from Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council and from D Bowker Esq. Approval would also be sought for additional locations at Oxen Lane and Station Lane.

(c) High visibility clothing.

A suggestion was made by Cllr Hughes that the availability of the high visibility vests should be extended to members of the uniformed organisations in the village. It was agreed an appropriate poster should be displayed in the Post Office and on noticeboards.

(d) Wicker Lane.

(i) Details of the highway authority's proposals had been accepted subject to modifications requested by the Chairman which might be possible. Members believed a sign in Station Lane could be 10m to 15m closer to Guilden Sutton.

(ii) Gateway treatment, Guilden Sutton Lane - red patch SLOW marking, high visibility 30mph signs.

Details of the highway authority's proposals had been accepted subject to modifications requested by the Chairman which might be possible.

(f) Speed review, Guilden Sutton Lane.

There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the decision by the highways and transportation local joint committee for Chester to carry out a speed review of Guilden Sutton Lane, subject to the request minuted at (a) immediately above.

(g) Mud, Guilden Sutton Lane. A letter was being sent to Mr S Arden as to the deposit of mud on Guilden Sutton Lane and the parking of agricultural vehicles on the verge which could affect the bulbs planted therein. Action: The Clerk.

(h) junction A41/Guilden Sutton Lane. The Clerk reported he had addressed the highways and transportation local joint committee during public speaking time as to the need for a 50mph limit on the A41 at this junction to reduce hazards faced by vehicles emerging from the gap in the central reservation, the provision of traffic signals to deal with the problem of more than one vehicle waiting in the gap in the central reservation and associated road rage and for street lighting between the junction and the Hoole roundabout. He had referred to the recent announcement by the County Council that the A41 between Sainsbury's roundabout and Chester Zoo was the most dangerous in Cheshire for road accidents and the Hoole roundabout was the most dangerous roundabout in the county. He had requested a report to the committee.

(iii) Lighting.

A fault affecting Guilden Sutton Lane 30 would be reported. Cllr Paterson suggested a survey should be made of areas within the parish which required lighting. Cllr Moulton referred to the standard of lighting on Guilden Sutton Lane and was advised by the Chairman this was of footway quality only.

8 Finance:

(i) Income:

Bank of Scotland:

Interest (31 Oct) £ 1.70

(ii) Payments

Devaprint
Newsletters 115/116 £ 115.00

Upton Royal British Legion
Wreath £ 18.00

Direct2Door
Newsletter distribution £ 23.50 (inc £3.50 VAT)

Gresty
Grounds Maintenance £ 479.40 (inc £71.40 VAT)

S & H Services
Shelter cleaning £ 14.00

Oldfield Environmental
mole eradication £ 180.00

Mrs R Mort playing field rent Jan - Mar 2007	£ 137.50
Clerk Newsletter postage	£ 18.50
Parking	£ 1.50
Photocopies 181 @ 5p	£ 9.05
Mileage 8@40p	<u>£ 3.20</u>
	£ 32.25

Cllr P M Paterson

Christmas tree/ competition voucher	£ 37.00
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Proposed by Councillor Fisher

seconded by Cllr Hughes and agreed.

(iii) Balances

Bank of Scotland

(14 Nov)	£ 2,095.77
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Scottish Widows

(8 Nov)	£19,224.37*
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* transfer of £2,500 to current account 3 November 2006

Scottish Widows no 2

2 October 2006 £ 2,195.59

(iv) Report on contingency payments.

Budget £ 1,465.00

Payments £ nil

(v) Insurance.

The application form obtained from the insurers with respect to the proposed increase in the fidelity limit would be completed. Further consideration would be given to a number of individual elements within the insurance.

(vi) Banking facilities.

Transfer of current account. The Clerk understood the Co-operative Bank was awaiting a response from the Bank of Scotland.

(vii) Budget. The Clerk reminded the Council a decision would be required at the January meeting as to the precept to be requested in 2007/08. He circulated details of expenditure to date and the anticipated outturn. This information would be further refined prior to the January meeting and would be considered by the Chairman and Vice Chairman. He reported the receipt of advice from Chester City Council, by letter dated December 2006, that the tax base for the Parish had been

calculated at 637.0 band D properties.

In consideration of the initial information, it became apparent that a number of payments which should have been allocated to the contingency reserve had not been treated in this manner. This would be rectified by an amending minute.

9 Environment services.

(i) Amenity cleansing.

(a) Grot spots. A list of grot spots throughout the parish was being compiled by Members for a site meeting to be requested through the ward Members. Cllr Paterson referred to continuing problems on Belle Vue Lane. Cllr Fisher reported that at a meeting of the City Council's Gowry North Area Committee, the new open spaces manager had described revised arrangements which were proposed for amenity cleansing. These would take into account local needs. It was agreed the manager should be invited to address the Council. Action: The Clerk.

(ii) Dog fouling. There was nothing to report.

(iii) Litter bins. There was nothing to report.

(iv) Lengthsman. The completion of the specification formally detailing the lengthsman work carried out by Messrs Gresty and would await the outcome of the site meeting to be held by Cllr Hughes and the Clerk on Saturday 16 December.

(v) Sewers. There was nothing to report.

10 Trees and hedges.

Overgrowth. Further to the inquiry from the Area Maintenance Engineer as to the possibility of the Parish Council sponsoring maintenance of the planting at the junction of Heath Bank and Guilden Sutton Lane as it added to the amenity of the parish or alternatively agreeing to the removal of the bed, both courses of action would be declined. A letter was to be sent to Mr S Arden as to the growth on his land adjoining the dingle path. Cllr Armitage had approached the occupier of a property in Hickmore Heys.

11 Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

Training. The Clerk reported the receipt of training dates in 2007. These would be circulated. Action: The Clerk.

12 Chester City Council.

(i) Maintenance of churchyards and burial grounds. A response was awaited to the invitation to the parochial church council to apply for a matching grant of £250 towards the cost incurred in maintaining the churchyard.

(ii) Parish Council Members database update. The Clerk was responding.

(iii) Gowy North Area Committee - second round of payments 2006/7 budget. The application for a grant in the sum of £1,378.66 towards the cost of an upgrade to the CCTV system, identified by Cllr Hughes, at a cost of £2,757.33 had resulted in a

grant of £700. The application for a grant in the sum of £325 towards the cost of a colour printer at a cost of £650, to be identified by Cllr Fisher, to improve communications, had been declined.

(iv) Open space and biodiversity audit. The consultation workshop for Gowy North on the draft results of the open space and biodiversity audit, held on Thursday 23 November in Barrow Village Hall, Main Street, Great Barrow, had been attended by Cllrs Armitage and Paterson.

(v) Disability equality policy and action plan. The Clerk reported a consultation on the City Council's disability equality policy and action plan had been received, by letter dated 17 November 2006 on Thursday 23 November with comments required by Wednesday 29 November. A response not been possible. He would advise the officer accordingly. Action: The Clerk.

13 Cheshire County Council.

There were no action items to report.

14 Cheshire Community Council.

There were no action items to report.

15 CPRE. There were no action items to report.

16 Health. There were no action items to report.

17 Policing. A Member had referred to incidents of anti social behaviour within the parish earlier in the meeting. It was further noted that spirit bottles had been found in an amenity area. PC Baker was aware of the former issue and would be advised of the latter.

Action: The Clerk.

18 Newsletter. The Clerk reported a further newsletter, which he circulated, would be issued before Christmas. This included an update on the position with respect to the parish plan and publicity for the Christmas lights competition.

19 Memorial garden. There were no action items to report at this stage.

20 Bulb planting.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

21 Parish ICT.

Business case for colour printer to improve communications. As there were a number of issues yet to be resolved, the matter would be revisited. Cllr Fisher believed informally the overall costings might favour outsourcing any colour printing.

22 Primary School.

(i) Hedges. It was understood that the boundary hedges would

be cut.

(ii) Community governor. Cllr Hughes was pleased to report he had been invited to join the governing body as a community governor.

(iii) Transforming Learning Communities. It was understood the education authority's proposals for Chester district under the Transforming Learning Communities agenda would not have a direct impact on provision in Guilden Sutton.

23 Remembrance Sunday. (a) Service. A wreath had been laid by the Chairman. (b) The Fallen of the Great War. It was agreed research would be carried out by Cllr Hughes as to the possibility of the fallen of the Great War being formally recognised in the annual Remembrance Service. Action: Cllr Hughes.

24 Overhead electricity supply lines. Cllr Hughes confirmed the lines which could benefit from an inspection by Scottish Power were in Church Lane.

25 Uneven flags, private land, Summerfield Road. City Cllr J R Boughton was kindly providing his most recent address for the landowner and efforts would be made by the Clerk to make contact. Action: The Clerk.

26 Access to village shops from Cinder Lane. The Council revisited the difficulties faced by those in wheelchairs or with push chairs, raised by Cllr Brown and reluctantly concluded that at this stage there appeared to be no easy solution.

27 Christmas festivities. Cllr Paterson confirmed that the arrangements for the independent judging of the household Christmas lights competition were in hand. Following a report, it

was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Fisher and agreed that replacement lights should be purchased up to £25.

28 Member's information items.

Planning post cards. Cllr Fisher requested a further supply of planning post cards which were now somewhat outdated. This was agreed. Action: The Clerk.

29 Information correspondence.

Planning: Workshop on draft supplementary planning document - affordable housing.

Play area: RoSPA inspections 2007.

Public Footpaths: Mid Cheshire Footpath Society walks programme January-June 2007.

Highways: Winter gritting routes leaflet 2006/07.

ChALC/NALC: Newsletter 111 November 2006, Local Council Review White Paper special.

Chester City Council: Ethics and Standards Committee 23 November 2006, Christmas concert, Sunday

10 December, 7.30 pm, Town Hall.

Cheshire County Council: Cheshire Matters November 2006,
Archives and Local Studies newsletter Autumn 2006.

Cheshire Community Council: Cheshire Rural View November
2006, Cheshire Rural Trust, Rural Retail Advisory Partnership.

CPRE: Chester District newsletter Autumn/Winter 2006,
Cheshire News and Events November 2006, Saving Tranquil
Places campaign, Fieldwork December 2006.

Neuromuscular Centre Appeal.

Matters to be considered in the absence of the
press and public.

30 Enforcement matters.

Further to the complaints received by a Member as to an
unsightly area within a domestic curtilage on which burning was
taking place, City Cllr J R Boughton had advised the standard
course of action was for diaries to be kept.

31 Clerk's Salary.

The Chairman had confirmed the minute, in full, should read: In
the absence of the Clerk it was resolved to continue to
remunerate the Clerk on SCP22, at 0.234 full time equivalent, ie
at the 2006/7 figure of £4317.32, backdated to 01/04/06, and to
review his salary early in 2007 when details of the extra hours

which he had worked in the autumn were available.