

# Guiden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 4 October 2010 in Guiden Sutton Village Hall.

Chairman: Cllr P M Paterson.

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

In attendance: Cheshire West and Chester Councillors B J Bailey, S Parker.

1 Procedural matters.

(i) Apologies. There were no apologies from Members.

Apologies were received from PC R Boulton, PCSO L Beddows.

(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 J Hughes declared a personal interest in planning application 10/12100/EXT extension of time to implement permission 07/00241/FUL for detached dwelling on land at the rear of The Vicarage, Wicker Lane, CH3 7EL as a resident of Wicker Lane.

(iii) Confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 6 September 2010. The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 6 September 2010 where proposed by Cllr W Moulton, seconded by Cllr A Davis and agreed as a correct record.

(iv) Dates of future meetings:

Mondays 1 November, 6 December 2010.

Cllr Paterson informed the proposed dates for meetings to be held in 2011 were as follows: 10 January, 7 February, 7 March, 4 April, 9 May, 6 June, 18 July, 5 September, 3 October, 7 November, 5 December.

These would be circulated by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(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. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vi) Sustainable Communities Amendment Act. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

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

2 Community engagement.

(i) Public speaking time. Cllr Parker informed the outcome of the national comprehensive spending review would be known on Wednesday 20 October 2010. Cheshire West and Chester Council hoped it would then have a clearer idea of its future funding. Cllr Parker referred to proposals to harmonise streetscene standards across the borough but accepted there were issues to be clarified. The bid for a 30mph limit on Station Lane had been successful, although its implementation was dependent on finance. Cllr Parker believed that farm traffic on Station Lane would increase following the change in ownership of Meadow Lea Farm. The possibility of a 40mph limit on Wicker Lane at a future stage was noted. 10/11 077

Cllr Parker further advised of his view that the most recent results from the use of the speed indicator device demonstrated the extent of the speeding issue in the village. The Clerk informed he had revisited the proposed 30mph limit on Guilden Sutton Lane with the highway authority.

Cllr B J Bailey informed of a proposal to replace antennas on one of the installations at the Guilden Sutton Lane reservoir site in the Spring of 2011. There would be no increase in the overall height.

(ii) Report of surgery held on Saturday 2 October 2010. This had been attended by Cllrs Paterson and Davis with Cllr B J Bailey in attendance. It was noted the new landowner, Mr A Peers, did not wish public assemblies to take place on the pavement immediately adjoining the shops. The continuing concerns as to the uneven rise of the steps from the pavement to the car park had been raised with Mr Peers. Cllr Bailey informed he had been approached as to the speed of cyclists on the Millennium Greenway, bins not being returned to their original position and dog fouling. A suggestion was made that Cheshire West and Chester Council might produce a card showing the telephone numbers which people should contact with frequently raised issues.

Estimates were being sought by the Clerk for a display board to advertise each surgery in advance and for badges to signify Members' status to constituents.

### 3 Planning.

#### (i) New applications.

10/11843/FUL timber framed balcony at Newhall Rise, School Lane, CH3 7EU. No objection had been raised.

10/12100/EXT extension of time to implement permission 07/00241/FUL for detached dwelling on land at the rear of The Vicarage, Wicker Lane, CH3 7EL. The Clerk had circulated correspondence relating to the previous application to which the Council had objected as Members had believed a further reduction in the height of the proposal could be achieved. Should this have been possible, the Council would have withdrawn its objection. The Clerk advised that in considering EXT applications, the only issue was whether the circumstances had changed to such a significant extent that permission should be withheld. It was not an opportunity to revisit the original decision. Following a report from Cllr Paterson, the Council agreed that no objection should be raised.

#### (ii) Decision notices.

10/11843/FUL timber framed balcony at Newhall Rise, School Lane, CH3 7EU. Planning permission. The local planning authority had indicated that notwithstanding the approved plans, it did not consider the red line illustrating the application site on the submitted location plan was indicative of the residential curtilage of the property and the notice of planning permission should not be construed as an approval of the use of the whole of the land for residential/domestic purposes.

#### (iii) Parish Plan.

(a) Progress report. Cllr Paterson reported further as to the arrangements for the launch. Drafting was in hand. It was noted that Cheshire West and Chester Council was to hold a Parish Plan and Village Design Statement event on Thursday 7 October 2010.

(b) Christleton Community Plan. The Clerk reported the receipt, by correspondence dated 21 September 2010, of advice from the chairman of the Christleton Community Plan suggesting that as a neighbouring parish, Guilden Sutton should feel free to approach the group if it felt there were any issues of common interest or concern. This had been referred by the Clerk to Cllr Paterson. Cllr Paterson referred to the aspiration for a pedestrian crossing on the A51 at the junction with Hare Lane. **Action: Noted.**

(iv) Village Design Statement. There was nothing further to report at this stage other than the event minuted above.

#### (v) Strategic Planning.

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

10/11 078

(b) Gypsy and Traveller issues. It was noted the Clerk was intending to meet officers for a general discussion at an appropriate stage.

#### 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 to the Clerk should they wish to attend any remaining sessions 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 Quality Council group which now consisted of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr Brown and the Clerk. (b) Work programme. Following the initial meeting which had taken place on 21 July 2010 to enable the group 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, a further meeting was to be arranged by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

#### 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. It was not known at this stage whether the proposed spraying of weeds, referred to at the previous meeting, had taken place.

(ii) Improvement scheme. (a) Boundary treatment. Further to the receipt of an estimate from a contractor employed by Christleton Parish Council, an alternative estimate was awaited from the council's ground maintenance contractor. The Clerk reported the receipt, by correspondence dated 24 September 2010, of an indication from Mrs Y Kirk that she and some other neighbours would not like to see the borders around the car park replaced by concrete. Mrs Kirk believed this would be expensive and would also look very utilitarian. She suggested the Council should instead consider improving the car park planting and referred to the unsuccessful retention of the wood chips. **Action: noted.**

(iii) Rear boundary wall. The Clerk informed the contractor employed by Christleton Parish Council had not provided an estimate following a site meeting. **Action: Noted.**

(iv) Replacement signboard. This was being progressed with the signwriter. The signwriter had informed of the increasing difficulty in securing suitable wood for signwriting and would advise the Council should it be more appropriate to use a composite material with a black finish. The Clerk had indicated this would probably be acceptable provided the traditional character of the sign could be retained. **Action: noted.**

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

(vi) Discretionary rate relief. Further to the Clerk informing of the receipt of correspondence from Cheshire West and Chester Council as to a temporary increase in the amount of discretionary relief applied to business rates and the Clerk informing he had sought clarification and it appeared the car park would be eligible, the Clerk further informed of his understanding that, in addition, a refund, possibly dating back to 2007, might also be possible. This was welcomed.

#### 6 Leisure Services

##### (i) Children's Playing Field:

(a) Grounds maintenance issues. The continued absence of a bag in the litter bin was being raised by Cllr D Hughes with the contractor. **Action: Cllr D Hughes.** Further to the suggestion the bin was being used by passing dog walkers for the deposit of canine faeces, the Clerk was approaching Cheshire West and Chester Council to request the provision of a bin in a nearby verge. **Action: The Clerk.** Cllr Paterson reported that following an inspection she believed the grass in the goalmouths required strimming.

(b) Mole infestation. Cllr Davis informed there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(c) State of nets. A suggestion by Cllr D Hughes that repairs to the nets should be deferred in readiness for the commencement of the 2011 season was agreed.

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

ii) Children's Play Area.

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

(b) Inspections. (i) Annual statutory inspection. The Clerk was making inquiries as to the arrangements for annual inspections in 2010/11. **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. Following an inspection, Cllr Paterson referred to the presence of brambles and nettles within the boundary planting. Cllr Davis helpfully suggested that brambles could be dealt with using a systemic weedkiller. It was agreed this treatment should be considered in 2011. Slight damage to the seesaw would be monitored.

(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 he had met the Streetscene Area Manager to inspect progress towards improving the condition of this path together with the dingle steps, the current condition of the steps was being further reported. **Action: The Clerk.**

(c) Footpath 1. A Member informed that a notice had been erected at Belle Vue Cottage warning of the presence of Rottweilers, which had deterred at least one walker from proceeding, the Clerk reported the issue had been referred to the Parish Paths Warden who had inspected, as had the Clerk. The Warden did not believe there was sufficient justification for an approach to the Public Rights of Way Unit. **Action: Noted.**

(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 Clerk was awaiting a response to his request for leaflets with a map of the route to be provided locally and would make further inquiries. **Action: The Clerk.** (ii) Cyclists/Pedestrians. Further to the concern as to 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, it was noted that one of two signs warning of cyclists which had been provided at two locations on Guilden Sutton Lane when driving from the village had been reorientated to face traffic approaching from Chester. (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 and the highway authority. A response had been received which had referred to the reluctance of an adjoining landowner to the initial project. Cllr Paterson referred to the concerns of an adjoining landowner as to dog walking in his fields.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance. (a) Vale. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (b) Parish Council contract 2010/11. The response received from Messrs Rich Brothers of Rowton, who were seeking to quote for grounds maintenance work, had been retained for future reference. Messrs Rich Brothers were being thanked for their interest.

(v) Public Seats. Further to damage to the seat in Wicker Lane being reported and to the Clerk inspecting the seat in Guilden Sutton Lane and requesting an estimate from Messrs Gresty for the repainting thereof in addition to an estimate for repairs and repainting of the seat on Wicker Lane, this had been received in the sum of £96. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Kerfoot and agreed.

(vi) Fox Cover. (i) Landscaping. Following an approach to Cheshire West and Chester Council as to the verge being included in a schedule, a response was awaited. (ii) Replacement 'no ball games' sign.

This was being progressed by the Clerk. He indicated the inclusion of a suitable logo kindly provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council might increase the price. **Action: The Clerk.**

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

(viii) Multi use games area. Cllr Kerfoot informed the initial questionnaire had led to confirmation in principle that a scheme should be developed. The questionnaire was to be reissued to seek confirmation of support for the project which was likely to cost between £22,000 and £28,000. In response to a question, Cllr Kerfoot informed it was hoped the development of the facility would be seen as a community project.

(ix) Cheshire West and Chester Council open space assessment and audit. There was nothing further to report at this stage. Further inquiries would be made by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(x) Community Garden. The Chairman informed that Mr Palmer had requested a meeting with herself. There was a possibility that proposals may be available for the Council's November meeting.

## 7 Public transport.

(i) C27. Cessation of Church Lane terminus. Further to Cllr Moulton, Local Bus User Contact, informing the extended service to Church Lane was expected to terminate due to low passenger numbers, the Clerk advised that Mrs Y Kirk had informed, by correspondence dated 24 September 2010, that the extended service had ceased on 11 September 2010 due to lack of support. It was understood the company was looking into the possibility of a 0904 service on Saturdays and during school holidays. Cllr Moulton confirmed this was the position.

(ii) Moorcroft Crescent inbound bus stand. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

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

(iv) Service DB8. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

## 8 Highways.

(i) Issues with the highway authority.

The following issues covered in the response received from the Area Highways Manager remained outstanding:

### **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 Streetscene Area Manager. Request for barrier to prevent reported use by motorcycles. Update requested from Streetscene Area Manager.*

Flooding in carriageway at foot of Fox Cover steps. *Area Highways Manger to arrange for inspection in wet weather.*

### **Cinder Lane**

Overgrown hedges, Cinder Lane/condition of footway. *Update requested from Streetscene Area Manager.*

### **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. *Initial measure proposed to strengthen the existing white markings in the gap in the central reservation to deter double parking. Cllr Bailey.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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 -

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. *Proposal involving provision of fencing under consideration.*

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

Elsewhere -

Footpath 2, condition. Raised with Streetscene Area Manager. *Update requested from Streetscene Area Manager.*

School access to rear of Orchard Croft. Raised with Streetscene Area Manager. *Update requested from Streetscene Area Manager.*

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.*

#### **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.*

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. *In hand.*

### **Wicker Lane**

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

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.*

#### (ii) Current issues

(a) Speed issues. (i) Speed indicator device. Cllr D Hughes referred to the data collected by the speed indicator devices during their use at locations in the village during September. He believed the form in which the information was now presented was less helpful than previously. Cllr D Hughes referred to the impending demise of Project Rural Matters and to the future of the equipment. It was agreed that Cllr Moulton would contact the Project Rural Matters Co-ordinator to inquire as to any decision on the disposal of the equipment. **Action: Cllr Moulton.** Cllr Moulton referred to the new committee proposed by the Rural Inspector to deal with speed issues in parishes. Members who wished to be involved would advise Cllr Moulton who would contact the Rural Inspector. **Action: Cllr Moulton.** In connection with the possibility of the speed gun being deployed by the Council, Members who wished to be retrained by the police would contact Cllr Moulton. **Action: Cllr Moulton.**

(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. The Clerk informed he had made a renewed approach to the highway authority as to the status of the intended 30mph limit.

(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.

(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 now be revisited following the completion of the alterations at the village shops.

(i) Over riding, Summerfield Road. 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 had led to vehicles over riding the footway to reach the Village Hall car park, the suggestion that cycle racks should be installed on the footway rather than the fencing which had originally been suggested had been referred to the highway authority.

(j) Junction A41/Guilden Sutton Lane. It was noted this was being dealt with by Cllr Bailey.

(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. The Clerk had progressed the concern expressed by Cllr D Hughes as 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. 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.

(n) 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.

(o) 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.

(p) 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.

(q) Flooding, Church Lane. With respect to the surcharged BT manhole close to the junction with Wicker Lane, the Clerk was pleased to report he had been further advised by Mrs Kirk, by correspondence dated 24 September 2010, that following at times very heavy rain, the manhole had remained dry.

(r) 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.

(s) Speed limit, Station Lane. There was nothing further to report to that minuted above.

(t) Flooding, Wicker Lane. It was noted a temporary closure had taken place of Wicker Lane to enable the long standing drainage issue, which had led to a road traffic accident in the vicinity of the home of Cllr J Hughes, to be dealt with. This was welcomed. Cllr J Hughes confirmed the gully kerb which had protruded into the carriageway, previously advised by Cllr Fisher, had been attended to.

(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. Suitable locations were thought to be at the Guilden Sutton boundary signs at Guilden Sutton Lane and Wicker Lane and in the grass verge opposite the properties on Station Lane. The Clerk would advise the highway authority. **Action: The Clerk.** Cllr Brown would advise the Clerk of the address of the web site for the supply of planters. **Action: Cllr Brown.**

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

(x) Church Lane/Wicker Lane. The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from Mrs Y Kirk, dated 24 September, 2010, which further informed that although the growth at the junction of Church Lane and Wicker Lane, which obscured the Church Lane sign, had initially been dealt with, regrowth had occurred and the area should be cut back as regularly as other verges in the village. This would be referred to the highway authority. **Action: The Clerk.**

(y) School Lane. Further to the Clerk being informed by Mrs Kirk of the presence of a large Pyrocantha overhanging the footway on the South side of School Lane ascending Porters Hill and to her concern that much of the vegetation overhanging the footpaths on Porters Hill prevented pedestrians walking safely, it was noted that recent measures taken by the adjacent landowner to clear trees and other growth immediately adjoining his boundary wall had largely dealt with the problem.

(z) Proposed waiting restrictions, lay bys, A41. Further to Members being informed by the Clerk of a proposal by the highway authority to introduce a two hour waiting restriction in the lay bys either side of the A41 close to the parish boundary to deter long term and overnight parking by school buses and heavy goods vehicles, the Clerk had informed the highway authority the restrictions would be supported although there were concerns they would displace parking to other nearby roads which were unrestricted. Notification of the decision was awaited.

(za) Mirror, School Lane/Belle Vue Lane. Cllr D Hughes reported a request for a mirror at this junction. The Clerk indicated his understanding that mirrors were not supported by the highway authority.

(iii) Lighting. A defective light opposite of the play area would be reported. **Action: The Clerk.**

#### 9 Finance:

##### Income:

Bank interest 5 August	£	2.09
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##### (ii) Payments:

Deva Forge Play area railing repairs	£	105.75 (inc £15.75 VAT)
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Gresty Grounds maintenance/ Lengthsman – July/August	£	581.50
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Devaprint Newsletter 139	£	150.00
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Direct2Door Newsletter distribution	£	26.95 (inc £4.01 VAT)
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GS Village Fete Grant	£	500.00
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St John's Holiday Club Grant	£	200.00
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##### Clerk

Salary July – September	£	1,208.43
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Postage	£	0.00
Telephone	£	5.00

Photocopies 273@5p	£	13.65
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Mileage	
33@40p	£ 13.20
	£ 31.85

Proposed by Cllr Paterson  
 Seconded by Cllr J Hughes  
 and agreed.

(iii) Balances

Co-operative Bank	
25 August 2010	£13,646.66

Scottish Widows no 1	
2 July 2010	£20,752.93

Scottish Widows no 2	
2 July 2010	£ 2,615.37

(iv) Report on contingency payments.

Budget:	£ 455.00
Payments:	£ 0.00

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

(vi) Audit 2009/10. The notice of completion of audit had been displayed.

(vii) Business rate relief, parish car park. There was nothing further to report to that minuted above.

10 Environment Services:

(i) Recycling issues. (a) Chester waste collection and recycling contract. Members were reminded that Cllr Bailey had asked to be informed of any concerns arising under the new contract.

(ii) Amenity cleansing. (a) Grot spots. Members would advise the Clerk of locations at which they believed action was necessary. **Action: All Members.** (b) Litter pickers. The Clerk was securing prices for litter pickers. **Action: The Clerk.** (c) Streetscene. The Clerk informed that Cheshire West and Chester Council had published new base level streetscene standards which would apply across the borough. These would be subject to individual discussions with town and parish councils with those which enjoyed financial support towards the cost of a lengthsman service being involved at an early stage. **Action: noted.**

(iii) Dog fouling (a) Pooping and scooping. 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 had been included in the Newsletter. (b) Request for additional bins: dingle path/Guilden Sutton Lane. Requests which had arisen for additional bins on the dingle path and opposite the parish playing field were being referred to Cheshire West and Chester Council. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iv) Sewers. Further to Cllr Davis informing of a sewage issue which had arisen in Arrowcroft Road, this was being 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. **Action: The Clerk.**

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. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the response, minuted above, which had been received from the Area Highways Engineer as to the issue raised by Mr Jackson.

(iii) Hedges, Porters Hill. There was nothing further to add to that minuted above following action taken by the adjoining landowner.

(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) Hedge, opposite play area. A request had been made to Cheshire West and Chester Council for this to be cut.

(vi) 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.

(vii) Sycamore, Memorial Garden. Further to the Tree Warden and the Clerk informing they had been alerted to a substantial branch falling from the tree and a site inspection by Tree Officers to inform as to the future of the tree, indicative quotations had now been obtained for felling and for a 30% reduction. Cllr Brown, as Parish Tree Warden, informed of the view of the adjoining occupier that the tree should be surveyed. It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr J Hughes and agreed that approval should be sought for a 30% reduction in the first instance with the successful contractor being requested to report on the condition of the tree on ascending the Sycamore in order to inform any decision as to felling. **Action: The Clerk.**

(viii) Trees off Hill Top Road. There was nothing to report.

(ix) Trees adjoining footpath 2. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(x) Trees, Oaklands. Further to the Clerk informing the Tree Warden had been approached by an occupier on Oaklands concerned that the cause of a highway tree dying back on the other side of the road might be a fungus which could affect an Oak close to her own property and to Tree Officers indicating the cause of death was damage, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

#### 12 Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

(i) Chester Area Meeting, 29 September 2010. The Clerk reported as Honorary Secretary. It was noted that as a result of decisions taken on delegated decision-making by Cheshire West and Chester Council and the introduction of community forums, there were concerns there were now fewer opportunities for town and parish councils to raise local highways and transportation and public rights of way issues formally with elected Members. Concerns had also been raised that some community forums were not working as effectively as others. The issues had been raised with the principal authority. A special meeting of the Area Meeting was to be held with the chairmen and members of appropriate community forums to discuss how the separate synergies of the Area Meeting and the forums could perhaps be more closely engaged in order to further progress the localism agenda which was a priority for both organisations. (ii) County Association Annual meeting, 21 October 2010, Middlewich Civic Hall. The Clerk informed he hoped to be able to attend subject to the exigencies of his principal employment. (iii) Pay settlement 2010/11 and 2011/12. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (iv) Development Officer. The Clerk informed that the officer who had been appointed following the resignation of Mr Chalky White, Mr Ian Jones, had also resigned and had been replaced by Cllr Linda Davenport, Tattenhall and District Parish Council.

#### 13 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

(i) Funding for local councils. As minuted above, it was now the intention there would be one to one negotiations with each town and parish council based on mapped proposals for streetscene services which would indicate the frequency of service delivery proposed for individual areas. This would be accompanied by a costed menu of optional add-ons. Those town and parish councils currently enjoying a lengthsman grant would be a priority.

(ii) Electoral Review, Cheshire West and Chester. The Clerk indicated that so far as he understood, the Order had yet to be laid before Parliament which would bring into effect the Local Government Boundary Commission's final recommendations for Cheshire West and Chester which included the proposal for a Chester Villages ward for Guilden Sutton. The intention was that if accepted by Parliament, the new electoral arrangements would come into force at the next elections for Cheshire West and Chester in 2011.

(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. Further to the Clerk informing the receipt, by correspondence dated 6 August 2010, of an application form to enable grant assistance to be sought for the maintenance of the churchyard at St John's during 2010/11, the application had been progressed. The Clerk was pleased to be able to report he had obtained a grant of £250.

(v) Draft statement of licensing policy re sex establishments. The Clerk reported the receipt of this consultation. It was noted a response was due by 17 December 2010. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vi) Gowy Community Forum 14 September 2010. Councillors Moulton and D Hughes reported.

(vii) Town and Parish Councils Seminar 15 September 2010. Cllr Paterson and the Clerk reported. It was noted that those parishes in the former Chester district which currently enjoyed a substantial lengthsman grant, which would be lost from 1 April 2011, had forcefully expressed their views to the portfolio holder due to the impact on their budgets and precept.

(viii) Mickle Trafford Community Forum 20 October, 2010. The Clerk reported the receipt of notification of this forum, to focus on emergency planning for Cheshire West, which would be held at Shell UK, Stanlow on Wednesday 20 October 2010. Bookings were required. The Clerk indicated he hoped to be able to attend. Members who wished to attend would advise the Clerk. **Action: All Members.**

(ix) Community safety wardens. The Clerk reported the receipt of a poster advertising the contact telephone number for anti social behaviour to be reported to the community safety wardens.

14 Cheshire Community Action. (i) Annual meeting Wednesday 27 October 2010, 6.30pm, Cheshire View, Christleton. It was noted the annual general meeting would be held on Wednesday 27 October 2010 and not on Thursday as previously published. (ii) County Playing Fields Association. Members were reminded the annual meeting would be held on Thursday 19 October 2010 at 10.30am.

15 CPRE. There were no action items to report.

16 Health. There were no action items to report.

17 Policing.

(i) Western Police Area Question Time. There was nothing further to report at this stage. Future meetings would take place on Tuesday 11 January 2011 in the Memorial Hall, Chester Way, Northwich and on Thursday 20 January 2011 at St Mary's Centre, off Castle Street, Chester.

(ii) Crime. A Member referred to the issue of bogus callers.

(iii) Parking, Arrowcroft Road. Further to the issue being raised at the previous meeting, it was noted that PCSO Beddows had attended. This was welcomed. Further inquiries were being made by the Clerk as to the deployment of the mobile CCTV unit. **Action: The Clerk.** The Council was also grateful to PCSO Beddows for his attendance during the use of the speed indicator device.

(iv) PCSO Beddows. PC Boulton had been thanked for the comprehensive report provided by PC Beddows at the previous meeting.

18 Newsletter. A further issue had been prepared. An approach was being progressed to the publishers of the new Gowy Gazette as to the newsletter being circulated with that publication.

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

20 Bulb planting. (i) General. The Clerk confirmed that 2 no bags of mixed daffodils had been ordered. (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. Cllr Kerfoot informed a Christmas Fair was to take place.

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 fete 2010. The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence, dated 18 September 2010, from the treasurer of the Guilden Sutton Fete Committee thanking the Council for its generous grant. This would be applied towards the cost of the hire of stalls. A copy of the relevant invoice was enclosed. The release of the grant was proposed by Cllr Kerfoot, seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed. The Council completed the feedback form and confirmed its intention that the proceeds from the book stall it had staffed should be retained by the Fete Committee and applied to the 2011 event. (ii) Holiday Club. The Clerk reported the receipt of a financial statement relating to the cost of hire of the Village Hall to enable the Holiday Club to take place. It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr J Hughes and agreed that the grant should be released against this expenditure.

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 Remembrance Sunday. The Council was pleased to note advice that the Methodist Church would be available for the Remembrance Sunday service on 14 November 2010.

30 Member's information items.

Traffic management. Cllr Moulton informed of the opportunity to inform the Police of locations at which a survey of the volume, type and speed of traffic would be of benefit. It was suggested by Cllr J Hughes that such a survey should be carried out on Wicker Lane. It was agreed this information should be forwarded by Cllr Moulton.

Waste reduction volunteer scheme. Cllr Moulton informed of this campaign to promote waste reduction. It was agreed that information should be displayed on the parish noticeboards.

Untidy garden. A Member informed of concerns as to an untidy garden. It was agreed the Member should seek advice from the Chester and District Housing Trust.

Driving test manoeuvres. A Member referred to a national change in driving test routes and to the likelihood there would be increased manoeuvres on roads in Guilden Sutton. The Clerk confirmed this was already the case so far as instructors were concerned.

Winter maintenance. The Clerk informed that large sacks of salt/grit were available from the highway depot at a cost of £30 plus delivery to those parishes which had appropriate storage facilities and would be able to make use of the salt/grit for snow clearance. It was agreed that further inquiries would be made.

31 Information correspondence.

Strategic matters: North West Development Agency annual conference and annual general meeting.

Leisure services: Greenway volunteer day 18 September 2010.

ChALC/NALC: Newsletter 134; Local Council Review Autumn 2010; NALC Events Bulletin

CWAC: Partnerships Bulletin no 20; Proposed bulletin for town and parish councils; Voluntary Arts Network Event 26 September 2010; Waste Reduction Volunteer Scheme; Local Strategic Partnerships Network event 18 November 2010; Rural regeneration and housing workshops October/November; Parish Planning and Village Design Statement workshop 7 October, 2010; 10/11 089

Rural film clubs; Streetscene service standards; Funding fair 21 October 2010; Town and Parish Council Review Seminar 15 September 2010; Gowy Community Forum 14 September 2010; Broxton Community Forum 13 September 2010.

Cheshire Community action: cessation of Project Rural Matters 3 December 2010; Beginners Excel training 19 October, 2010.

Cheshire County Playing Fields Association: Newsletter Summer 2010.

Health: Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust newsletter 9.

Policing: Rural Inspector's updates; Homewatch updates; On the Grapevine; Distraction burglaries.

Groundwork Cheshire: Reloved recycling project.

General: Festive Lighting equipment; Save The Family Newsletter Autumn 2010.

**Matters to be 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.

Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Late information report 1 November 2010.

6 Leisure Services.

Greenway. Clerk to report re surface of Garners Lane. Decision required as to whether to raise the issue with PROW given the previous reluctance of the landowner. Also not wholly in Guilden Sutton parish.

8 Highways:

Roads speeding group/disposal of speed indicator devices/radar gun training. Cllr Moulton/The Clerk.

9 Finance

Income.

Bank interest		
3 September 2010	£	1.76

Payments:

Clerk:

Copies		
331 @5p	£	16.55
Mileage:		
56 @40p	£	22.40
	£	<u>38.95</u>

Balances

Co-op Bank		
30 September 2010	£13,265.66	

13 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Rural regeneration and housing strategy workshops: The Chairman.

20 Bulb planting. To report the receipt by Messrs Gresty of 2 no sacks mixed daffodils.

30 Information correspondence.

NALC/ChALC: NALC Events Bulletin; ChALC annual meeting 21 October 2010.

Cheshire West and Chester Council: Gowy Community Forum revised date; Local Transport Plan consultation, response due 31 December, 2010; Rural Support Development Fund, applications due 30 November 2010; Register of interest forms; Partnership Bulletin 21; Rural regeneration and housing strategy workshops; Local Strategic Partnership Network event 18 November, 2010; Voluntary Sector funding fair 21 October 2010; BT survey re potential demand for fibre broadband; Winter grit presentation.

Cheshire Community Action: Annual general meeting Wednesday 27 October, 2010; Cessation of Project Rural Matters; Beginners Excel training.

Health: Western Cheshire PCT participatory budgeting event Monday 22 November 2010.

Policing: PC Boulton community update, Inspector's Updates.

Homewatch: Telephone calls re alarm systems, potential loan scam, jewellery scam, telephone calls re computer faults.

Greenway volunteer day 16 October, 2010.

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

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Information correspondence: Property boundaries and parking entitlements, Summerfield Road.

gspc late information 011110