

Parish Council Minutes

Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 6 April 2009 in Guilden Sutton Village Hall.

Chairman: Cllr D M Fisher.

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

In attendance Cllr S Parker, Cheshire West and Chester.

1 Procedural matters.

(i) Apologies. Apologies were received from Cllr B J Bailey, Cllr H Deynem and PC M Baker.

(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 D Hughes expressed a personal and prejudicial interest in business relating to the Gardens Open Day or Village Fete as an officer of Guilden Sutton Community Association and a committee chair of the Governors of Guilden Sutton CE Controlled Primary School.

Cllr M S J Roberts declared a personal interest in any business relating to the Bird In Hand public house as an employee.

(iii) The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 2 March 2009 in Guilden Sutton Village Hall were proposed by Cllr W Moulton, seconded by Cllr I Brown and agreed.

(iv) Dates of future meetings: 11 May, 8 June, 20 July, 7 September, 5 October, 2 November, 7 December 2009. It was agreed the annual parish meeting taking place on Monday 11 May 2009 would commence at 7pm.

(v) Publication scheme. (i) publication. Further to the adoption of the new model publication scheme from 1 January 2009, the Clerk indicated he had progressed the completion and publication of the necessary information including charging arrangements. Subject to further clarification of charges, this would be passed to the webmaster for inclusion on the village web site and highlighted in the newsletter. **ACTION: The Clerk, B Lewin Esq (Webmaster)**. (ii) training. The Clerk reported the receipt of a training DVD prepared by the commissioner on the application of the scheme. This would initially be reviewed by the Clerk. **ACTION: The Clerk.**

(vi) Code of Conduct. The Clerk would prepare and circulate a note of the main points made by the Monitoring Officer in due course.

2 Public Speaking Time.

City Cllr S Parker kindly updated the Council on issues relating to the introduction of the new Cheshire West and Chester authority on 1 April 2009, which he believed had been greatly welcomed by officers, arrangements for dealing with development control matters, including the introduction of public speaking by

parish councils and the possible inclusion of parish councils in site visits, attendance by members at parish council meetings and the possibility of member surgeries, to include parish clerks, as an alternative. Cllr Parker was thanked for his attendance by the Chairman.

09/10 001

3 Planning:

(i) New applications.

09/10171/FUL single storey extensions to side and rear and first floor side extension at Mountview, Station Lane for Mr P Fellows. No objection had been raised to this resubmitted application.

09/10201/FUL replacement front porch at 1 The Vetches CH3 7HL for Mr Ian Howell. Further inquiries had been made by Cllr Paterson. It was agreed that no objection should be raised.

09/10276/FUL single storey extension to rear of property, porch to front and loft conversion at Westview, Hare Lane CH3 7ED for Mr and Mrs Collinson. It was agreed that no objection should be raised.

09/10317/FUL extension and alterations at 3 Oaklands CH3 7HE for Mr and Mrs R Spencer. It was agreed that no objection should be raised.

09/10375/FUL conservatory at Tabora, Belle Vue Lane for Mr Duckworth. Enquiries had been made by Cllr Brown. It was agreed that no objection should be raised.

(ii) Decision notices.

09/10120/FUL single storey extensions to dwelling to form garden room and art studio at Clock House, The Steadings, Wicker Lane, CH3 7EL for Mr and Mrs P McCormick. Planning permission.

09/10171/FUL single storey extensions to side and rear and first floor side extension at Mountview, Station Lane for Mr P Fellows. Planning permission. Side windows condition.

09/10201/FUL replacement front porch at 1 The Vetches CH3 7HL for Mr Ian Howell. Planning permission.

(iii) Parish Plan: (a) progress report. Cllr Paterson confirmed it was intended there would be a preliminary presentation to the Parish Council at its May meeting. It was noted this might take place during the annual parish meeting subject to other business. (b) Village Design Statement. The Clerk had furnished Cllr Kerfoot with examples. Cllr J Hughes also expressed an interest. Based on his preliminary work, the Chairman referred to the process.

4 Quality Council issues. (a) CiLCA qualification. The Clerk reported further on his intention to achieve qualification by March 2010 ahead of the next parish council elections in May 2011. He was to attend training on the new power of wellbeing provision on Tuesday May 12. (b) Training: general. The Clerk was progressing the indications by Members of the courses they wished to attend. (c) Moving Towards Quality Parish Council Status. (i) 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. (ii) Status. The Clerk would circulate to all Members details of the requirements which would have to be met by the Council if it was to achieve Quality Parish Council status to which it was committed in principle. Members would consider the actions which were necessary which would then be considered in detail by the Quality Council group.

5 Parish car park.

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

(ii) Improvement scheme.

(a) Contract work. The quotation received from Messrs Gresty as to the removal of the ground growth would be raised at a site meeting. As a first phase, it would be suggested the ground growth should be cleared in front of the tree line. The method adopted by Messrs Plemstall Services for the retention of the mulch had been raised at a site meeting. Repairs had been carried out and the situation would be monitored.

09/10 002

(b) Rear boundary wall. The Clerk would endeavour to identify an alternative contractor able to carry out any necessary powers to the sandstone wall. The Chairman kindly offered to repair the damaged steps.

(c) The Clerk reported the receipt of advice of a revaluation of business rates in 2010 which would affect the car park. The revised value would be advised in October 2009. The intention would not be to increase revenue overall.

6 Leisure Services

(i) Children's Playing Field:

(a) Grounds maintenance issues. It was noted the litter bin required emptying.

(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 May meeting.

(ii) Children's Play Area.

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

(b) Inspections. Mr P Davies, Cheshire West and Chester Council, had kindly provided a copy of the annual inspection. This had been forwarded to Cllr Paterson. It had been noted previously that any urgent issues would have been raised with the Council directly. The Clerk reported the receipt, by correspondence dated 4 April 2009, of advice that Guilden Sutton Pre School had ceased to use the play area due to the condition of the safety surfacing. Mr Davies had indicated the annual inspection had found this met the relevant British Standard in the view of the inspector. Further inquiries would be made by Cllr Paterson and the Clerk in the hope that further advice could be obtained from the contractor and from the local authority. **ACTION: Cllr Paterson, the Clerk.**

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

(d) Grounds maintenance issues. The contract requirement for detritus to be removed from the hard surfacing rather than blown into the hedge bottom would be emphasised to Messrs Gresty in the formal acceptance of their tender.

(iii) Public Footpaths.

(a) Footpath 7. The condition of the adjoining Oaks which appeared to be dying back would be revisited. **Action: Cllr Brown.** The Council was pleased to note the success of the bulb planting which had been carried out on the path in the Autumn.

(b) Footpath 2. (i) Clearance and sweeping. There was nothing further to report at this stage although the Clerk remained mindful 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. He believed this and the issues minuted directly beneath, in those instances where no progress had been possible during 2008/09, should be raised at the earliest possible opportunity with the new Cheshire West and Chester Council through a site visit. (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.

09/10 003

(d) Parish Paths Group. Cllr D Hughes reported a meeting of the group had now taken place.

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

(f) Permissive Paths. The Parish Paths Warden had been approached with a view to him discussing the possibility of a permissive path on Wicker Lane with Mr Arden. **ACTION: Parish Paths Warden.**

(iv) Grounds Maintenance.

(a) Vale. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (b) Parish Council contract 2009/10. The Clerk reported the receipt of a tender dated 23 March 2009 from Messrs Gresty which compared favourably with the previous year. Two other contractors had been approached but no responses had been received. It was proposed by Cllr Moulton, seconded by Cllr Roberts and agreed the tender should be accepted subject to a pre contract meeting. The formal acceptance would require detritus to be removed from the play area rather than deposited in the hedge bottom, as minuted above and dockets to be provided on a current basis.

(v) Public Seats. Further to Cllr Hughes referring to damage to the seat on Guilden Sutton Lane, an estimate had been sought from Messrs Gresty and was awaited. It was noted the work had been completed.

(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.

(i) C35 service. Cllr Roberts reported new low floor buses were in operation by Messrs Helms.

(ii) Public transport services. Cllr Roberts confirmed he had responded to the 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.

(iii) C80. The issue raised by Mrs Kirk had been referred to Cllr Roberts, Local Bus User contact who confirmed there had been no recent change to the time table.

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.

09/10 004

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.

The Clerk believed these and the issues minuted directly beneath, where no progress had been possible during 2008/09, should be raised at the earliest possible opportunity with the new Cheshire West and Chester Council through the appropriate officer visiting the Council. It was agreed the list should be updated and an officer sought for the June meeting.

(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. Future dates were being sought.

(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. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(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. Cllr D Hughes indicated this had been visited on the most recent ward walk with PC Baker.

(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.

09/10 005

The concerns raised by Mrs Kirk had been referred to the highway authority.

(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. Cllr D Hughes referred to the condition of a School Lane nameplate at the war memorial.

(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 not known what action had been taken by the Area Maintenance Engineer as to the obstruction of separate lengths of the footway on Guilden Sutton Lane by nettles and an overgrown hedge respectively.

(p) Parish boundary sign, Guilden Sutton Lane. Although the state of this sign had been referred to the Area Maintenance Engineer, it did not appear that any remedial action had been taken.

(q) Flooding, Church Lane. Further to Cllr D Hughes informing of flooding taking place at the foot of the Fox Cover steps this had been reported. It was not known what action had been taken by the highway authority.

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

9 Finance:

(i) Income:

Co-op Bank
Interest

5 February	£	0.89
5 March	£	0.61

(ii) Payments:

Clerk
Expenses, February

Copies 245@5p	£	12.25
Mileage 8@ 40p	£	<u>3.20</u>
	£	15.45*

Cllr I Brown Christmas Tree	£	36.00**
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Mrs P Blythe Per Mrs R Mort Children' s playing field Rent April – June	£	160.00
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Mid Cheshire Ftpth Soc Subscription 2009/10	£	8.00
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09/10 006

Cheshire West & Chester Council car park rates, first half year	£ 309.37**
Direct2Door newsletter 130	£ 26.45 (VAT £3.45)
ChALC Affiliation fee 2009/10	£ 314.60
Local Council Review	<u>£ 27.00</u>
	£ 341.60

Clerk:

Salary January - March 09	£ 1079.33
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Agreed expenses 2009/10	£ 104.00
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Expenses:

Postage	£ 21.48
Photocopies 294 @5p	£ 14.70
Mileage 8 @40p	<u>£ 3.20</u>
	£ 143.38

* payment from previous meeting.

** confirmation of urgent payments.

Proposed by Cllr D Hughes
Seconded by Cllr I Brown
and agreed

(iii) Balances

Co-op Bank 31.3.09	£ 5,696.63
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Scottish Widows no 1 1 January 2009	£20,722.40
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Scottish Widows no 2 1 January 2009	£ 2,601.80
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(iv) Report on contingency payments.

2009/10 Budget: Payments	£ 695.00 £ NIL
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09/10 007

2008/09
Budget: £ 1,305.00
Payments: £ NIL (£6,120.00)

The allocation of expenditure amounting to £6,120.00 during 2008/09 which might, should Members wish, be set against contingency spending, would be revisited.

(v) Insurance. (a) Fidelity. An up to date application form with respect to the proposed increase in the fidelity limit was being obtained by the Clerk. (b) Further consideration would be given to a number of individual elements within the insurance initially by Cllr D Hughes and the Clerk. The same would apply to possible alternative providers, including the Council's bankers which had recently made an approach. This would enable the market to be tested.

(vi) External Audit. It was noted the audit had been called for 20 May 2009. The required notice would be exhibited.

10 Environment Services:

(i) Recycling issues. (a) Chester City Council waste collection and recycling contract. The Clerk would arrange for a suitable note to appear in the newsletter.

(ii) Amenity 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, the Clerk believed this should be raised at the earliest possible opportunity with the new Cheshire West and Chester Council through a site visit. The same would apply to the related issues are raised by Mrs Kirk. Cllr D Hughes commented favourably on the absence of litter during a ward walk with PC Baker. (b) White Tornado. The suggestion this activity should be resumed would be revisited. (c) Fly tipping. The Clerk would report further in due course 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) Provision of bins. It was noted a bin had been installed at Fox Cover. The dog warden would be thanked.

(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 local authority' s ownership of the access to footpath 2 at the rear of Porters Croft. A renewed approach would be made by the Clerk.

(ii) Hedges, Guilden Sutton Lane. As minuted above, a response was awaited from the Area Maintenance Engineer as to the need for a hedge at the approach to the diversion, which had vigorous growth and was obstructing the footway, to be pruned.

(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. A response was awaited from the Area Maintenance Engineer as to the need for overgrown hedges on Porters Hill which were at head height to be pruned.

(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. Further to the Council being 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.** 09/10 008

(vii) Sycamore, Memorial Garden. Cllr D Hughes expressed concern at the high branches. It was agreed the previously approved work to remove the lower branch would be suspended pending an inspection of further work which may be necessary. The advice of tree officers would be sought. **ACTION: The Clerk.**

12 Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

(i) Chester Area Meeting. The Chief Executive of the incoming Cheshire West and Chester Council, Mr S Robinson, had attended the Chester Area Meeting held at County Hall on Wednesday 25 March 2009. The Clerk was pleased to report his presentation and responses to questions had been extremely well received.

(ii) Participatory budgeting Monday 23 March 2009. The Chairman reported he had attended this session on participatory budgeting which offered councils a greater opportunity to influence the budgets of principal authorities and local organisations to influence that of the parish council.

13 Chester City Council

(i) Goway North Area Committee 5 March 2009. The Council received the papers for the final meeting of the committee including an update on the local government review, a report on grants awarded by the committee since 2003 and the committee's final report. (ii) Invitation to civic events. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 19 March 2009, of advice from the Rt Worshipful, The Lord Mayor of forthcoming civic events. In particular, Members wishing to attend proposed regalia talks would advise the Clerk.

14 Cheshire County Council. Service of Thanksgiving 29 March 2009. The Chairman reported he had attended this service.

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 awaited and would be pursued by the Clerk.

(ii) Electoral Review, Cheshire West and Chester. The Clerk reported he had responded to the preliminary consultation on an electoral review of Cheshire West and Chester as follows:

"I imagine you are constrained by timescales but the closing date for comment (April 6) suggests the Commission believes parishes will be able to make an informed judgement as to whether, in our case, three unitary councillors is the correct number for the ward they serve, on the basis of three working days of the new authority. Clearly this cannot be achieved. Many parishes may well not even have had contact with their new councillors on unitary issues during that period (although most will have been in touch with them since the elections in May 2008).

Only time will tell if councillors are able to deal with the volume of work they will encounter. In our ward, eight members have reduced to three dealing with exactly the same issues - and the same number of parish councils - as their predecessors.

Given the process also includes a review of boundaries, as I understand it, it would seem more logical to handle that issue first and then consult on the appropriate number of members who by then will have some experience of the time demands made upon them.

My instinct is that some of the more rural wards in Cheshire West and Chester are very large geographically and it may be sensible to split one or more of them, with a modest increase in the overall number of members from 72. This would enable them to be better able to grip local issues, which is a key priority of the new authority.

Similarly, as a clerk, I have a preference for multi member wards which avoids possible issues of cover if a member is not available to deal with an urgent issue."

(iii) Central Ellesmere Port Area Action Plan preferred options report. The Clerk reported the receipt of this consultation by letter dated 16 March 2009. **ACTION: Noted.**

(iv) Telephone directory version 1. The Clerk reported the receipt of this directory. **ACTION: Noted.**

09/10 009

(v) Event for local councils Thursday 30 April, 6pm at The Fourways Inn, Delamere. Members wishing to attend would advise the Clerk.

(vi) Changes to the planning process. The Clerk reported the receipt of this advice, by letter dated 27 March 2009. **ACTION: Noted.**

(vii) Building control consultancy arrangements. The Clerk reported the receipt of advice by letter dated 30 March 2009. **ACTION: Noted.**

(viii) Adoption of supplementary planning document: Tattenhall Village Design Statement. The Clerk reported the receipt of this advice by letter dated March 2009. **ACTION: Noted.**

16 Cheshire Community Action. There were no action items to report.

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 that future meetings in Chester would be held on 19 May 2009 and 26 January, 2010 in St Mary's Centre.

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

(iii) Crime issues. A Member referred to an issue which had been causing disruption in the late hours and early in the morning.

(iv) Ward walk. It was noted that PC Baker had conducted a ward walk on Saturday 21 March 2009.

20 Newsletter. The March issue of the newsletter had contained details of the Council' s budget for 2009/10 and of those of the principal authorities together with details of the new Cheshire West and Chester Council, vesting day for which had been 1 April 2009. Cllr J Hughes kindly offered to distribute copies to properties in Wicker Lane in conjunction with The Marigold.

21 Memorial Garden. See also minute 11 (vii) above. Cllr D Hughes informed of the need for a further three or four shrubs to be planted to fill gaps. Cllr J Hughes kindly agreed to provide same.

22 Bulb planting. It was agreed that planting should take place on the parish car park bank in 2009. The Chairman referred to the desirability of topping up existing planting.

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 Community events:

(i) Gardens Day 2009. The organisers had been informed the Council had been pleased to award a grant of up to £500 which it would wish to see reduced by fundraising should this be possible. (ii) Village Fete 2009. The organisers had been informed the Council had been pleased to award a grant of £500. Cllr Kerfoot informed a stall was available for the Council. There would also be a display by the Parish Plan group. (iii) St John' s Holiday Club. The Clerk reported the receipt of an application in similar terms to previous years but with no amount stated. It was agreed a grant of £200 should again be awarded subject to the provision of receipts.

29 Guilden Sutton FC: possible grant. Cllr Roberts informed an application would not be forthcoming at this stage but may do so in the future.

30 Member's information items.

Bird in Hand. Cllr D Hughes referred to the possible closure of the Bird in Hand. Cllr Roberts informed of the current position.

Electoral review. Cllr Moulton referred to media reports of the possible inclusion of non parished areas around Tarvin into the existing parish.

External funding. Cllr Paterson informed as to a seminar on external funding.

Development control. Cllr Brown informed she had been approached as to the position regarding temporary buildings and had advised the duty planning officer should be approached.

Annual meeting of the Council. The Chairman informed of the protocol surrounding appointments.

Grant application form. The Chairman informed he proposed to bring a draft form to the May meeting.

Mrs C M Russell MP. The Clerk informed an advice surgery was to be held in the Village Hall on Friday 24 April 2009 between 4.30pm and 6pm. No appointments were necessary.

31 Information correspondence.

Leisure Services:

RoSPA Play Area inspection service.

Mid Cheshire Footpath Society annual general meeting 8 April, 2009; Mid Cheshire Footpath Society annual report 2008/09.

Cheshire Association of Local Councils/NALC:

ChALC newsletter 126, March 2009; Local Council Review March 2009.

Chester City Council: Goway North Area Committee final report 2003/2009.
Credit crunch fact sheet.

Cheshire County Council: Cheshire Matters March 2009 .

Cheshire West and Chester Council: new waste collection service, Chester district; introducing your new council; telephone directory version 1.

CPRE: Cheshire Viewpoint February 2009, Fieldwork March 2009, Countryside Voice Spring 2009.

Cheshire Police Authority: consultation on crime and disorder priorities in Cheshire West and Chester.

Connections: Insideout, issue 1.

09/10 11

Direct2Door: launch 20 March 2009.

Correspondence from charities: CBM eye care services; British Red Cross Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge; The Dogs Trust.

Save the Family "Together" Spring 2009.

Matters considered in the absence of the press and public.

32 Clerk's terms and conditions. It was noted a meeting had been held between the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr Brown and Clerk at which progress had been made. It was hoped that any outstanding payments due to the Clerk and an approach to pay and grading issues in future years would be resolved as quickly as possible .

33 Possible capital expenditure. Further to the Council being informed of a change in circumstances which might offer an opportunity for a capital acquisition, the matter was being progressed by the Clerk on an informal basis. **ACTION; The Clerk.**

34 Planning application prior notification. The Council was informed of a possible application involving alterations to business premises.