

Parish Council Minutes

(Draft)

Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 2 February 2009 in Guilden Sutton Village Hall.

Chairman: Cllr D M Fisher.

Present: Cllrs I Brown, D M Fisher, D Hughes, J Hughes, W Moulton, P M Paterson, M S J Roberts.

In attendance: Two members of the public.

1 Procedural matters.

(i) Apologies. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Kerfoot.

The Chairman referred to his understanding that apologies should be tendered with the reason therefor and minuted as such. **Action: All Members.**

Apologies were received from City Cllr B J Bailey, City Cllr H Deynem, County Cllr E Johnson and PC M Baker and the Clerk (latter part of the meeting.)

(ii) 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 after making a statement should they so wish under clause 12 (ii) of the code. 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 M S J Roberts declared a personal and prejudicial interest in planning application 08/01958/COU change of use of two storey side extension to separate dwelling at 8 Hill Top Road, CH3 7HJ for Mrs Sansom by virtue of being an adjoining occupier.

Cllr M S J Roberts declared a personal interest in all items relating to public transport issues being the local bus user contact.

Cllr M S J Roberts declared a personal interest in item 29 being a member of Guilden Sutton Football Club

Cllr I Brown declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 27 fencing at the Village Hall by virtue of her membership of the Preschool Committee.

Cllr I Brown declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 28 Village Events having a personal interest in Gardens Day 2009 and a personal and prejudicial interest in the Fete by virtue of her being a member of the committee.

Cllr P M Paterson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 28 Village Events by virtue of being a member of the committees.

Cllr M Kerfoot declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 28 Village Events by virtue of being a member of the committees.

Cllr D Hughes expressed a personal or prejudicial interest in any item which may arise during the meeting involving his chairmanship of Guilden Sutton Community Association, Guilden Sutton

Community Association Executive, Guilden Sutton Village Hall Management Committee and Guilden Sutton Community Association Fete Committee and as a member of the school governors at Guilden Sutton Church of England Controlled Primary School of which he was chairman of the Resources Committee.

(iii) The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 5 January 2009 in Guilden Sutton Village Hall were proposed by Cllr W Moulton, seconded by Cllr D Hughes and agreed.

(iv) Dates of future meetings: 2 March, 6 April, 11 May, 8 June, 20 July, 7 September, 5 October, 2 November, 7 December 2009.

(v) Publication scheme. Further to the adoption of the new model publication scheme from 1 January 2009, the Clerk indicated he was progressing the completion and publication of the necessary information. **ACTION: The Clerk, B Lewin Esq (Webmaster).**

(vi) Code of Conduct. The Chairman referred to the training session held prior to meeting of the Council by C Kerry Esq, City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, Chester City Council. Mr Kerry had explained the background to the code and had dealt with personal interests and the requirement to complete a register of interests, declare personal interests and the effect of having a personal interest and prejudicial interests and the requirement to declare a prejudicial interest and the effect of having a prejudicial interest. He had advised Members how they could get support and advice and had kindly provided Members with a copy of the model code of conduct with the relevant sections highlighted. The Chairman believed the effect of Mr Kerry's recommendations were that the Council must always ensure that any reasonable resident watching its proceedings should be confident that all Members were always working towards the best interests of residents and were not allowing any Member's membership of an outside body to influence decisions. This would normally require any Member with an organisational role in an outside body to leave the room during discussion of any material item relating to the outside organisation.

2 Public Speaking Time.

Mrs C Evans, Vicarage Close, requested the provision of a grit bin at Vicarage Close due to the condition of the road in recent severe weather, which had led to her suffering a personal injury and the absence of footways. Mrs Evans presented a petition and letter of support for the request and was thanked for her attendance.

3 Planning

(i) New applications:

08/01958/COU change of use of two storey side extension to separate dwelling at 8 Hill Top Road, CH3 7HJ for Mrs Sansom. A report to the Planning Board recommending permission had been circulated by the Clerk to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr Kerfoot. The Clerk informed the Council's concerns had helpfully been raised by City Cllr E Johnson at the Board. He also pointed out the present use for paying guest accommodation could continue until such time as the standard three year permission was implemented. Members had agreed the officer's recommendation.

08/02147/TPO 1 no sycamore, branch lopping corner of Guilden Sutton Lane opposite Methodist Church for Guilden Sutton Parish Council. No objection had been raised.

09/010023/FUL proposed alternative access arrangements from the Greenway onto Station Lane for Sustrans. The Clerk had obtained details of this neighbouring parish application which proposed alterations to the emergence of the extended cycleway onto Station Lane. This would now avoid a shared access closer to Mickle Trafford and would follow a line along the boundary of a field opposite Meadow Lea Farm. It was agreed the situation should be monitored.

(ii) Decision notices.

08/02147/TPO 1 no sycamore, branch lopping corner of Guilden Sutton Lane opposite Methodist Church for Guilden Sutton Parish Council.

(iii) Appeal.

08/00713/FUL steel framed portal building at Tile Farm, Wicker Lane CH3 7EL. The Clerk reported the receipt of the decision in this appeal which had been dismissed by the inspector on Green Belt grounds.

(iv) Parish Plan: (a) progress report. CHECK Cllr Paterson informed it had not been possible to offer a preliminary presentation of the findings of the assessment of the questionnaires to this meeting of the Council. (b) Village Design Statement. Cllr Kerfoot inquired if the possibility of a Village Design Statement being pursued should return to the Council's agenda.

(v) Strategic planning. (a) North West Plan Partial Review Forum. Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. It was noted a proposed seminar and covering provision for gypsies and travellers in Cheshire/Merseyside would take place at the Quaker meeting house on Frodsham Street, Chester on the morning of it Friday 27 February, 2009. (b) Strategic planning: Cheshire West and Chester Council Shadow Authority, draft statement of community involvement. It was noted any response was due by 27 February, 2009.

4 Quality Council issues. (a) CiLCA qualification. The Clerk would advise the Council in due course of his progress towards completing the qualification. (b) Training: general. Members visited the courses to be organised by the Cheshire Training Partnership during 2009. Members wishing to attend would indicate. Cllr Paterson suggested that training should be spread among Members due to budget constraints. The Chairman suggested the Council should maintain, for reference, a record of training courses attended and this was agreed. (c) Conduct of Council business. The NALC model standing orders would be considered by the small group which had been established comprising the existing Quality Council group of Cllrs Fisher, D Hughes and Brown.

5 Parish car park.

(i) Grounds maintenance. Any necessary groundworks following the completion of the improvement scheme would be progressed with Messrs Gresty.

(ii) Improvement scheme.

(a) Contract work. The Clerk reported the receipt of a quotation from a specialist contractor in the sum of £275 for the removal of the stumps. A discussion took place as to how necessary this work was. Cllr Kerfoot inquired as to why the work had not been carried out as part of the original contract. It was agreed a decision should be deferred to allow Members to inspect. **ACTION: All Members.** The quotation received from Messrs Gresty as to the removal of the ground growth would be accepted subject to clarification of the specification. The Clerk informed this had been deferred pending the receipt of a quotation from an alternative contractor. **ACTION: The Clerk.** The remaining quantity of mulch had been dealt with satisfactorily by Members and the Clerk. The Clerk reported the landscape contractor had carried out repairs to part of the retaining timber to the boundary planting and he had released payment.

(b) Rear boundary wall. The Clerk further reported that with respect to possible repairs to the sandstone wall and steps the preferred contractor had declined.

(iii) Repairs to signage. Estimates was received for alternative styles of replacement signage in wood (£210 plus VAT) or metal (£100 plus VAT). These would be revisited at the March meeting.

6 Leisure Services.

(i) Children's Playing Field:

(a) Grounds maintenance issues. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Mole infestation. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(c) State of nets. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(d) Basket ball equipment. The condition of the mesh would be revisited at the March meeting.

(f) Services available from RoSPA. Advice as to services available from RoSPA was received and noted.

(ii) Children's Play Area.

(a) CCTV and CCTV protocol. The CCTV protocol would be revisited in due course.

(b) Inspections. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the statutory annual inspection. The outcome of this inspection would be awaited pending any further approach to the contractor as to the condition of the safety surfacing. Inspection forms were being completed by Members. Following the decision that records should include an accident book, this was being progressed. **ACTION: The Clerk.**

(c) Litter bin emptying. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(d) Grounds maintenance issues. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) Cleansing of equipment. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(f) Services available from RoSPA. Advice as to services available from RoSPA was received and noted.

(iii) Public Footpaths.

(a) Footpath 7. In addition to the planning application referred to above, efforts were being made by the Clerk to elicit further details of the proposals for the extension of the cycleway. It was noted that alternatives to the line proposed in the planning application referred to had included the use of Footpath 7.

CHECK In the absence of Cllr Brown it was not known if an inspection had been possible of the adjoining Oaks which appeared to be dying back. **Action: Cllr Brown.**

(b) Footpath 2. (i) Clearance and sweeping. There was nothing further to report at this stage although the Clerk was mindful that the extent of the work which had been carried out had not dealt entirely with the condition of the surface of the path between the kerbs. (ii) Future maintenance. With respect to his representations to the Highways and Transportation Local Joint Committee concerning the maintenance of the new steps for Footpath 2, the adjoining level section of the path and the adjoining section of the Longster Trail running between the hedges on Cinder Lane, the Clerk would continue to seek assurances as to future maintenance. He would also pursue the possibility of additional lengthsman hours for the route and for the path at the rear of Orchard Croft to enable the standard of cleansing to be maintained at a higher level than would be provided by the three scheduled visits a year.

(c) Footpath 1. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(d) Parish Paths Group. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) Mid Cheshire Footpath Society. There was no correspondence to report to this meeting.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance.

(a) Vale. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (b) Parish Council contract 2008/09. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Public Seats. Cllr Hughes referred to damage to the seat on Guilden Sutton Lane. An estimate would be sought from Messrs Gresty. **ACTION: The Clerk.**

(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.

(viii) Cheshire Year of Gardens. Appropriate publicity would be sought on completion of the parish car park project. **ACTION: The Clerk.**

7 Public transport.

CHECK (i) C35 service. (a) Cllr Roberts, as Local Bus User Contact, informed new low entry vehicles were now in operation by Messrs Helms. These had been well received by the public. Cllr Roberts would approach the Chester District Public Transport Liaison Committee as to their external appearance.

(ii) Taxi service. Further details of the taxi service operated by Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council had been obtained by the Clerk and forwarded to Cllr Roberts. Cllr Roberts informed the scheme was suffering from its own success and restrictions had been found to be necessary which were becoming problematical.

(iii) Bus stand, Guilden Sutton Lane. The Council noted a significant length of hedge, including that in the vicinity of the bus stand, had been cut, it was understood by the highway authority.

(iv) Public transport services. Correspondence, received by letter dated 5 December 2008, from Cheshire County Council transport and regeneration service inviting the Council to give consideration to issues relating to public transport services in its area and to provide any written comments or suggestions it might have had been referred to Cllr Roberts. It was noted a response was required by 28 February 2009. A draft response would be circulated by Cllr Roberts. **ACTION: Cllr Roberts.**

8 Highways.

(i) Strategic matters. There was nothing to report.

(ii) Local matters.

The Clerk reminded Members that individual action items which had been raised with the highway authority had been fully detailed in the minutes of the October 2008 meeting. These were:

Maintenance:

Oaklands, carriageway defects approaching junction with School Lane at Wood Farm.

Guilden Sutton Lane, trip hazard at the site of a fall.

Guilden Sutton Lane, drainage issue at a field entrance.

Wicker Lane, proposed resurfacing.

Station Lane, condition.

Obscured road signs including Belle Vue Lane and Station Lane.

Migration of gravel.

Condition of cycle route Church Lane - Cinder Lane.

Overgrown hedges, Cinder Lane.

Guilden Sutton Lane, lighting obscured by trees.

Guilden Sutton Lane, overgrown hedges at two properties.

Footpath 2, condition.

Heath Bank, shrubbery, need for pruning.

Guilden Sutton Lane, obstruction of footway by nettles.

School Lane, encroachment onto the highway.

Traffic:

A 41/Guilden Sutton Lane, road rage, double parking in the gap, reinstatement of crossroads, installation of traffic signals, provision of crossing for cyclists and pedestrians as part of a safe route to school, traffic conditions on car boot Sundays.

Speed reviews, A41, Guilden Sutton Lane, Wicker Lane, Hare Lane.

Signing and lining: Guilden Sutton Lane at playing field, extend red patch "SLOW" marking and restore disturbed surface.

Porters Hill, remove centre line, add in edgeline, increase width of footway, provide rumble strips, install signals, reduce tree canopy.

Summerfield Road, disabled parking bay at shops.

Permissive paths, Station Lane, Wicker Lane.

Hare Lane, speed of traffic, double parking in vicinity of Rugby Club.

Wilding Business Estate, emerging traffic.

SatNavs, request for weight restrictions on unsuitable roads.

(a) Speed issues. (i) Speed indicator device. The Clerk would pursue the suggestion by Cllr Kerfoot that a note on the use of the SID equipment by the Parish Council should appear in the newsletter. (ii) Police radar. Further to the disappointment expressed by Cllr D Hughes that the intention of the rural inspector to carry out speed checks in the parish had not materialised although it appeared from press comment that such checks were being carried out in other villages, a response was awaited from the rural inspector with whom the issue had been raised.

(b) Signing and lining schemes. (i) Gateway treatment, Guilden Sutton Lane - red patch SLOW marking. A response was awaited from the highway authority. (ii) A response was awaited to the suggestion by Cllr Kerfoot that a lining scheme or rumble strips on Porters Hill would improve safety.

(c) Speed review, Guilden Sutton Lane. The Clerk had previously reported the receipt, by correspondence dated 3 December 2008, of notification of the proposed order giving effect to a 30mph limit. Confirmation had been sought from the highway authority that the standard of lighting would be improved to mitigate the loss of the existing 40mph repeaters which had been raised by City Cllr B J Bailey and County Cllr S Proctor. County Cllr Proctor had sought assurances from the Clerk that Members had been aware the 30mph repeaters would be removed. Cllr Moulton informed that 2no new standards and 2no new brackets were being installed. The Clerk had spoken at the highways and transportation local joint committee at which a recommendation had been made the order should be confirmed. On a majority vote, a decision had been deferred to enable the highway authority to cost additional measures which would be required should the 30mph limit prove to be ineffective. It was lower speed limits were supported in the Parish Plan questionnaires.

The Council noted correspondence from Mr M Jones raising a number of issues which the Clerk had referred to County Cllr Johnson as falling to the highway authority, apart from those relating directly to the Council which he had dealt with.

It was noted the response to the Parish Plan questionnaires favoured a reduction in the limit.

(d) Speed review, Wicker Lane/Hare Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) Hare Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the concerns with respect to the speed of traffic on Hare Lane and double parking in the vicinity of the rugby club.

(f) Footway rear Cathcart Green/Summerfield Road. No repairs appeared to have been carried out at this stage.

(g) Parking, Arrowcroft Road. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(h) Flags, Summerfield Road. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(i) Disabled access to shops. The issues identified at the meeting between the Clerk and the Access Officer on 19 December 2007 would be revisited.

(j) Junction A41/Guilden Sutton Lane. There was nothing further to add to the Clerk's understanding that traffic conditions at this junction, particularly on those Sunday mornings when car boot sales were

held at Chester Rugby Club, were to be monitored by PC Baker and the police traffic liaison officer. He had raised the question with PC Baker.

(k) Road signs. Members would advise the Clerk if they became aware of any road signs in and around the village which were obscured by vegetation.

(l) Migration of gravel. There was nothing further to report at present.

(m) Porters Hill. A response was awaited from the highway authority as to the issue raised by Cllr D Hughes concerning poor visibility encountered by motorists driving up the hill and a suggestion that traffic signals might improve safety. The effect of trees overhanging the road had also been referred.

(n) Path, Cinder Lane to Church Lane. (i) Condition. It was not known what action had been taken by the highway authority as to the condition of this path.

(ii) Use by motor cycles. A response was awaited to the complaint to the Parish Paths Warden as to the use of this path by motorcyclists which had been referred to the Area Maintenance Engineer.

(o) Footway, Guilden Sutton lane. It was noted that separate lengths of the footway on Guilden Sutton Lane continued to be obstructed by nettles and an overgrown hedge respectively. These had been drawn to the attention of the Area Maintenance Engineer.

(p) Parish boundary sign, Guilden Sutton Lane. The state of this sign had been referred to the Area Maintenance Engineer.

(q) Ice on footways. The Clerk advised he had raised this issue at a meeting of the Cheshire West and Chester Scrutiny Committee. Extracts of the minutes recorded:

Mr David Norbury, Chester Area Secretary of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils and Clerk to Guilden Sutton Parish Council asked a question of the Leader, Councillor Mike Jones, about the recent severe weather and levels of treatment of footways in both urban and rural areas that had led to a sharp rise in the number of admissions to Accident & Emergency due to falls. Mr Norbury asked if the Leader would consider asking the Director of Environment to carry out an early review of existing practice in order that any improvement which may be possible could be funded and available for next winter.

The Leader responded providing details of the specific sequence of weather conditions that had resulted in the exceptionally icy circumstances. The Leader informed of the Council's processes, providing facts on the arrangements put in place over the specific time period under discussion e.g. the gritting of 36,000 miles of highways / footways, over a period of 72 hours. The Leader also gave thanks to the efforts of those staff involved. The Leader provided a detailed responseand informed the Committee and members of the public that although the Council was carrying out a number of policy reviews at the moment, there was no intention to carry out a review of this specific service at the present.

(r) Flooding, Church Lane. Further to Cllr D Hughes informed of flooding taking place at the foot of the Fox Cover steps, the highway authority had been informed.

(s) Grit bin, Vicarage Close. Members gave consideration to the request made at public speaking time for the provision of a bin at this location and agree unanimously to support the request. **ACTION: The Clerk.** The Clerk had circulated details of the highway authority's winter service policy which stated that footways would not normally be gritted and included a specification for the provision of grit bins.

(iii) Lighting. There were no faults to be reported from this meeting.

9 Finance:

(a) Income:

(vi) External Audit. The Clerk had informed the Chairman the Audit Commission had advised by letter dated 20 January 2009 the audit would be called on Monday 20 April, 2009. He had pointed out to the County Office the Council would barely be in receipt of bank statements for 31 March 2009 by that date which would make it difficult to arrange for an internal audit to be carried out or for a special meeting of the Council to be held by Friday 17 April to enable the annual return to be approved. He understood a later date was to be advised, preceded by a training session on 26 February 2009. This helpful outcome was noted.

10 Environment Services:

(i) Recycling issues. (a) General. Cllr Kerfoot referred to the condition of the recycling noticeboard and the possible need for new glazing together with an updating of the content. (b) Chester City Council waste collection and recycling contract. The Clerk would arrange for a suitable note to appear in the newsletter.

(ii) Amenities cleansing. (a) Belle Vue Lane. Following the site meeting with he had attended with City Cllr S Parker and the relevant officer on Tuesday 11 March 2008 as to the condition of the accesses, on which no progress had been possible, this issue would be revisited. **ACTION: The Clerk.** (b) White Tornado. The suggestion this activity should be resumed would be revisited. (c) Fly tipping. There was nothing further to report as to the initiative proposed by Derek Bowker Esq, Project Co-ordinator, Project Rural Matters.

(iii) Dog fouling. (a) The dell. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to Cllr Paterson's request to be contacted by the Dog Warden with respect to continuing dog fouling in the vicinity of the dell.

(b) Footpath 2. A response was awaited to the request to the Dog Warden for a bin to be provided on public footpath no 2. (c) Fox Cover. In addition to the previously agreed desire for a bin at the top of the steps in Fox Cover, Members were considering possible locations throughout the parish for notification to the Dog Warden. **ACTION: All Members.** (d) Fouling, access to Footpath 2. The Clerk had informed the receipt of a complaint from an adjoining occupier as to fouling on the access adjoining 46 Oaklands. He had contacted the Dog Warden who had kindly provided the occupier with notices.

(iv) Sewers. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

11 Trees and Hedges.

(i) Access to public footpath no 2 from Oaklands. A response remained outstanding from the senior estates surveyor to determine the extent of the City Council's ownership of the access to footpath 2 at the rear of Porters Croft.

(ii) Hedges, Guilden Sutton Lane. The need for a hedge at the approach to the diversion, which had vigorous growth and was obstructing the footway, to be pruned had been referred to the Area Maintenance Engineer.

(iii) Canopy, Porters Hill. There was nothing further to report at present as to the issue raised by Mr Jackson which had been referred to the highway authority.

(iv) Hedges, Porters Hill. The concern expressed by a Member that overgrown hedges on Porters Hill were at head height had been reported to the Area Maintenance Engineer.

(v) Hedge, Station Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to Cllr J Hughes's concern with respect to the condition of a hedge on Station Lane.

(vi) Land, Church Lane. The Council was informed of overhanging branches to trees on private land which it was thought could be a potential hazard. These would be inspected by the Tree Warden. The ownership of the land would also be clarified. **ACTION: Cllr Brown/The Clerk.**

12 Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

(i) Chester Area Meeting. It was noted the Area Meeting held on Wednesday 7 January 2008 had a presentation on development control procedures under the new Cheshire West and Chester Council.

13 Chester City Council

(i) Goway North Area Committee. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (ii) Maintenance of churchyards and burial grounds. The Clerk had dealt with the correspondence requesting an indication of the likely grant to be sought in 2009/10.

(ii) Damaged sign Fox Cover. The Clerk reported the receipt of an estimate in the sum of £100 plus VAT for the replacement of this badly damaged City Council owned sign and for the repainting of the existing posts. This would be revisited at the March meeting.

14 Cheshire County Council. The Chairman reported would attend a Service of Thanksgiving to be held in Chester Cathedral on 29 March 2009 (ii) Cheshire Archives, evening for donors and depositors 10 February 2009. Advice of this event was noted. (iii) Personalisation of Care. It was noted the County Council was consulting on this new way of providing social care services which recognised that people were the best judges of their own needs and focused on what was important to individuals and the outcomes they wished to achieve. It would offer people greater choice over the support they received and would help them develop better links with their local communities, enabling them to live as independently as possible.

Instead of a package of care being compiled by Community Services following an assessment, those adults whose needs were assessed as critical or substantial would be offered a personal budget with which they could design their own package of care.

15 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

(i) Funding for local councils. Confirmation of the continuing payment to the Council of the lengthsman grant during 2009/10 was being sought by the Clerk. The Chairman understood the Clerk would report further to the March meeting.

(ii) Area and Neighbourhood Working. The Chairman understood from the event minuted beneath that it might be possible for the Council to buy in to grounds maintenance services provided by the new authority.

(iii) Introducing Cheshire West and Chester. The event to launch the new council held at the Guild Hall on 29 January 2009 had been attended by the Chairman and Clerk. The Chairman had contributed to a discussion session on Environmental issues and the Clerk to that dealing with safer and stronger communities.

(iv) Strategic housing market assessment . It was noted the new authority had commissioned a housing market assessment to ensure it could prepare housing and planning policies which reflect the requirements of local communities. The assessment would find out how much affordable housing is required, what the aspirations of households are and the need for specialist and supported housing for particular groups, such as older people.

16 Cheshire Community Action. Community Pride Competition. It was noted a decision was required as to whether or not the Council should re-enter this competition. The issue was not strongly supported in the Parish Plan questionnaires. It was agreed not to enter in 2009 but to publicise a possible entry in 2010, combined with the Gardens Day.

17 CPRE. There were no action items to report.

18 Health. There were no action items to report.

19 Policing.

(i) Chester Have Your Say. It was noted this had taken place on Tuesday 13 January 2009 at St Mary's Centre.

(ii) Police/Probation initiative. See minute 10 (ii)(c) above.

(iii) Crime issues. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) Ward walk. PC Baker had been unable to attend the ward walk in the vicinity of the shops and village hall car park proposed for Saturday 17 January at 10am due to an operational commitment. The walk had been rescheduled to 10am on Sunday 18 January and had been attended by Cllrs Kerfoot and Paterson and the Clerk. No current observations had arisen. Previous incidents were visited.

20 Newsletter. The Clerk was preparing an estimate of the cost of posting copies to properties in Wicker Lane. CHECK Inclusion of Cllr Brown's comment re visibility of dog walkers and cyclists.

21 Memorial Garden. There was nothing to add to the planning application minuted above.

22 Bulb planting. It was noted some bulbs remained to be planted and agreed that further planting should take place.

23 Parish IT. Work being carried out by Mr B Lewin, webmaster, was noted.

24 Primary School. Cllr D Hughes reported.

25 Disability Discrimination Act: barrier, Hill Top Road. There was nothing further to report at this stage. **ACTION: City Cllr B Bailey.**

26 Land ownerships. Further consideration would be given to the suggestion by Cllr Paterson that it would be beneficial for the Council to compile a register of land ownerships which adjoined footways and public footpaths.

27 Railway fencing, Guilden Sutton Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the concerns of an occupier who had been informed by Network Rail that security fencing would be erected on the boundary of her garden and the railway embankment.

28 Guilden Sutton Community Association: proposed fencing. The Council was informed a small amount of work was outstanding and would be completed shortly.

29 Department for Communities and Local Government.

(i) Code of recommended practice on local authority publicity. It was noted a response was due by 12 March 2009.

30 Community events: (i) Gardens Day 2009. It was understood this would take place in May 2009.

(ii) Proposed village fete 2009. It was noted this was intended to take place on 13 July, 2009.

31 Mrs E M Bradley. The Chairman informed he had sent a card on behalf of the Council to mark Mrs Bradley's centenary.

32 Guilden Sutton FC: grant. This issue was deferred to the March meeting.

33 Royal Garden Party 7 July 2009. It was agreed the Chairman should be nominated.

34 Member's information items.

Apologies. Cllr J Hughes and Cllr Kerfoot kindly informed they would be unable to attend the meeting of the Council to be held on 6 April 2009.

35 Information correspondence.

Cheshire County Council: summary statement of accounts 2007/08.

Clerks and Councils Direct January 2009.

Matters considered in the absence of the press and public.

36 Lengthsman service. This would be revisited as part of the 2009/10 contract.

37 Clerk's terms and conditions. A meeting was being arranged.

38 Possible capital expenditure. The Council was informed of a change in circumstances which might offer an opportunity for a capital acquisition. **ACTION; The Clerk.**

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