

Guiden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 7 June 2010 in Guiden Sutton Village Hall.

Chairman: Cllr P M Paterson.

Present: Cllrs A Davis, D M Fisher, D Hughes, J Hughes, M Kerfoot, W Moulton, P M Paterson.

In attendance: Cllr B J Bailey, Cllr S Parker, Mr C Avery, Guiden Sutton Fete Committee,

1 Procedural matters.

(i) Apologies. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr I Brown.

Apologies were received from PC 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 declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the 2010 Fete as a member of the fete committee.

Cllr P M Paterson declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the 2010 Fete as a member of the fete committee.

(iii) Confirmation of the minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on Monday 10 May 2010. The minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on Monday 10 May 2010 were proposed by Cllr J Hughes, seconded by Cllr A Davis and agreed as a correct record.

(iv) Dates of future meetings:

Mondays 12 July, 6 September, 4 October, 1 November, 6 December 2010.

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

(vi) Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill. The Clerk reported he was awaiting a response to his inquiry as to the progress of the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill.

(vii) UK Youth Parliament. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(viii) General election. Further to the General Election held on 6 May, 2010, the Clerk reported he had congratulated Mr Stephen Mosley on his election as MP for the City of Chester vice Mrs C M Russell and had thanked Mrs Russell for her help to the Council since 1997.

2 Public Speaking Time.

Mr C Avery spoke in support of a proposed application by the fete committee for a grant towards the cost of the 2010 fete and indicated a contribution by the Council would be welcome.

Cllr S Parker informed that Station Lane did not meet the guidelines for a 30mph limit. Concerns remained at the entrance to the Greenway.

10/11 032

It was agreed that a letter of support should be sent to the highway authority. **Action: The Clerk.** Cllr D Hughes thanked Cllr Parker for his skilful chairing of the inaugural meeting of the new Gowy Community Forum.

Cllr B J Bailey informed of an improvement in the condition of certain footways within the parish following work carried out by Cheshire West and Chester Council. Cllr Bailey advised discussions were in progress as to possible measures at the junction of the A41 and Guilden Sutton Lane to deter vehicles from double parking in the gap in the central reservation. Inquiries were being made as to the intended 30mph speed limit on Guilden Sutton Lane.

3 Planning:

(i) New applications.

10/10861/FUL conservatory at rear of 109 Oaklands CH3 7HG. No objection had been raised.

10/11027/FUL rear extension to existing detached garage at 5 The Dell CH3 7ST. No objection had been raised.

10/11199/FUL pitched roof to side extension at 15 Oaklands CH3 7HE for Mr Ian Rose. Cllrs Kerfoot and Moulton reported. It was agreed that no objection should be raised.

10/11254/FUL erection of horse stables and a small sheep unit at Belle Vue Cottage, Belle Vue Lane, CH3 7EJ for Mr and Mrs Mark and Audrey Jones. Cllrs Fisher and Moulton reported. It was noted the proposal could involve the removal of one of the few remaining substantial trees and that the design and access statement together with the proposed fencing of a pond raised questions about the possibility of future commercial equine activity. The location of a proposed sheep shed was thought to be harmful to the openness of the Green Belt. It was agreed on a 4 – 2 vote that the Council should object in the following terms:

“The Council has no objection to the proposed stables but wishes to object to the sheep shed aspect and to make the following observations:

(i) Trees.

Should the LPA be minded to grant permission for the stable block, it should be on condition that this will not require the removal of or cause long term damage to the remaining three trees (including the horse chestnut).

The applicant should be requested to explain the disappearance of trees in the proposed drawings from the existing. The application form, para 16, requires a full tree survey which has not been included. This should be required.

(ii) Highways.

The reference in the design and access statement to equestrian activities helping to diversify the rural economy and the proposed fencing around the pond could suggest future commercial equestrian activity. This would cause increased intensification of the use of the access to the property, which is a designated public footpath, involving a sub standard junction with Belle Vue Lane which at that point is narrow and close to a bend. The Council therefore requests a condition that the stabling should be for the private personal use of the occupiers only with no commercial activity.

(iii) Green Belt.

The Council OBJECTS to the proposal for a sheep shed on the basis the development would cause unacceptable harm to the openness of that part of the Green Belt. Should the LPA be minded to approve the proposed shed, the applicants should be required to divide the agricultural land in such a way as to permit its location closer to the footpath to minimise encroachment into the open countryside and to protect the Green Belt.

10/11 033

In view of the cumulative effect of proposals on the site, the LPA is asked to consider that no further development should be permitted on Green Belt grounds”.

(ii) Decision notices.

10/10748/FUL change of use of property from shop with dwelling above (use classes A1 and C3) to dental practice (use Class D1) at 1 Summerfield Road CH3 7SW. Planning permission.

10/11027/FUL rear extension to existing detached garage at 5 The Dell CH3 7ST. Planning permission.

(iii) Parish Plan: progress report. Cllr Paterson reported further as to the arrangements for the launch.

(iv) Village Design Statement. Cllr J Hughes reported. It was noted the production of any such statement would require the involvement of the community.

(v) Strategic Planning.

(i) Cheshire West and Chester Council, open space audit and assessment of need. See 6 (x) beneath.

(ii) Chester Central, a new business quarter for a world class city.. The Clerk reported the receipt of this consultation. It was noted a response had been due by 4 June 2010.

(vi) Gypsy Traveller Overview Training Sessions. It was noted that a further session would take place on 13 July 2010.

4 Quality Council issues.

(i) Training: (a) Power to Promote Well Being. At an appropriate stage, the Council would revisit the possibility of training being requested from the County Office. (b) General. Members would indicate should they wish to attend any particular session during 2010 from the list previously circulated. **Action: All Members.** (ii) Moving Towards Quality Parish Council Status. (a) 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, to include the Chairman ex officio. (b) Work programme. A meeting would be arranged in due course to enable the group, to include the Chairman ex officio, to consider 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. **Action: Cllr Brown.**

5 Parish car park.

(i) Grounds maintenance. Performance against specification by the contractor, including the need for the grass to be cut on a regular basis and for weeds to be removed from the hard surface would continue to be closely monitored.

(ii) Improvement scheme. (a) Boundary treatment. A response was awaited by the Clerk as to his renewed approach to a contractor to seek quotations for the removal of the planting and mulch on the sides and rear of the car park and their replacement with concrete topped by setts.

(iii) Rear boundary wall. The Clerk suggested he would reconsider the intended approach as to seeking estimates for any work necessary as contractors might not provide an impartial view.

(iv) Replacement signboard. The Clerk reported that following an approach to Cllr Parker, the application to the ward councillors for a grant from their Members' Personal Budgets for the replacement of this signboard had been approved. Cllr Parker would be thanked. **Action: The Clerk.**

(v) Bulb planting. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

6 Leisure Services

(i) Children's Playing Field:

(a) Grounds maintenance issues. Cllr Paterson reported following an inspection. It was noted the litter bin had again not been emptied. It was agreed that a site meeting with the contractor would be sought, to be attended by Cllr D Hughes and the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(b) Mole infestation. Cllr Davis reported on progress so far. This was noted.

(c) State of nets. Cllr D Hughes would purchase ties to refix the nets in due course.

(d) Basket ball equipment. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Children's Play Area.

(a) CCTV and CCTV protocol. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Inspections. It was noted a small part of the front boundary fencing had been damaged. The Clerk suggested an approach to Deva Forge. This was agreed. **Action: 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 continue to be brought to the attention of Messrs Gresty.

(e) Replacement of safety surfacing. The likelihood of grants being available was being pursued by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iii) Public Footpaths.

(a) Footpath 7. Further to Cllr Paterson informing of low branches from trees adjoining the route, which it was noted would be the responsibility of the landowner, any comments from the Rights of Way Warden were awaited.

(b) Footpath 2. (i) Clearance and sweeping. Further to the Clerk informing Cllr B J Bailey of footpath issues which had been raised with the borough council and to Cllr Bailey and the Clerk having carried out a site inspection of all the routes previously visited with the Area Manager, the Clerk informed the matter had been progressed by Cllr Bailey. The Clerk was also to meet the Area Manager in the near future.

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

(d) Rights of Way Group. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

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

(f) Greenway. (i) The wish of Members for signs to the Greenway from Guilden Sutton Lane and at the junction with footpath 7 had been referred to the project officer. A response was awaited. The Clerk was also awaiting a response to his request for leaflets with a map of the route to be provided locally. (ii) Pedestrians. Concern at the increased number of cyclists and pedestrians emerging from the Park Farm access onto Guilden Sutton Lane, which it was thought would benefit from signage to warn both approaching road users and those emerging from the Greenway, had also been referred to the project officer. (iii) Surface, Garners Lane. Further to Cllr Fisher informing of a view the surface of this access to the Greenway should be improved to assist those with push chairs or wheel chairs, this had been brought to the attention of the Project Officer.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance. (a) Vale. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (b) Parish Council contract 2010/11. A site meeting would be sought as minuted above. The Clerk was pursuing the correspondence, by letter dated 18 February 2010, from Messrs Rich Brothers of Rowton seeking to quote for grounds maintenance work. **Action: The Clerk.**

(v) Public Seats. Further to damage to the seat in Wicker Lane being reported, the Clerk suggested he should inspect the seat in Guilden Sutton Lane before seeking an estimate for repairs. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vi) Fox Cover. (i) Landscaping. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (ii) Replacement 'no ball games' sign. The Clerk informed that following an approach to Cllr Parker as to the application to the ward councillors for a grant from their Members' Personal Budgets for the replacement of this vandalised sign, the application had been approved. Cllr Parker would be thanked. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vii) Provision for youth. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(viii) Multi use games area. Cllr Kerfoot informed there was nothing further to report at this stage. The Clerk referred an article in the Cheshire County Playing Fields Association newsletter on such facilities.

(ix) MBNA Chester Marathon 31 May 2010. The Council welcomed the understanding the race organisers had been widely congratulated by competitors on the success of the event. Cllr Kerfoot informed of the feeding station she and others had manned at the commencement of the Greenway. Members and the Clerk informed of difficulties which had arisen with the traffic management arrangements and of complaints which had been received from occupiers unable to reach their homes. It was noted the communications, including signing, had not clearly identified Station Lane as the agreed diversion into the village and that access had also been available via Wicker Lane. The Clerk advised a wash up meeting was to take place and following contact with the organisers, it had been agreed the Parish Council should be represented.

(x) Cheshire West and Chester Council open space assessment and audit. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

7 Public transport.

(i) Revised services. Cllr Moulton, Local Bus User Contact, informed there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Moorcroft Crescent inbound bus stand. Further to Cllr Moulton informing that visibility of oncoming traffic from this stand was obscured by overgrowth, Cllr Moulton informed the hedge had now been cut.

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

8 Highways.

(i) Issues with the highway authority.

The following response had been received from the Area Highways Manager:

Major schemes.

A55 resurfacing River Dee to A51. Need for similar low noise surfacing in Guilden Sutton (and Hoole Village) raised with Highways Agency. Response received as to policy, no date but believed to be 2012. *Not a Cheshire West and Chester Council issue as the Council is not the highway authority.*

Belle Vue Lane

Haunching/pot holes. *Area Highways Manager will arrange for inspection of Belle Vue Lane which will attend to all Category 1 defects.*

Church Lane.

Condition of cycle route Church Lane - Cinder Lane. Raised with Ian Lifford. Request for barrier to prevent reported use by motorcycles. *Update requested from Ian Lifford.*

Flooding. In carriageway at foot of Fox Cover steps, possible BT manhole problem near junction with Wicker Lane. *Area Highways Manager to arrange for inspection in wet weather.*

Cinder Lane

Overgrown hedges, Cinder Lane/condition of footway. *Update requested from Ian Lifford.*

Guilden Sutton Lane

Steps, Heath Bank to Guilden Sutton Lane. Untidy condition reported. *Area Highways Manager to arrange for inspection*

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. Ongoing apart from response to signals issue. *Not sure what can be done in the short term. Area Highways Manager to comment further.*

Boundary sign, Guilden Sutton Lane by reservoir. Reported. Requires refixing. *Inspection organised.*

Damage to verges, truncated length of Guilden Sutton Lane. Request for road widening to accommodate HGVs. Concerns at effect of possible work by Scottish Power to their plant in the verge which would affect this. *Not sure what can be done in the short term. Area Highways Manager to comment further.*

Drainage issue in footway at field entrance opposite access to restricted byway. Gulley claimed to have been installed not at the lowest point. Recent flooding. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection in wet weather.*

Lighting obscured by trees at reservoir. (Old). Reported. Not known if action taken. *Completed – can now come off the list.*

Obstruction of footway by nettles etc at one location, brambles at the approach to the diversion from the village. Ongoing. *Some works carried out – Parish Council to confirm.*

Overgrown hedges at two properties. (Old) Believed resolved by highway authority. *Completed – can now come off the list.*

Guilden Sutton Lane, trip hazard at the site of a fall adjoining fence (Gresty's field). No defect revealed, local Member not satisfied. *Joint site meeting required, Parish Council to arrange with K.Collins.*

Heath Bank, shrubbery, need for pruning. Dealt with. *Completed – can now come off the list.*

Signing and lining: Guilden Sutton Lane at playing field, extend red patch "SLOW" marking to both carriageways and restore disturbed surface. *Area Highways Manager will arrange inspection.*

Wilding Business Estate, emerging traffic. Ongoing. Lining provided by Messrs Wilding. *Unsure of issue hence no comment.*

Bus stand opposite houses between Moorcroft Crescent and Wilding Business Estate. Growth obscuring view of approaching traffic for alighting passengers. *Area Highways Manager will arrange inspection.*

Condition of carriageway under A55 bridge. NEW

Hare Lane.

Speed of traffic, double parking in vicinity of Rugby Club. With highway authority/Police. Club understood to have issued advice re parking. *Monitor.*

Oaklands

Shops area –

Disabled access to shops. To be resolved by current planning application. *No comment from Highways.*

Concern that installation of a further dropped kerb from the shops car park to the pathway of the village hall car park is leading to vehicles over riding the footway to reach the Village Hall car park. *Area Highways Manger will arrange inspection.*

Perceived defect with the more recently improved ramp closer to the Village Hall.

Flags adjoining , Summerfield Road. Ongoing concerns re condition. Not adopted. *No Comment.*

Footway rear Cathcart Green. Faulty step. Not adopted. Discussed at site meeting. *No Comment.*

Elsewhere –

Footpath 2, condition. Raised with Ian Lifford. *Update requested from Ian Lifford.*

School access to rear of Orchard Croft. Raised with Ian Lifford. *Update requested from Ian Lifford.*

Need to edge out footway at Cathcart Green. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Carriageway defects on Oaklands approaching junction with School Lane at Wood Farm. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Carriageway defect in vicinity of the dell (site of previous collapse). *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Parking, Arrowcroft Road. Ongoing school issue. *No Comment.*

School Lane

Porters Hill, remove centre line, add in edgeline, increase width of footway, provide rumble strips, install signals, reduce tree canopy. Issues raised by Members and the public. *Area Highways Manger to inspect and comment upon completion of inspection.*

Encroachment onto the highway. Posts and chains in verge. Council assured highway land could not be lost by default. Notices erected by occupiers requesting pedestrians not to use the verge at a second location where there is no footway

Flooded gulleys/depressed covers in vicinity of Arrowcroft Road. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Condition of School Lane nameplate at the war memorial. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Station Lane.

Renewal of SLOW sign when leaving the village. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Speed review.

Wicker Lane

Gully kerb, Concerns re the position of this kerb in the carriageway. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Visibility issue Wicker Lane/Church Lane. Overgrowth on corner, previously cut back by highway authority. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection.*

Surface water running from S bend towards Wicker House. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection in wet weather.*

General

Planters. NEW. Possibility of planters being provided on highway land at a central location in the village. Policy? *Detailed location to be provide by Parish Council.*

Migration of gravel from drives onto the footway. No current issues. *No Comment.*

Overgrown hedges at various locations. PC approach is to advise complainants to report to highway authority. *Will await Parish Council's comments.*

SatNavs, request for weight restrictions on unsuitable roads. Response received. *Noted.*

Speed reviews, A41, Guilden Sutton Lane, Wicker Lane, Hare Lane, Station Lane. Ongoing. Update needed on proposed 30mph on Guilden Sutton Lane and reduction in the limit on Station Lane. *Will provide further comment in due course.*

(iii) Current issues

(a) Speed issues. (i) Speed indicator device, further lease. The Clerk was pursuing a further session in September when it was understood two units would be available. The Police should be invited to join the rota. The possibility of the speed gun being deployed by the Council would be investigated by the Clerk. **Action:**
The Clerk.

(b) Signing and lining schemes. (i) Gateway treatment, Guilden Sutton Lane - red patch SLOW marking. (ii) Suggestion by Cllr Kerfoot that a lining scheme or rumble strips on Porters Hill would improve safety. Both these issues had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(c) Speed review, Guilden Sutton Lane. This outstanding issue had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(d) Speed review, Wicker Lane/Hare Lane. The issue had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

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

(f) Parking, Arrowcroft Road. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the ongoing issue.

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

(h) Disabled access to shops. The issues identified at the meeting between the Clerk and the Access Officer on 19 December 2007 would be revisited following the completion of the alterations proposed at the village shops. With respect to the concerns raised by Cllr D Hughes that the installation of a further dropped kerb from the shops car park to the pathway of the village hall car park could lead to vehicles over riding the footway to reach the Village Hall car park and the perceived defect with the more recently improved ramp closer to the Village Hall, both issues had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(i) Junction A41/Guilden Sutton Lane. The historic issue had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above. Cllr Bailey was understood to be pursuing the possibility of red and white hatching being provided to emphasise the areas on which vehicles should not wait in the centre of the road. Further to the Council noting that pedestrians using the existing crossing points on the dual carriageway were at risk as the drivers of vehicles wishing to turn left naturally concentrated on traffic approaching from the right and the possibility of the crossing points being relocated, this had been raised with the highway authority. A response was awaited.

(j) 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. The Clerk had progressed the concern expressed by Cllr D Hughes as to the condition of a School Lane nameplate at the war memorial. 10/11 039

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

(l) Porters Hill. 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 together with the effect of trees overhanging the road had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(m) Path, Cinder Lane to Church Lane. (i) Condition. The condition of this path had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above. (ii) Use by motor cycles. The complaint to the Rights of Way Warden as to the use of this path by motorcyclists had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(n) Footway, Guilden Sutton lane, obstruction by nettles, brambles and an overgrown hedge respectively. The issue had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(o) Parish boundary signs (i) Guilden Sutton Lane. The state of this sign had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above. (ii) Station Lane: The highway authority had been informed the sign had slipped down the pole.

(p) Flooding, Church Lane. Further to Cllr D Hughes informing of flooding taking place at the foot of the Fox Cover steps, and the flooding reported by Mrs Kirk emanating from a BT manhole, both issues had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(q) Verges, Guilden Sutton Lane. Further to Cllr Fisher revisiting the concerns that verges on the truncated length of Guilden Sutton Lane were being damaged by HGVs and the suggestion the highway at that point should be widened to enable passing, the issue had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(r) Speed limit, Station Lane. There was no further information at this stage.

(s) Further to Cllr Brown informing of the need to edge out the footway at Cathcart Green, the matter had been raised with the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(t) Gulley kerb, Wicker Lane. The position of this kerb in the carriageway, raised by Cllr Fisher, had been raised with the Area Highway Manager whose response was minuted above.

(u) Planters. Further to the inquiry by Cllr Kerfoot as to the possibility of planters being provided at a central location in the village and further inquiries being made by Cllr Brown of Helsby Parish Council, the issue had been pursued by the Clerk with the highway authority whose response was minuted above. Possible locations would be advised to the Clerk. **Action: All Members.**

(v) Steps, Heath Bank to Guilden Sutton Lane. The condition of these steps had been reported to the Area Highways Manager whose response was minuted above.

(w) Flooding, Wicker Lane. Cllr J Hughes informed that some action had been taken involving the clearing of drainage to allow water to flow to the Goway. Cllr Hughes was hopeful a solution could be found.

(x) Subsidence, reinstatement Guilden Sutton Lane. The condition of the reinstatement on this heavily trafficked section of the road was being monitored.

(y) Daffodils. Cllr D Hughes welcomed the action taken by the contractors to avoid cutting the daffodils until the most recent cut.

(iii) Lighting. There were no faults to report at this stage.

9 Finance:

(i) Income:

Cheshire West and Chester Council
Precept 2010/11 £15,778.00

Bank interest
5 May 2010 £ 0.70

VAT refund £ 185.31

(ii) Payments:

Broker Network Ltd
Insurance £ 1,038.41*

Morral Play Solutions
Inspection £ 49.93 (VAT £7.43)

Clerk

Postage £ 2.37

Photocopies
329@5p £ 16.45

Mileage
8@40p £ 3.20
£ 22.02

*Confirmation of urgent payment.

Proposed by Cllr Fisher,
Seconded by Cllr J Hughes
and agreed.

(iii) Balances

Co-operative Bank
1 June 2010 £15,917.68

Scottish Widows no 1
1 April 2010 £20,752.93

Scottish Widows no 2
1 April 2010 £ 2,613.74

(iv) Report on contingency payments.

Budget: £ 455.00

Payments: £ 0.00

(v) Insurance. (a) General cover. Further to it being agreed that the extremely favourable quotation underwritten by Norwich Union should be accepted subject to satisfactory answers being received to a number of further detailed questions to be raised by the Clerk, the Clerk confirmed this had been the case and the quotation had been accepted from 1 June 2010 on the basis of a three year agreement to take advantage of a long term discount. (b) Fidelity. It was noted the new policy provided for cover substantially in excess of that required by the District Auditor. (c) Volunteers. It was noted this aspect had been dealt with satisfactorily within the new policy.

10/11 041

(vi) Participatory budgeting. The Clerk reported that West Cheshire Together was to hold a participatory budgeting event at a Rural West Area Partnership Board Conference to take place on Wednesday 7 July 2010 at Tarvin Community Centre. Applications from voluntary and community groups for a grant of up to £750 were due by Friday 26 June 2010. He had referred the information to the organisers of the Holiday Club.

(vii) Audit 2009/10. Annual return and statement of governance. The Clerk reported the annual return and statement of governance had been submitted to the District Auditor.

(viii) Transfer to Clerk's gratuity account.

2007/08 arrears	£ 4.05
2008/9	£ 175.52
2009/10	£ 181.26
2010/11	<u>£ 181.26</u>
	£ 542.09

(ix) VAT. Claim for refund of £185.31 for the period 1.6.08 – 31.3.10. As minuted above, this had now been received.

(x) Business rate relief, parish car park. Further to the Clerk reporting the receipt of advice, by correspondence dated April 2010, from Cheshire West and Chester Council referring to an increase in the level of small business rate relief during the period 1 October, 2010 to 30 September, 2011, further inquiries were being made by the Clerk to establish the position in respect of the car park.

10 Environment Services:

(i) Recycling issues. (a) Chester waste collection and recycling contract. Members were reminded that Cllr B J Bailey had asked to be informed of any concerns arising under the new contract. Further to a Member informing of bins being abandoned by the collection crews in positions where they blocked the footway, the issue had been referred to Cllr Bailey.

(ii) Amenity cleansing. Members would advise the Clerk of locations at which they believed action was necessary. **Action: All Members.** The Clerk was securing prices for litter pickers. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iii) Dog fouling. Further to a Member referring to incidents of dog fouling where due to their age or infirmity, dog walkers were unable to poop scoop, which it was accepted could be a difficulty, a note would be included in a future issue of the Newsletter. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iv) Sewers. Cllr Davis informed of a further sewage issue which had arisen in Arrowcroft Road. It was agreed this would be drawn to the attention of Cllr Bailey in view of relatively recent action which had been taken to remedy a similar longstanding issue in the road.

11 Trees and Hedges.

(i) Hedges, Guilden Sutton Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the increasing obstruction of the footway on Guilden Sutton Lane and at other locations in the village by overgrown hedges. It was noted that Cllr Bailey had kindly offered to help with any serious problems. A note would also be included in the Newsletter.

(ii) Canopy, Porters Hill. A response, minuted above, had now been received from the Area Highways Engineer as to the issue raised by Mr Jackson.

(iii) Hedges, Porters Hill. The need for overgrown hedges on Porters Hill which were at head height to be pruned was being raised with the Area Highways Manager following an inspection by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iv) 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.**

(v) Trees Wicker Lane/Church Lane. Further to Cllr S Parker informing of complaints relating to trees at the junction of Wicker Lane and Church Lane, this had been referred to the Area Highways Manager to which a response had now been received as minuted above.

(vi) Hedge, Village Hall. Further inquiries would be made by the Clerk as to the overgrown hedge in the vicinity of the village hall referred to by Cllr Brown. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vii) Hedge, off Belle Vue Lane. Further to Cllr Fisher informing of the proposal by an adjoining occupier to remove a length of hedge adjoining footpath 2 and to plant a replacement of native species, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(viii) Sycamore, Memorial Garden. Further to the Tree Warden and the Clerk informing they had been alerted to a substantial branch falling from the tree, the Clerk advised he had asked Tree Officers to inspect and advise as to the future of the tree. Indicative quotations were being sought should its removal become necessary. **Action: The Clerk.**

12 Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

Chester Area Meeting. (i) Date of future meeting. It was noted the annual meeting would take place on Wednesday 30 June 2010 at HQ. It was hoped a speaker would be available to provide a presentation on Gypsy and Traveller issues. (ii) Nominations. It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr J Hughes and agreed that the Clerk should be nominated for re-election as Honorary Secretary. (iii) Annual meeting, 21 October 2010, Middlewich Civic Hall. It was noted that motions for the annual meeting should be submitted by 3 September 2010 and proposed attendances by 10 September 2010.

13 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

(i) Funding for local councils. There was nothing further to add at this stage. The Clerk had requested the Council should be consulted and this had been confirmed.

(ii) Electoral Review, Cheshire West and Chester. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the proposal by the Boundary Committee for England that Guilden Sutton should be included in a Chester Villages ward to which the Clerk had responded welcoming the proposals.

(iii) Clerk's Group. Further to the Clerk informing he had been invited to join a Clerks' Group which would meet with Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council to discuss issues relevant to clerks and parish and town councils, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) Maintenance of Churchyards and Burial Grounds. The Clerk confirmed the grant cheque had been passed to the PCC.

(v) Gowy Community Forum. Cllr D Hughes reported on the inaugural meeting of this new forum, held on 1 June, 2010, following the split of the former Gowy and Eddisbury forum. It was noted that information on the procedure followed in determining planning applications was still awaited. This would be pursued by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vii) Parish and Town Councils Seminar 19 May 2010, 7pm, Winsford. The Clerk informed he had attended this seminar which had covered issues relating to the future relationship between the Council and local councils in the borough. The Clerk informed that following notification of the appointment of a new parish liaison officer, Emma Stevens, he had arranged to meet the officer for an initial discussion.

14 Cheshire Community Action. (i) Cheshire Community Pride Competition Further to the comments by Mr R Hibbert, the Clerk had obtained a copy of the entry forms for the Cheshire Community Pride Competition 2010 which he would pass to Mr Hibbert for information. (ii) Community Safety Survey. The Chairman had encouraged Members to respond to this survey, details of which had been circulated by the Clerk. 10/11 043

It was noted the closing date had been Friday 4 June 2010. (iii) Cheshire and Warrington Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Survey 2010. The Clerk informed of the receipt of advice of this survey, by correspondence dated 28 May, 2010. It was noted the closing date was 31 July 2010. **Action: The Clerk.**

15 CPRE. There were no action items to report.

16 Health. There were no action items to report.

17 Policing.

(i) Western Police Area Have Your Say. It was noted the next Western Division Have Your Say meetings, now remained Question Time, would take place as follows: Monday 28 June 2010, Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, Thursday 15 July 2010, Civic Hall, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port, Tuesday 11 January 2011, Memorial Hall, Chester Way, Northwich, Thursday 20 January 2011, St Mary's Centre, off Castle Street, Chester.

(ii) PC Mal Baker. Further to the indication that PC Baker was to retire in due course, the Clerk reported the receipt of advice, by e mail, from PC Baker that he had completed his last day of service.

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

(iv) Parking, Arrowcroft Road. Further to Cllr D Hughes advising the primary school hoped to display a banner, to be designed by the children, which would promote road safety by encouraging parents to use the Village Hall car park and to the Council indicating it would support such a move and would welcome an application for a grant toward the cost, there was nothing further to report at this stage as to the understanding that Cllr Bailey might consider a contribution from his Members' Personal Budget.

18 Newsletter. The Clerk would prepare a further issue to include the summary of the annual report.

19 Memorial Garden. There was nothing further to report at this stage other than that minuted above.

20 Bulb planting. (i) General: There was nothing further to report to that minuted above. (ii) Planters. See minute 8 (ii) above.

21 Parish IT. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

22 Primary School. Cllr D Hughes reported an end of term report had been circulated. A very well attended new parents evening had been held.

23 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.

24 Railway fencing, Guilden Sutton Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

25 Community events: (i) Village Fête 2010. It was confirmed the Council would man the book stall at this event to take place on 10 July 2010. Arrangements would be confirmed. (ii) Holiday Club 2010. Further to Cllr D Hughes referring correspondence to the Clerk and to the Clerk reporting he had discussed the new procedure under which the Council might make a grant with the Rector and no difficulties were envisaged, the Clerk reported the receipt of a grant application which had been circulated. A Member indicated he would wish to see fundraising by the Church in aid of the activity. It noted the organisers themselves had already procured one external grant and that others were being sought. The involvement of teenagers was welcomed. A grant of £200 was agreed after this had been proposed by Cllr Moulton and seconded by Cllr Kerfoot.

26 Land Registry. Further to the Clerk reporting the receipt of an approach by the Land Registry as to parish councils ensuring their land was registered at a discounted fee from £30 for an estate valued at up to £50,000, the matter was being pursued by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

27 Cheshire Landscape Trust. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

28 Network Rail communications mast. Cllr Moulton informed there was nothing further to report at this stage.

29 Guilden Sutton Methodist Church. There was nothing further to report at this stage

30 Matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting.

Public access. Further to Cllr Fisher referred to the complaint by Mrs G Fisher that the doors of the Village Hall had been locked at the time of the commencement of the meeting, preventing entry by some members of the public which it was noted was necessitated by the presence of children within the building at that time, Cllr D Hughes, as Chairman of Guilden Sutton Community Association, informed an improved bell system was to be installed.

31 Member's information items.

There were no Member's information items.

32 Information correspondence.

ChALC/NALC: NALC events 2010.

Cheshire West and Chester Council: Gypsy and Traveller overview sessions 18 May and 13 July, Partnership Bulletin no 15, Cheshire Advice Partnership newsletter Spring 2010, West Cheshire Together Sustainable Community Strategy.

Cheshire Community Action: Participatory budgeting briefing notes, Aggression/Assertiveness training 5 May 2010.

Policing: Western Rural updates, Guilden Sutton/Mickle Trafford newsletter.

Living Streets: West Cheshire pedestrian survey.

Matters considered in the absence of the press and public.

To exclude the public and press for the remaining part of the meeting pursuant to Section 100 (A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that discussions may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

Nil.