

Guiden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 1 November 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: Cheshire West and Chester Councillors B J Bailey, S Parker; B Lewin Esq, Public Rights of Way Warden; PC R Boulton.

1 Procedural matters.

(i) Apologies. An apology was received and accepted from Cllr I Brown.

(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 P M Paterson declared a personal interest in the part 2 item relating to property boundaries and parking entitlements at the Village Hall as a member of the Executive of Guiden Sutton Community Association.

Cllr D Hughes declared a personal interest in the part 2 item relating to property boundaries and parking entitlements at the Village Hall as a member of the Executive of Guiden Sutton Community Association.

(iii) Confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 4 October 2010. The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 4 October 2010 where proposed by Cllr D Hughes, seconded by Cllr W Moulton and agreed as a correct record.

(iv) Dates of future meetings:

Monday 6 December 2010.

Monday 10 January, 7 February, 7 March, 4 April, 9 May, 6 June, 18 July, 5 September, 3 October, 7 November, 5 December, 2011.

(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.

Mr Brian Lewin, Public Rights of Way Warden, referred to the bank account in the name of the Parish Paths Group and informed the signatories needed to be reconsidered and/or the return of the funds to the Parish Council. He referred to unsatisfactory areas on Garners Lane, the condition of part of Footpath 1 adjacent to Belle Vue Cottage and of the stile into the adjoining field and the disposal of a heavy-duty strimmer owned by the group. Mr Lewin informed the Tree Officer had been requested to inspect the condition of trees on the green lane which were dying back as there were concerns that overhanging branches could fall on the right of way. Mr Lewin believed the trees were declining rapidly.

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Two had fallen during recent high winds, which were to be removed and he believed a professional opinion should be sought from DEFRA at a cost of £95 from Footpath Group funds.

Cllr B J Bailey informed of the previous unsuccessful approach as to tree preservation orders and suggested he might revisit the issue.

As village webmaster, Mr Lewin informed he would like the web site to become busier. Having a second person to help in its production and content writing would be useful. The individual need not understand web sites but should have access to a PC and be willing to write material and gather information.

As a member of the public Mr Lewin raised the issue of low noise surfacing on the A55.

PC R Boulton informed of crime issues and the need for residents to ensure their property was kept securely. He advised patrols were being made in the early hours. A police surgery was to be held on Saturday 6 November 2010 at 10am. The Chairman asked if it would be possible for a police presence to attend the Remembrance Sunday service given the need for traffic to be halted on three roads.

Cllr S Parker informed of current Cheshire West and Chester Council issues including the postponement of the next Gowy Community Forum to January 2011. Further consultation was awaited on the proposal for a 30mph speed limit on Station Lane. Cllr Parker informed of a series of Rural Regeneration and Housing Workshops which were taking place to which town and parish councils had been invited as it was felt the issues to be discussed would be relevant to local councils as well as other key organisations.

Cllr Bailey informed he had no further comment at this stage.

(ii) Report of surgery held on Saturday 30 October 2010. This had been attended by Cllr Kerfoot and Moulton together with Cllr S Parker. Issues had been raised by two members of the public including potholes in School Lane and Guilden Sutton Lane and the condition of a reinstated trench on Guilden Sutton Lane close to the A41. It was suggested the fault reporting forms on the Cheshire West and Chester Council website should be publicised in the newsletter. The issues raised at the surgery would be progressed by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.** A suggestion had also been made that large vehicles were unable to safely turn right onto the A41 at Guilden Sutton Lane.

Members revisited the time for councillors' surgeries and compared this with the known times of similar surgeries elsewhere. It was agreed the issue should be kept under review and that for the time being surgeries should be held at 10am to avoid confusion for the public.

The Clerk was progressing the suggestion 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.

10/12100/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. No objection had been raised.

(ii) Decision notices.

The Clerk informed there were none to report.

(iii) Parish Plan.

(a) Progress report. Cllr Paterson reported further as to the arrangements for the launch. Drafting was in hand. (b) Cheshire West and Chester Council parish plans and village design statement workshop 7 October 2010. There was no requirement for a report as the Council had not been in attendance.

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(c) Christleton Community Plan. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) Village Design Statement. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Strategic Planning.

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

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

(iii) Rear boundary wall. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) Replacement signboard. This was being progressed with the signwriter.

(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 was pleased to confirm that with the assistance of officers a substantial refund dating back to 1 April 2007 had been received and was reported beneath. It was agreed that officers of the borough council's Non Domestic Rates section should be thanked for the extremely helpful approach with which the matter had been dealt with.

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 had approached Cheshire West and Chester Council and had requested the provision of a bin in a nearby verge. He was pleased to inform the borough council had agreed to provide a bin on a trial basis.

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

(c) State of nets. Repairs had been deferred to early Spring 2011. **Action: Cllr D Hughes.**

(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 had approached Upton by Chester and District Parish Council as to possible arrangements for annual inspections in 2010/11. A response was awaited.

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

(d) Grounds maintenance issues. It was noted nettles remained in the borders. This would be raised with the grounds maintenance contractor. **Action: The Clerk.**

(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, the comments by the Public Rights of Way Warden as to inspections by the Tree Officer, with particular reference to branches overhanging the path, were welcomed.

(b) Footpath 2: 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. The comments of the Public Rights of Way Warden as to the condition of part of this route were noted and would be referred to the Public Rights of Way Unit. **Action: The Clerk.**

(d) Rights of Way Group. (i) Bank account. The comments of the Public Rights of Way Warden as to the current position with the bank account held by the group were noted. It was agreed it would be appropriate for the funds to be returned to the Council which would decide their future. This would be progressed by the Warden and the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.** (ii) Disposal of equipment. The comments of the Public Rights of Way Warden as to the disposal of a heavy duty strimmer held by the group were noted. It was agreed that, in the first instance, the equipment should be offered to Messrs Gresty. **Action: The Clerk.**

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

(f) Greenway. (i) The Clerk informed he understood that leaflets were available providing information on the cycle network in the city, including the extension of the Greenway to Guilden Sutton and Mickle Trafford and would make further inquiries. **Action: The Clerk.** (ii) Cyclists/Pedestrians. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to additional signage to inform both cyclists and pedestrians emerging from the Garners Lane access and traffic on Guilden Sutton Lane. (iii) Surface, Garners Lane. Further to the suggestion the surface of Garners Lane should be improved to enable it to be more user friendly for those with prams and in wheelchairs and to the highway authority referring to the reluctance of an adjoining landowner to the original scheme, it was agreed that no further action should be taken at this stage. The comments made by the Public Rights of Way Warden as to the condition of areas of the existing surfacing of Garners Lane were noted and would be referred to the Public Rights Way Unit. **Action: The Clerk.** (iv) Garners Lane, ownership. It was agreed the Clerk should contact the Public Rights of Way Unit to ascertain the ownership of Garners Lane. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iv) Grounds Maintenance. (a) Vale. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (b) Parish Council contract 2010/11. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(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, Messrs Gresty had been informed that their estimate of £96 for work to both seats had been accepted.

(vi) Fox Cover. (i) Landscaping. The Clerk informed a response was awaited to his approach to Cheshire West and Chester Council as to the verge being included in a schedule. (ii) Replacement 'no ball games' sign. This was being progressed with the signwriter. **Action: The Clerk**

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

(viii) Multi use games area. Cllr Kerfoot informed a quotation for £26,000 had been received. The responses to the further consultation reported to the previous meeting were due by 12 November, 2010.

(ix) Cheshire West and Chester Council open space assessment and audit. Further inquiries had been made by the Clerk of the parish liaison officer as to the outcome of this assessment. A response was awaited.

(x) Community Garden. There was nothing further to report at this stage pending the meeting between the Chairman and Mr Palmer. Cllr Bailey informed as to the proposal.

7 Public transport.

(i) C27. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the possibility of a 0904 service on Saturdays and during school holidays.

(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) Major schemes.

Further to Mr Lewin referring to low noise surfacing provided on the A55 from the Dee Bridge to the A51, the Clerk informed this was only used, if justified, when normal maintenance would be incurred. The Council understood the length of road within the parish was not due to be maintained before 2012 at the earliest.

(ii) 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.*

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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

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

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.*

(iii) Current issues

(a) Speed issues. (i) Speed indicator device. Inquiries had been made by Cllr Moulton as to the future of the speed indicator device following the demise of Project Rural Matters. A definitive response was awaited but it was known the Rural Inspector was keen to see the use of the device continue. Cllr Moulton informed that correspondence relating to the new group proposed by the Rural Inspector to deal with speed issues in parishes had been acknowledged. Members who wished to be involved had advised 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 had informed Cllr Moulton who had advised the Clerk. **Action: Cllr Moulton/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. 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.

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- (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. See minute 17 (iii).
- (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 were revisited following the completion of the alterations at the village shops. It was noted the tenants of the immediately adjoining premises preferred the planting closest to Summerfield House to remain as existing.
Action: noted.
- (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. A request had been made that if possible, Members should have sight of the proposed racks prior to installation.
- (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. Further to the concern expressed by Cllr D Hughes as to the condition of a School Lane nameplate at the war memorial, the Clerk informed the highway authority had helpfully advised that it might be preferable for the parish council to secure the repainting of the existing cast nameplate, rather than its replacement by a pressed nameplate, as this would be more in keeping. This was agreed. An estimate would be sought by the Clerk from the signwriter. **Action: The Clerk.**
- (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 Public 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: It was not known what action had been taken by the highway authority to rectify this sign which had slipped down the pole.
- (q) Flooding, Church Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage.
- (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. There was nothing further to report at this stage following the completion of the remedial works.

(u) Planters. Further to that minuted above, the highways authority was being informed the preferred 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 Chairman informed further that following inquiries which had been made by the Clerk, there was a possibility that suitably inscribed self watering planters would be provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council. This was welcomed.

(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 by the highway authority. The further concerns raised at the most recent surgery would be reported.

(x) Church Lane/Wicker Lane. There was nothing further to report this stage as to the further complaint from Mrs Y Kirk 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 had been referred to the highway authority.

(y) School Lane. Cllr Kerfoot informed of further work which was in progress to improve the boundary treatment at a property adjoining the narrower length of footway on Porters Hill.

(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) Traffic management. Further to Cllr Moulton informing 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, the suggestion by Cllr J Hughes that such a survey should be carried out on Wicker Lane had been referred. A Member expressed concern as to the speed of traffic on this road and at the presence of large vehicles.

(zb) Driving test manoeuvres. Further to a Member informing of the national change in driving test routes and to the likelihood there would be increased manoeuvres on roads in Guilden Sutton, the Clerk informed he had approached the appropriate agency as a member of the public affected by this change and had secured an assurance an appropriate notice would be displayed in the Chester test centre.

(zc) Winter maintenance. Further to the Clerk informing 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, the provision was being pursued by Cllr D Hughes and the Clerk. **Action: Cllr D Hughes/The Clerk.**

(zd) Advertising, Hoole roundabout. Cllr Davis referred to the extent of advertising on Hoole roundabout and if this was considered to be a hazard at the signed accident blackspot. Cllr S Parker informed the signage would have the approval of the highway authority. **Action: Noted.**

(ze) Signage A41. Cllr Moulton referred to signage outside the parish on the A41. Cllr B J Bailey informed he would make immediate inquiries.

(iv) Lighting. A defective light opposite of the play area would be reported. **Action: The Clerk.** The Clerk informed he continued to report a defective light at the junction of Oaklands and Orchard Croft.

9 Finance:

(i) Income:

Bank interest

3 September 2010

£ 1.76

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Scottish Widows no 1
Bank interest
1 October 2010 £ 0.00

Scottish Widows no 2
Bank interest
1 October 2010 £ 1.96

Cheshire West and Chester
Council
Business rate refund
1 April 2007 - 31 March 2011 £ 1,382.47

Graveyard grant £ 250.00

(ii) Payments:

S&H Services
Shelter cleaning £ 17.00

Clerk:

Copies
331 @5p £ 16.55
Mileage:
56 @40p £ 22.40
£ 38.95

Proposed by Cllr D Hughes
Seconded by Cllr M Kerfoot
and agreed.

(iii) Balances

Co-operative Bank
25 August 2010 £13,646.66

Scottish Widows no 1
1 October 2010 £20,210.84

Scottish Widows no 2
1 October 2010 £ 3,159.42*

* includes £542.09 transfer from no 1 a/c

(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. 10/11 100

(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. Further to the Clerk informing that Cheshire West and Chester Council had published new base level streetscene standards which would apply across the borough, which would be subject to individual discussions with town and parish councils, the Chairmen advised a meeting had taken place attended by the Vice Chairman, Clerk and herself from which it had emerged the village would be cleaned fortnightly following an inspection. There would be a 24 hour standard for dog fouling and enforcement teams would be active in problem areas. Officers had agreed to inspect the difficult areas within the parish with the Clerk. It was noted the Parish Council would be able to register complaints. The Chairman described the meeting as satisfactory.

(iii) Dog fouling: Request for additional bins. Further to the requests for additional bins on the dingle path and opposite the parish playing field, the Clerk informed that Cheshire West and Chester Council had agreed to provide an additional bin on the dingle path. A bin would also be provided opposite the parish playing field on a trial basis. This was welcomed. Cllr Davis informed of a request for a further bin on the dingle path towards Belle Vue Lane.

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

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. There was no response at this stage as to the request 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, a site inspection by Tree Officers to inform as to the future of the tree and the receipt of indicative quotations for felling and for a 30% reduction, approval had been 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.

(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 informed as Honorary Secretary that it was hoped a special meeting of the Area Meeting 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 would take place in early December. Cllr Moulton informed that in his view, not all community forums were operating satisfactorily. (ii) County Association Annual meeting, 21 October 2010, Middlewich Civic Hall. The Clerk reported he had attended and had supported motions relating to the devolution of responsibilities to town and parish councils, limited decision taking on local planning applications, the lack of timely liaison or consultations and issues relating to town and parish councils, 20mph speed limits in the vicinity of schools and the parishing of the entire borough. He had abstained from voting on a motion referring to incinerators. (iii) Pay settlement 2010/11 and 2011/12. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

13 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

(i) Service delivery to local councils: service base levels. There was nothing further to report to that minuted above.

(ii) Electoral Review, Cheshire West and Chester. The Clerk indicated that so far as he understood, the Order had been laid before Parliament to bring into effect, when approved or modified, 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. The Clerk informed that as nothing further had been heard since at the proposal for the formation of this group, which he had been invited to join, he would make further inquiries as to its existence.

(iv) Maintenance of Churchyards and Burial Grounds. Further to the Clerk indicating he was pleased to be able to report he had obtained a grant of £250, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Draft statement of licensing policy re sex establishments. The Clerk confirmed he would reply to this consultation by the due date of 17 December 2010. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vi) Goway Community Forum. It was noted the next meeting of the Forum would take place in January 2011. Cllr Kerfoot informed that Cllr Parker was keen to see a meeting of the Forum in Guilden Sutton, probably at the Primary School.

(vii) Town and Parish Councils Seminars. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to this series of seminars.

(viii) Mickle Trafford Community Forum 20 October, 2010. Further to the Clerk reporting the receipt of notification of this forum, to focus on emergency planning for Cheshire West, which had been held at Shell UK, Stanlow on Wednesday 20 October 2010, he regretted to inform that both Cllr Davis and himself, who had hoped to attend, had been unable to do so. **Action: noted.**

(ix) Community safety wardens. Further to the Clerk reporting the receipt of a poster advertising the contact telephone number for anti social behaviour to be reported to the community safety wardens, he was making arrangements for this be displayed. **Action: The Clerk.**

(x) Workshop: rural regeneration and housing strategies. The Chairman informed she had attended one of a series of workshops, referred to by Cllr Parker, to discuss these issues. She had been disappointed to find she was the only rural representative on her table but described the event as very interesting and said there had been the opportunity to raise local rural issues such as public transport.

(xi) Waste reduction volunteer scheme. Further to Cllr Moulton informing of this campaign to promote waste reduction, the information would be displayed on the parish noticeboards.

(xii) Local Transport Plan. The Clerk reported the receipt of advice, dated 29 October 2010, of consultation on this draft plan. It was noted a response was required by 31 December 2010.

(xiii) Rural Support Development Fund. The Clerk reported the receipt, by correspondence dated 29 October 2010, of advice the next closing date for applications would be 30 November 2010.

14 Cheshire Community Action. (i) Annual meeting Wednesday 27 October 2010. The Council had not been represented at this meeting. (ii) County Playing Fields Association, annual meeting Thursday 19 October 2010. The Council had not been represented at this meeting.

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. The report provided by PC Boulton during public speaking time was noted. PC Boulton's attendance had been welcomed.

(iii) Parking, Arrowcroft Road. Cllr D Hughes expressed his appreciation to PC Boulton for parents parking in Arrowcroft Road being spoken to. Further inquiries were being made by the Clerk as to the deployment of the mobile CCTV unit. **Action: The Clerk.**

18 Newsletter. A further issue would be prepared to publicise the Christmas lights competition. 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 received by Messrs Gresty. It was agreed that planting would take place on Saturday 13 November, 2010 at 2pm. Members would inform the Clerk of possible sites which would be referred to the Chairman and Vice Chairman for decision. (ii) Planters. See minute 8 (ii) above.

21 Parish IT. Cllr Fisher informed that Members' e-mail addresses were still live.

22 Primary School. Cllr D Hughes informed he was to attend a meeting of the School Travel Group. Cllr Kerfoot informed the Christmas Fair would take place on 7 December, 2010. **Action: noted.**

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: there was nothing further to report at this stage.

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 Chairman regretted she would be unable to attend this service.

30 Member's information items.

Vacant property. A Member informed that tenants of a commercial property in the village were concerned that vacant first floor accommodation above should revert to residential in order to protect their premises. It was agreed the matter should be referred to the landlord. **Action: The Clerk.**

Telephone kiosk, Hill Top Road. A Member informed of the wish of a nearby occupier that this kiosk should be removed.

Parking, Arrowcroft Road. A Member informed of the concerns of a resident that parking in the longer cul-de-sac could obstruct access for the emergency services. An inspection had been made and it was not thought the situation was sufficient to justify action. PC Boulton had also been informed and had reached a similar conclusion.

Summerfield Road noticeboard. Cllr Davis informed of the condition of this noticeboard and of its obstruction by overhanging vegetation.

Guilden Sutton Community Association: constitution. Cllr Fisher informed that a meeting was to be held on Monday 8 November 2010 to discuss possible amendments to the constitution of the charity. He believed the Parish Council should be represented.

Usage, Summerfield Road shops car park. Cllr D Hughes informed he believed increased use was being made of this car park following the relocation of the dental surgery into larger premises. It was noted this had not involved any increase in the number of dentists. Cllr Davis confirmed increase use was apparent.

31 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.

It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr J Hughes and agreed that the public and press should be excluded 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.

32 Information correspondence: Property boundaries and parking entitlements, Village Hall

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 27 October 2010, of correspondence from a property owner, copied to the Chairman, Guilden Sutton Community Association, relating to legal advice from his Solicitors as to property boundaries and parking entitlements at the Village Hall. **Action: Noted.**

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