

## Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 3 February 2014 at 7.30pm in Guilden Sutton Village Hall Committee Room.

Chairman: Cllr W Moulton.

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

In attendance: Cllrs Margaret and Stuart Parker and 12 members of the public.

### 1 Procedural matters.

(i) Declarations of interest. Members were reminded they should declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or any Other Disclosable Interest which they may have 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. Declarations were a personal matter for each Member to decide with the decision to declare, or not, being the responsibility of the Member based on the particular circumstances. Consideration should be given to any pecuniary interest, outside bodies interest or family, friends and close associates.

Possible application for grant, Guilden Sutton Community Association re replacement heating system for the Village Hall. Cllrs Hughes, Paterson and Ringstead declared an Other Disclosable Interest in any discussion relating to this proposal by virtue of their membership of the Association Executive.

(ii) Apologies. Apologies were received and noted from PC R Boulton.

(iii) Minutes. Confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 6 January 2014. It was proposed by Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Fisher and agreed that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 6 January 2014 should be approved.

(iv) Code of Conduct.

(v) Dates of future meetings: Mondays 3 March, 7 April (to include the Annual Parish Meeting), 12 May, 2 June, 21 July, 1 September, 6 October, 3 November, 1 December 2014.

(vi) Late information report 3 February 2014. The late information report for the current meeting was received and noted.

(vii) Review of handling of information correspondence. The continued increase in the volume of information correspondence being received would be reviewed by the Council in due course.

(viii) Royal Garden Party. Further to the Clerk informing the Council had been advised that this year's Buckingham Palace Garden Party, to which ChALC could nominate four guests, had been set for Wednesday 21 May, 2014, the Clerk confirmed the Chairman had been nominated. The outcome was awaited. **Action: Noted.**

### 2 Community engagement.

(i) Public speaking time.

(a) Public speakers.

Neighbourhood Plan. B M Lewin Esq spoke to the need to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. R Norrie Esq spoke on behalf of the Bird in Hand Action Group in support having been advised by the borough council a Neighbourhood Plan should be in place as soon as possible. The Chairman intimated his view the best way forward would be to have an informal joint meeting between the Council and those promoting a Neighbourhood Plan as soon as possible.

Planning application 13/05410/FUL residential development of 18 dwellings including 14 affordable units and associated vehicular access to School Lane, land adjacent to Treetops, School Lane, Guilden Sutton.

Members of the public spoke to this application, the principal concerns of objectors being Green Belt, lack of need and traffic. Cllr S Parker indicated he had called the proposal in due to the level of public concern and ward Members would address the Planning Committee which was likely to consider the application in March or April, 2014. Cllr M Parker said she would wish to encourage as many people as possible to write. The ward Members believed that under localism communities should be listened to and the proposal should be refused on the basis of overwhelming public opposition.

(b) Visiting Members, officers and wardens. Cllr Parker informed the borough council was heavily involved in budget setting and responded further to Members' questions. The ward Members were thanked for their attendance.

(ii) Report of surgery held on Saturday 1 February 2014. Cllrs Fisher and Paterson reported no issues had arisen. Cllrs Roberts and Davis would preside at the surgery to be held on Saturday 1 March 2014.

(iii) Report of public meeting attended by Stephen Mosley MP on Friday 31 January 2014 at 5.30pm in St John's Church Room. It was noted this had been attended by Members and in the region of 55 members of the public. The MP had initially spoken to the following issues raised by the Council:

*(i) Development in the Green Belt.*

*(ii) The need for affordable housing and how affordable is defined given it is understood there is only one resident in the parish actually on the housing waiting list.*

*(iii) The balance between the pro growth agenda in the NPPF and Localism (eg a majority of people consulted on housing need in the parish being opposed any development).*

*(iv) The financial position of housing associations and if the collapse of the original provider would negate any 106 Agreement that the affordables should remain affordable in perpetuity if the failed association was not taken over.*

Mr Mosley had then responded further to questions from the floor.

A member of the public had requested further information as to need, to be provided by Cllr S Parker. On that basis, with the agreement of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, an indication had been given the decision would be withdrawn from this meeting of the Council as minuted beneath.

(iv) Parish Council drop ins. There was nothing further to report to that minuted above.

(v) Twitter. The Clerk informed Mosaic Town Planning were now following.

3 Planning.

(i) New and recent applications.

Horse Chestnut in front garden, remove 1 cracked branched indicated on photograph, crown lift and prune back from new build as indicated, no branches over 100mm in diameter to be removed. Reasons for light and spacial effect on new build.

The Vicarage Wicker Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EL

Ref. No: 14/00236/TPO | Validated: Wed 22 Jan 2014 | Status: Pending consideration. NEW APPLICATION (INFORMATION ONLY)

Residential development of 18 dwellings including 14 affordable units and associated vehicular access to School Lane.

Land Adjacent To Treetops School Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire

Ref. No: 13/05410/FUL | Validated: Fri 20 Dec 2013 | Status: Pending consideration.

**Cllrs Moulton, Hughes.**

Further to the request from the floor at the public meeting addressed by Stephen Mosley MP in St John's Church Room on Friday 31 January 2014 for additional information as to housing need, it was hoped this application would now be considered at an extraordinary meeting of the Council taking place on Tuesday 11 February 2014.

Erection of a detached dwelling  
Land Rear Of The Vicarage Church Lane Guilden Sutton Chester  
Ref. No: 13/05405/FUL | Validated: Tue 17 Dec 2013 | Status: Pending consideration.  
**Cllrs Ringstead, Fisher.**

Cllr Ringstead had advised:

*Cllr Danny Fisher and myself, met on Monday 13th Jan regarding the above application. It should be noted that the details of the property are described as a Detached 4 Bedroomed House, but the plans are for a 5 Bedroomed House. There is only a large 1 car garage indicated, with parking for 2 vehicles. This is probably inadequate for such a property. The property width only allows for a pathway around the property. It should also be noted that no design and access statement accompanied this application. It was also noted that there would not be a lot of excavation, so the property would sit high on the plot.*

*We visited the site and considered all aspects of the height and size mass of the proposed 2 Storey dwelling. It was noted that the height of the property would be in line with the apex roof of 1 Vicarage Close, and would therefore be higher than the neighbouring property, Killearn House.*

*We met with neighbours on either side of the proposal, and called at all adjacent properties.*

*Residents of No. 1 Vicarage Close were very concerned at the height and size of the proposed dwelling, and the fact that this would ultimately affect light into their property. The residents of No. 3 Spring Cottage had not been notified of this application, but were also concerned at the overall size and height of this proposed dwelling. The residents of No 2 Spring Cottage had the same concerns. There was no reply from No 1, but a card was left.*

*The resident of Killearn House have written to the Development Planning Officer and have copied in their concerns to the Parish Council, which will be passed to you as Clerk. Basically, they point out the fact that the property is described as 4 bed, but in fact plans are for a 5 bedroomed property. Mr Fisher is concerned at the height of the roof line and the fact that it dominates the eye line from Church Lane, particularly with respect of the neighbouring property, Killearn House.*

The following response had been submitted:

*There is no objection to the principle of development but the Council believes that due to the design, scale, height and massing of the proposal the dwelling would fail at least to maintain or where possible improve the environment by harmonising with its surroundings as required by policy HO5 of the Chester District Local Plan which is retained in the Submission Draft Local Plan.*

*It is also noted the application is for a four bedroom dwelling yet the design and access statement and the submitted drawings indicate five bedrooms.*

The Clerk informed he had requested Cllr S Parker to call the proposal in as Members believed the design, scale and mass would be out of keeping with the historic centre of the village and neighbours were concerned about dominance. The previous property, designed for the diocese, had taken account of the concerns of neighbours opposite and had been more in keeping.

Cllr S Parker reported a lengthy conversation with the case officer who had outlined all of the factors relating to this application and the previous proposal, which was approved, for a three-story dwelling. The new design was lower than the previous design and the reduction to two-storey made the footprint smaller than the previous approved design.

The property would fit well within the wide plot, and surrounding properties in the area were of differing designs and size.

The case officer had also the representations received from residents and had been able to counteract their objections as to the property not impacting on them from a visual and lighting perspective.

Cllr Parker in effect had been challenged to find grounds for a call in as from a planning prospective it ticked all the boxes. He was at a loss as to how to do this as it would appear that the planning arguments would lead to the Planning Committee voting approval. His arguments would have to be based on planning conditions which he would have difficulty counteracting as the scale and massing would be less than previously approved.

Cllr Ringstead spoke to her report and said neighbours on Vicarage Close believed their property would be extremely dark. Cllr Fisher commented on the urban design.

Replacement detached garage

The Vicarage Wicker Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EL

Ref. No: 13/05299/FUL | Validated: Mon 23 Dec 2013 | Status: Pending consideration.

**Cllrs Brown, Paterson.**

Cllr Brown informed the replacement was virtually in the same position as previously. It was agreed no objection should be raised.

Erection of 3 dwellings (demolition of existing building)

Chester House Hare Lane Chester Cheshire CH3 7ED

Ref. No: 13/05092/FUL | Validated: Fri 29 Nov 2013 | Status: Planning permission. NEW DECISION.

**Cllr Fisher.**

*No objection in principle, request for vehicles to be able to enter and leave in forward gear.*

Single storey rear extension (retrospective)

2 Cinder Close Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EP

Ref. No: 13/04958/FUL | Validated: Wed 13 Nov 2013 | Status: Planning permission. NEW DECISION.

**Cllrs Paterson, Brown.**

*No objection.*

Single storey extension to front and side and extension to driveway

45 Oaklands Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HE

Ref. No: 13/04774/FUL | Validated: Fri 15 Nov 2013 | Status: Planning permission. NEW DECISION.

**Cllrs Ringstead, Roberts.**

*No objection.*

Residential development of 9 dwellings (demolition of existing buildings)

The Wood Farm School Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7ET

Ref. No: 13/04057/FUL | Validated: Tue 17 Sep 2013 | Status: Pending Decision

**Cllrs Fisher, Moulton.**

*No objection.*

(ii) Development control process. (a) e notifications. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (b) On line drawings. Further to Cllr Fisher expressing concern as to the lack of detail which could be obtained from drawings viewed on the web site, (planning application 13/05092/FUL 3 dwellings (demolition of existing) at Chester House, Hare Lane, Chester, CH3 7ED refers) requiring interested parties to visit council offices to see the full size plans as he believed it was not possible to determine dimensions, this had been raised by the Clerk with the ward members. The Development Planning Manager had informed she had been able to measure the plans on the public access web site. **Action: Noted.**

(iii) Community planning.

(a) Parish Plan. Cllr Paterson indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Neighbourhood planning.

(i) Christleton Parish Council, Neighbourhood Planning presentation, Tuesday 7 January, 2014, Christleton Methodist Church Hall, Christleton. Cllr Paterson reported on this presentation on the Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan, the first to be completed in the borough. This had taken 4,000 hours of volunteer time but the process to be followed, including consultation, had now been established. Although 96% of those taking part in the referendum which was required had voted in favour, the plan had been appealed by developers. The cost of preparing the plan had been £10,000. The possibility of a neighbourhood plan for Chester Villages, with issues specific to each parish, had been put forward. Cllr S Parker referred to a neighbourhood plan as a powerful document.

Responding to public speaking the Council believed it would be appropriate for there to be a Neighbourhood Plan meeting to follow the extraordinary meeting of the Council on Tuesday 11 February 2014. Cllr Paterson suggested the most recent Neighbourhood Planning Newsletter from the borough council could be circulated to both Google groups within the village. **Action: The Clerk.**

(ii) Bird in Hand Support Group.

(c) Affordable housing.

(i) Proposal by Mr Phil Taylor, Strategic Team Group for development at Wicker Lane. The Clerk advised that having contacted Mr Taylor, the site remained under assessment.

(ii) Stephen Mosley MP. Members noted the arrangements for the public meeting, minuted above, had been progressed by the Clerk with Mr Mosley's office.

(iii) Advice from the Area Planning Manager. The Clerk reported the receipt of the following general guidance he had sought from the Area Planning Manager:

*Both the Local Plan and the NPPF allow for limited windfall development for affordable housing in the Green Belt within villages, or on the edge of villages, as exceptions to normal Green Belt policies. These have to be genuinely affordable meeting the definition of affordable housing set out in the NPPF and must meet an identified local need. The Council's Strategic Housing Market Assessment sets out the current need and suitable sites in villages would be expected to meet the need across the relevant Council Ward; not just within that particular village.*

*The NPPF, as the most up to date policy available, provides for such development but it is important to consider this in the light of other policies contained within the document. Important considerations will also include the precise location of the development in relation to the character and appearance of the village (isolated development distinct from the edge of the settlement would not be acceptable), whether or not any nature or built conservation issues are affected, the impact on highway safety and neighbour amenity, flood risk matters, design as well as its effects on the openness of the Green Belt. Therefore, whilst the principle may be acceptable there is much more that needs to be weighed in the balance before such development can be fully endorsed.*

**Action: Noted.**

(iv) Strategic Planning.

(a) Local Development Framework.

(i) Land at Hoole Hall (Hoole Gate). Further to the Chairman referring to activity on the site, inquiries by the Clerk had suggested this was likely to be approved development at the Double by Hilton Hotel. The Clerk invited Members to note Mr S Stafford had left HIMOR and had been replaced by a Mr Stan Shreeve.

(ii) Publication draft Local Plan. The Council noted the receipt of notification of the formal submission of the Consultation Local Plan. An inspector was expected to be appointed towards the end of February and advice as to the dates of public hearings was awaited.

(iii) Chester Green Belt. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Cheshire West and Chester Council Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

4 Quality Council issues.

(i) Training.

(a) Training dates 2014. Any Members wishing to attend any training in this programme would advise the Clerk. **Action: All Members.**

It was noted the Association would be running a Councillor 1 Training Session on Wednesday 5 February 2014 at Sandbach Town Hall. The sessions would cover the following aspects of Parish/Town Council business:

*Introducing Councillors to their roles and responsibilities  
To provide an opportunity for new and more experienced councillors  
To develop their knowledge and skills  
To give councillors more confidence in carrying out their role.*

The cost would be £30 per person.

Planning seminar. The Clerk informed the following had been received from the Association:

*Changes to the planning system - are you sinking or swimming?*

*There have been big changes to the planning system in the last two years, and they're still going on. Are you up to speed on the most effective ways to make the voice of your Council really count? ChALC and CPRE are offering a workshop to:-*

- \* Review the major changes as they are affecting Local Councils, illustrated with real-life examples from Cheshire and across the country*
- \* Set out the "armoury" that Local Councils now have at their disposal*
- \* Update you on the opportunities and challenges arising from putting Neighbourhood Planning into practice*
- \* Provide an opportunity to discuss the issues affecting you with professionals and your peers*

*Location: Middlewich Community Church, 34-36 Brooks Lane, Middlewich, Cheshire, CW10 0JG*

*Date/Time: Tuesday 8th April 1.00pm – 5.00pm Afternoon Tea Included*

*Cost: £20 Members.*

'Effective Appraisals' training, Wednesday 2 April, 2014. Details had been circulated separately by the Clerk.

Members wishing to attend any of these sessions were requested to indicate to the Clerk. **Action: All Members.**

(ii) Quality Councils Forum. There was nothing further to report at this stage further to advice from the Cheshire Association of Local Councils that as the Quality Parish Scheme was under review nationally a decision had been taken to hold no further meetings until the new scheme was launched.

(iii) Quality Parish Council Status. (a) Conduct of Council business. The NALC model standing orders would be considered by the Quality Council group. (b) Certificate. The Clerk was to obtain copies to enable the original to be displayed in the Village Hall.

5 Parish car park.

(i) Grounds maintenance. There was nothing further to report at this stage. The emptying of the litter bin by Cheshire West and Chester Council was being kept under review by the Clerk as part of his weekly visits. The issues raised by Mrs Kirk would remain under consideration.

Cllr Fisher indicated he had examined the surface of the car park and believed the edges should be cleaned. Cllr Hughes suggested the boundaries should be tidied up and the retaining timbers, which had failed, should be removed. **Action: Inspection by Cllr Hughes and the Clerk.**

(ii) Improvement scheme. This would be revisited in due course.

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

(iv) Trees. Further to a neighbouring referred to renewed growth in the remaining trees on the grass bank, the Clerk advised he had sought an inspection by a reputable contractor employed by Cheshire West and Chester Council. The following estimate had been received:

*1 x Silver Birch tree - crown reduce to previous points and shape.*

*1 x Ash tree - crown reduce to previous points and remove re-growth.*

*1 x Sycamore tree - remove basal re-growth.*

*1 x Ash tree - reduce to previous pruning points.*

*2 x Whitebeam trees - remove basal growth, crown and crown reduce closest tree by approx 1/3 and shape.*

All arisings to be removed.

£450.00 plus £90 VAT= £540.00

Cllr Hughes believed there should be a minimum amount of trimming. Approval was moved by Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Fisher and agreed. The Clerk would inform the Warden of the previous price and date.

**Action: The Clerk.**

6 Leisure Services

(i) Children's Playing Field.

(a) Grounds maintenance issues including litter bin emptying. Minor remedial action proposed by the contractor to improve the field side goalmouth at a cost not exceeding £50 had been completed. Further to the Clerk informing he had approached Mr Arden for advice as to the future maintenance of the ditch, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Mole infestation. The Clerk advised there were presently no issues.

(c) Basket ball equipment. Following the report by Play Inspection and Maintenance Services which had expressed concern as to a possible hazard presented by the equipment, the condition of the hoop and backboard continued to be monitored. An estimate for possible replacement equipment had been sought by the Clerk and had been received in the sum of £3,018.10. Cllr S Parker referred to the availability of funding from his Members Budget. **Action: Noted.**

(d) Further to a Member informing of the encroachment of an adjoining boundary hedge, this was being monitored, particularly as to the effect on the contractor when mowing the field.

(e) Inspector's report. January inspection. The Clerk invited the Council to note the following report from the inspector:

*Pedestrian Access Gate. Gate wide open and not self closing.*

*Football Goals. Slight movement in goal posts. Consider using wedges in ground sockets.*

*Basketball Goal. Backboard damaged and requires replacement. No support for panel where ring is fixed to it. Weld mesh on football goal below basketball requires treating for rust and painting. Eight weld mesh welds broken on football goal. Repair.*

*Basketball Goal tarmac surface. Reinstate tarmac edge as grass is over growing tarmac area. Difficult to cleanse surface if required.*

*Litter bin. No plastic bag liner in bin. Install one and replace each time bin is emptied.*

*General comments*

*No litter or glass seen or removed during inspection. The backboard and goal ring on the basketball is a continued cause for concern. Repair / replace board and or ring or remove the board should be considered and actioned with the minimum of delay. A bin sack liner has been placed in bin and the pedestrian gate has been painted since December inspection. The gate has a latch, but no automatic closing mechanism.*

(f) Small gate. The Council noted that at the suggestion of the Clerk, the Chairman and Vice Chairman had authorised an estimate in the sum of £80 plus VAT from Messrs Deva Forge for the provision of a post and alterations to the latch to enable the gate to be closed. This had been actioned.

(ii) Children's Play Area.

(a) CCTV and CCTV protocol. (i) Upgrade. Further to Cllr Hughes referring to a possible future upgrade of the system, the ward members were aware of the possibility of an approach to their budgets. (ii) Protocol. A simple protocol covering the inspection of images captured by the system would be progressed in due course by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iii) Maintenance. Further to Cllr Paterson informing she had met the contractor for a one hour visit to enable an inspection to be carried out and a report and estimates to be prepared and to the possibility of entering into a service agreement, further information had been sought by the Clerk who reported a response was still awaited from Chester Security Systems.

(b) Inspections.

(i) January inspection. The Clerk invited the Council to note the following from the inspector:

*4 no benches. Holes on surface of wood benches. Fill with wood filler.*

*Play Panels. Torx bolt fitting loose. Tighten.*

*Play Panels Surface. Joints between coloured surfaces are opening up. Fill in gaps.*

*Talk Tube. Cracks in both caps. Monitor and replace as necessary.*

*Toddler Multiunit surface. Joints between coloured surfaces are opening up. Fill in gaps.*

*Junior Multiunit. Slight movement in low level slide chute posts. Monitor.*

*Junior Multiunit surface. Joints between coloured surfaces are opening up. Fill in gaps.*

*General play area surface. Build up of algae and dirt in safer surface. Jet wash required. Autumn leaf fall. Remove.*

*No litter or glass seen or removed during inspection. Torx bolt fixings loose again. One had come out and was on the floor. Bolt retrieved and reinstalled. This issue needs to regularly checked on each visit either by PI&MS or Parish Council members. Further repairs may be possible but only through taking the item apart. The autumn leaf fall etc is still present on the surface adjacent to the base of the hedge. This needs to be swept up and removed from site.*

(ii) Equipment. Following the suggestion by Cllr Brown that the equipment might be repainted, no further action would be taken pending the outcome of the Clerk's inquiries as to a possible replacement playground.

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

(d) Grounds maintenance issues. The Clerk reported the contractor had now submitted an exception invoice for work over and above that estimated for in reducing the height of the hedge. This included facing the hedge within the play area to reduce its depth and action to remove brambles and nettles.

Members noted the Clerk had obtained an estimate for cleansing the safer surfacing with treatment to inhibit moss and algae growth for a longer period. The amount was noted. A suggestion was made it might be possible for the Council to cleanse the surface itself.

(e) Replacement of safer surfacing. This would be pursued in the event of insufficient funding being obtained to enable a replacement playground.

(f) Possible replacement playground. The Clerk reported he had been able to provide WREN with extremely helpful letters of support from the Preschool, the Community Association and the Primary School. **Action: Noted.**

It was noted a decision from WREN would not be expected before mid March and a start date in early April might not be possible.

(iii) Public Footpaths. (a) Footpath 7. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (b) Footpath 2. There was nothing further to report at this stage additional to that minuted beneath under Highways and Environmental Services. (c) Footpath 1. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (d) Footpath 3. Further to the Clerk reporting he had been advised by the Public Rights of Way Warden of concerns as to the state of the bank and a leaning wall adjacent to Footpath 3 at the back of houses on Cinder Lane, there was nothing further to report at this stage. (e) Rights of Way Group. (i) Bank account. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (ii) Natural England "Paths for Communities" (P4C) scheme. There was nothing to report at this stage, the Public Rights of Way Warden having been informed.

(f) Mid Cheshire Footpath Society. There were no action items to report. (g) Greenway. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance. Parish Council contract 2014/15. It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Roberts and agreed that the tender from Mr R Pierce, Rob's Garden Services, for 2014/15 in the same terms as the current year should be accepted. It was known two other organisations had similarly reappointed Mr Pierce.

(v) Public Seats: Guilden Sutton Lane. At the request of the Clerk, Cllr Paterson kindly agreed to check the condition of the paintwork to the seat on Guilden Sutton Lane further to work being carried out by Messrs Deva Forge to repair and repaint the seat. **Action: Cllr Paterson.**

(vi) Fox Cover. Landscaping. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

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

(viii) Wild flower meadow. The Council would revisit this issue, the Area Highways Manager having advised that applications for the use of highway land would be considered subject to on site investigations to discount the presence of utilities.

(ix) Allotments. West Cheshire Allotment Federation. The Clerk invited Members to note the following received via the Cheshire Association of Local Councils:

*The purpose of the Federation is to ensure that its members get maximum benefit from the NAS and also learn from other local and national organisations by the sharing of best practise ideas. We also act as a single body representing Allotment colonies to discuss and agree principles with Allotment landlords(both local Authorities and Private) to ensure that both parties can accept beneficial changes that are both reasonable and consistent with similar agreements made in other parts of the country.*

*Primarily our work has been with those sites run under the umbrella of the CW&CC working with the then titled Allotment Officer Dave Chapman. Working with but independently of the Council. The aim being to encourage sites to look after their own interests for the benefit of themselves and future generations.*

*As many principal authorities have now devolved the running of a number of sites to Parish and Town Councils many of which have no previous experience of running allotments we have been making ourselves available along with the NAS to help both plot holders and their new landlords navigate the change.*

*If your Council believe we could be of value we would urge you get in touch and allow us to share our experience and knowledge.*

*Finally the NWC as an Association has a plan to look for funding to set up a Community information project to promote Allotments and good practise throughout the North West. To include promotions to schools, community groups, a Parish and Town Councils, local show's and fairs etc. If your council would be interested please contact me*

*Andrea Hallissey  
[nwcsecandrea@gmail.com](mailto:nwcsecandrea@gmail.com)*

7 Public transport. (i) Services, general. C27/DB8. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (ii) Bus stand, Guilden Sutton Lane. Overgrowth at this stand continued to be monitored, Cllr Roberts having expressed concern as to views being obstructed and the issue being reported to the Area Engineer.

8 Highways.

(i) Strategic issues: Chester's Transport Strategy: There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Issues with the highway authority, ownership by Traffic Group. The Traffic Group would indicate if they wished to review the outcome of the meeting held with the Area Highways Manager on Wednesday 1 May 2013 and that of the walkabout which had taken place on Thursday 30 May 2013.

(iii) Current issues

(a) Speed matters.

Community speed management.

(a) Station Lane: Further to Cllr D Hughes referring to the speed of traffic on Station Lane and to the expectation the Police would support action on that road and on School Lane, Cllr Hughes was to discuss this with PC Boulton. **Action: Cllr Hughes.** It was noted Cllr Moulton had confirmed his understanding a survey had been promised on the road.

(b) Flashing 30s. Notwithstanding that minuted previously following the meeting between the Clerk and the Area Engineer on Monday 25 November 2013, the suggestion by Cllr Paterson that the ward members should be involved in the provision of flashing 30s on Station Lane and that two should be installed by the highway authority on the basis of increased footfall due to the Millennium Greenway had been progressed by the Clerk. The Clerk had separately pursued the provision of a single flashing 30 within the built up part of the parish hopefully to be funded in part by the ward members, the PCC and the highway authority. He reported the following correspondence:

Station Lane.

Note to Ward Members.

*I need not rehearse the increased footfall argument following the opening of the Millennium Greenway and the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on this road which has no footways, notwithstanding the welcome extension of the 30mph limit.*

*Also, I have discussed this issue with Ian who has explained it is unlikely the highway authority would support this proposal. Members, however, are not persuaded, particularly those with experience of SID sessions at the Guilden Sutton end which demonstrate not all drivers comply.*

*The Council strongly believes the provision of one flashing 30 in each direction at an appropriate location (which may be in either parish) is fully justified due to the special circumstances of the road as a principal access to a major recreational resource promoted by the borough council.*

*This is specifically tailored to the needs of pedestrians and cyclists yet the nature of the road leading to it is as described above. The absence of a footway is seen as fundamental and adds great weight to the justification for measures to increase safety.*

*We should be grateful if this might be pursued with the highway authority as a matter of urgency given the approach of Spring and Summer and increased visitor numbers.*

Advice to Area Engineer from Cllr S Parker.

*This seems a reasonable request in view of the Greenway attracting walkers and cyclists, as outlined by David Norbury. I live along the Lane so I can vouch for its increasing usage and the excessive speed of vehicles, albeit with a 30MPH designation*

*What if Margaret and I were willing to contribute say £1000.00 each from our budgets, could Highways support the rest?*

Response from Area Engineer.

*At present I am unaware of any agreed protocol for the provision of such signs.*

*Therefore I feel that such requests should be assessed along the same general guidelines that have been introduced for speed limit review assessments, in as much that the current speed and safety records for any location should be considered.*

*As the current accident statistics are a matter of record I will arrange for a speed / traffic count to be undertaken as soon as is practicable and will base my decision for funding upon these when I have the results.*

*If both elements show an existing problem then the highways would match fund the cost of provision, however if only one or neither factor exist then the promoter will be required to fund the whole cost.*

Response from the Chairman, Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council.

*I agree entirely with the points you have made. To have a pedestrianised way opening directly onto a now 30mph highway with poor sight lines is inviting an accident before too long.*

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*The road could be considered a 'quiet lane' but this no longer a category supported by the Borough. Rather than flashing 30mph signs which few obey, local speed watch monitoring could be more productive if the police act on the information sent to them. This also needs theirs and the Borough's roads department agreement on the siting of monitoring teams. The entrance to Silverdale is one possibility?*

Parish.

Note to Ward Members:

*You will be aware the Council operates regular SID sessions which demonstrate that not all drivers comply. In addition, it receives individual complaints with respect to the speed of traffic and this is identified as an issue in the adopted Parish Plan.*

*I have discussed this issue with Ian who has explained it is unlikely the highway authority would support this proposal. Members, however, are not persuaded, particularly those with experience of SID sessions at various locations in the village.*

*I should be grateful, therefore, if you would kindly ascertain the extent to which the highway authority would contribute to such an installation at a suitable point in the built up area of the parish which is estimated at £8k. This would be in the context of our also approaching yourselves for possible contributions from your Member budgets together with the Police and Crime Commissioner who has funds. The Council itself is also willing to make a proportionate allocation.*

(c) SID. Further to Cllr Moulton expressing concern about the standard of upkeep of the equipment, supported by Cllr Roberts and by Cllr Hughes, this had been raised with the ward members having been pursued by the Clerk with the Area Engineer. The ward members had asked to be informed should any difficulties arise. It was confirmed sessions should be booked by Cllr Moulton, who kindly agreed to continue to coordinate the rotas from April to September inclusive excluding August. It was noted two week bookings offered to the Council during 2013 had given rise to capacity issues but if offered these would continue to be accepted with the rota for the second week being shaped accordingly. **Action: Cllr Moulton.**

(d) Community Speed Management scheme. In respect of the Clerk being asked to circulate a 'Community Speed Management' scheme regarding speeding issues produced by Cheshire West and Chester the Traffic Group would consider the guidance and perhaps raise the A41/Guilden Sutton Lane junction, Guilden Sutton Lane, Station Lane and Wicker Lane. **Action: Traffic Group.**

(e) Speed awareness campaign. Cllr Roberts having raised the prospect of a speed awareness campaign supported by the highway authority and the ward members this would be progressed by the Traffic Group. The Clerk invited Members to note that on Thursday 23 January, the Police conducted a driver education day event in Waverton. Resources were concentrated on Common Lane and Eggbridge Lane, where enforcement of road traffic legislation took place. Cheshire Fire Brigade were in attendance to offer education to drivers committing minor motoring infringements. **Action: Traffic Group.**

(f) School Lane. Concerns per Mr P Crompton, Belle Vue Lane. The issue remained with the Traffic Group and PC Boulton.

(iii) (b) School parking. With reference to the possibility of a residents parking scheme and to CCTV surveillance, the Clerk was to approach the appropriate officer from Cheshire West and Chester Council. **Action: The Clerk.**

(c) Porters Hill. There was nothing further to report to that minuted previously following the meeting between the Clerk and the Area Engineer on Monday 25 November 2013.

(d) Flooding, Wicker Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) Planters. Cllr Moulton believed the planter on Station Lane had been relocated to accommodate the installation of a broadband cabinet. Further inquiries would be made by Cllr Ringstead. **Action: Cllr Ringstead.**

(f) Traffic group. There was nothing further to report at this stage other than that minuted above.

(g) 20 mph limit. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(h) Guilden Sutton Lane: footway drainage. There was nothing further to report at this stage. 13/14 160

(i) Winter gritting. There was nothing further to report to that minuted previously following the meeting between the Clerk and the Area Engineer on Monday 25 November 2013.

(j) Cycleways in the Guilden Sutton area. The Clerk informed of the following response from the Principal Engineer further to his inquiry as to the reinstatement of the original crossing to Hoole Lane which was being pursued by Mrs S Proctor, Pipers Ash.

*Please note that the scheme to provide and include for a cycleway crossing facility together with a crossing for pedestrians to which conforms to relevant standards was identified by our local safety section, together with other requests from A.N. Other users. The existing route provided crossings which lead to pedestrians walking across to an island of width approx. 1m before crossing to the footway across the slip road into Hoole Lane. Relevant notices were advertised for this particular scheme to allow cyclists to use the footway on the new crossing together with the approaches.*

*I implemented the scheme on site. Under construction I requested only that the footway link from Hare Lane be removed to encourage users to the new crossing which was to specification. I have since spoken to Sue Proctor and bearing in mind her concerns and local support to keep the existing crossing I instructed our contractor to reinstate the footpath so that locals could use at their option. Our Contractor managed to reinstate the Hare Lane side, but unfortunately there was insufficient time to complete the works in the central reservation area prior to Christmas.*

*Please note that this section of footway is to be reinstated, however, I will need to discuss with our contractor when they will be available and able to complete this work. Please note that under new regulations, our Contractor now needs to get permission from CWaC's 'Streetworks Section' in order to work on our highway. This requires relevant lead in notice times which will need to be adhered to, so it may be a few weeks before they are able to return to site.*

(k) Flashing 30s. There was nothing further to that minuted above and to the Area Engineer having drawn attention to newly introduced guidance that where measures to reduce speed were requested, these would be funded on a 50/50 basis if they complied with the requirements, otherwise the promoters would be responsible for 100% of the cost. It was likely the 2no flashing 30s proposed on Station Lane would not be funded or the 1 no installation proposed elsewhere in the village.

(l) Parking, Guilden Sutton Lane. Further to that minuted previously following the meeting between the Clerk and the Area Engineer on Monday 25 November 2013, the Chairman expressed renewed concern as to vehicles parking without lights within the 40mph limit. It was agreed this should be reported to PC Boulton.  
**Action: The Clerk.**

(m) Boundary fencing. Further to a Member referring to the condition of a length of boundary fencing adjoining a footway in the parish, this was being raised with the landowner. **Action: The Clerk.**

(n) Guilden Sutton Lane, sight lines. There was nothing further to report at this stage, Members having noted the Area Engineer had undertaken to monitor sight line issues at the junction of Heath Bank and Guilden Sutton Lane caused by parking and in the vicinity of the incoming bus stand caused by overgrowth.

(o) Station Lane, signage. Further to Cllr Hughes and Cllr Davis referring to defects with the village boundary sign and 30 signs, these had been reported.

(p) Gulleys, Oaklands. Further to Cllr Hughes referring to detritus obstructing gulleys, this had been reported.

(q) Mobility issues. Progress on sites for action identified by Cllr Paterson and the Network Steward would be revisited by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(r) Recent reports. The Clerk advised the highway authority had confirmed the following issues are in hand: Hedges on Wicker Lane, School Lane footway, Station Lane signs.

(iv) Lighting. (a) Faults. Further to Cllr Moulton referring to lights being obscured by trees on Guilden Sutton Lane, there was nothing further to report at this stage, the Clerk having informed he had observed an inspection being carried out. A fault affecting the light on the Fox Cover steps would be reported. (b) Lighting, Heath Bank and junction Church Lane/Fox Cover steps. These issues were being progressed by the Clerk, with priority being given to Heath Bank. The lighting authority had previously informed the cost would be in the region of £650 - £750 for each installation.

The Principal Lighting and Traffic Control Engineer had contacted the Clerk to advise that generally such schemes would not be funded by the lighting authority. Members noted the question of future power charges would need to be clarified. (c) New lighting, Guilden Sutton Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to whether ducting installed in the road verge towards the A41 was indicative of additional street lights.

9 Finance.

(i) Income:

Co-operative Bank Current account Interest 5 December 2014	£	4.04
CWAC Graveyard grant	£	250.00
Wreath donations 2013	£	18.00
CWAC New Homes Bonus	£	2,751.00
Scottish Widows no 1 31 December 2013	£	0.00
Scottish Widows no 2 31 December 2013	£	2.13

(ii) Payments

Guilden Sutton Pre School Christmas Tree	£	49.99
PIMS January inspections	£	36.00 (inc VAT £6.00)
St John's PCC Graveyard grant	£	250.00
Parish Plan		
Cheshire Community Action Display boards	£	25.00
B M Lewin Esq Printing	£	79.50
Clerk		
Expenses		
Postage	£	3.60
Mileage 16 miles @45p	£	7.20
Copies 522 @ 5p	£	<u>26.10</u>
	£	36.90

Proposed by Cllr Brown  
Seconded by Cllr Hughes  
and agreed.

(iii) Balances

Co-operative Bank  
Current account  
31 December 2013 £28,318.83

Scottish Widows 1  
1 January 2014 £20,004.59

Scottish Widows 2  
1 January 2014 £ 3,392.45

(iv) Finance: general. (a) Balances. Further to Cllr D Hughes revisiting the negligible rate of interest attracted by the balances, the Clerk was monitoring possible alternatives. The Clerk requested the Council to note that Scottish Widows was to close the Council's existing products which currently attract interest of 0.00% (no 1) and 0.25% (no 2) on 10 March 2014 and transfer both to separate Business Fund Deposit Accounts (both were currently trackers) paying 0.40%. **Action: Noted.**

(v) Report on contingency payments.

Budget: £ 983.00  
Payments: £ 0.00

(vi) Audit issues: external audit. There was nothing further to report.

(vii) Risk assessment. The Council continued to consider its measures for managing risk and noted that initial consideration of any issues arising would be referred on an ongoing basis to the Audit Group.

(viii) HMRC: (a) Real Time PAYE, Returns. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

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

(x) Clerk's gratuity. The Clerk informed he was progressing the proposed transfers for 2012/13 and 2013/14 calculated as follows:

2012/13.

$8.66\text{hrs pw} \times 11.549\text{ pr hr} \times 52 \times 3.75\% = \text{£}195.03$

2013/14

$8.66\text{hrs pw} \times 11.665\text{ pr hr} \times 52 \times 3.75\% = \text{£}196.99$  (total £392.02). **Action: Noted.**

(xi) Budget and precept 2014/15. The Clerk reported the precept request for 2014/15 had been revised as follows, as requested by Members, reflect the reduction in council tax grant.

Council tax scheme grant 2013/14	£ 702
Council tax scheme grant 2014/15	£ 639
Variation	£ 63

Proposed precept 2014/15	£16423
Less reduction in council tax scheme grant	£16360

Amount to be requested from borough council	
£16360 - £639 =	£15721.

This will result in a Band D local council tax charge of £25.60 in 2014/15 (2013/14 £25.65).

The Clerk confirmed the precept as calculated had been requested by the due date.

10 Environment Services.

(i) Waste collection and recycling issues. (a) General. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Amenity cleansing. (a) Areas of concern. The condition of the steps from Fox Cover to Church Lane, raised by Cllr Hughes, was being monitored together with that of the steps opposite from Cinder Lane to Church Lane. Overgrowth affecting that part of Wicker Lane in the vicinity of the vicarage where there was no footway and concerns as to the steps from Heath Bank to Guilden Sutton Lane were with the highway authority. (b) Lengthsman. The Clerk reported further. (c) Regular inspections. The suggestion raised by Cllr Moulton as to regular inspections throughout the parish with an increase in the lengthsman's hours would be revisited in due course. (d) Dog fouling: Requests remained outstanding for additional bins on School Lane and Garners Lane. Cllr Paterson hoped the bin recently installed on the dingle path at the rear of 46 Oaklands could be resited when the path was resurfaced to enable better access for maintenance equipment.

11 Trees and hedges.

(i) Hedges. The increasing obstruction of the footway on Guilden Sutton Lane and at other locations in the village by overgrown hedges during the growing season continued to be noted. Cllr Brown would make further inquiries as to a standard proforma to advise individual occupiers as appropriate known to be in use elsewhere. **Action: Cllr Brown.** This would be issued by the Clerk to avoid duplication. As a last resort, the highway authority would be requested to take action. The suggestion raised by Cllr Moulton as to regular inspections throughout the parish with an increase in the lengthsman's hours would be revisited in due course.

(ii) 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 given their proximity to public footpath no 2, a response remained outstanding from the Public Rights of Way Unit although the Clerk had previously indicated he believed on inspection that some work had been carried out. He reported a more recent request from the Streetscene supervisor as to the ownership of the land as she believed some felling was required.

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

(iv) Dingle path. Further to Cllr Hughes reporting a request from an adjoining occupier to fell two self set sycamores on private land adjoining this path which were stopping his enjoyment of oak trees in the group and to the Council agreeing it would have no objection subject to the consent of the landowner being obtained and, on the advice of the Tree Warden, approval being sought for the felling which was in a protected group, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Conifers adjoining parish playing field. Further to Cllr Fisher referring to the continuing growth of conifers in a property adjoining the parish playing field which he believed were now extending onto the field, these were being monitored as minuted above.

(vi) Hedge, access from Hill Top Road. It was noted the request to Streetscene for a cut in the Autumn had not been acknowledged and no action had been taken. This would be pursued with the Supervisor by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(vii) Growth, Wicker Lane/Church Lane junction. Growth at this junction continued to be monitored.

(viii) Overgrowth, Heath Bank. It was noted overgrowth on the steps and adjoining the footway had been referred to officers attending the November meeting.

(ix) Fallen material CDS, Oaklands. Further to Cllr Roberts raising this issue, the matter had been reported by the Clerk.

(x) Visibility, junction Guilden Sutton Lane/Guilden Sutton Lane CDS. Cllr Davis referred to the ongoing concern as to visibility for emerging vehicles being obstructed. This was being raised with the Area Engineer. **Action: The Clerk.**

(xi) Large trees. A Member's concern at two large trees, thought to be protected, adjoining or overhanging the highway had been referred to the Tree Warden.

(xii) Overgrowth, School Lane. Overgrowth at eye height obstructing the narrow length of footway on Porters Hill had been reported.

(xiii) Historic issues. Members who had historic issues detailed beneath were asked to advise the Clerk if they might be removed from the agenda:

(i) Hedges, Guilden Sutton Lane and elsewhere. (ii) Canopy, Porters Hill. (iii) Trees, land, Church Lane. (iv) Growth, Wicker Lane/Church Lane junction. (v) Hedge, Village Hall. (vi) Hedge adjoining ftpt 2. **Cllr Fisher.** (vii) Sycamore, Memorial Garden. **The Clerk/Cllr Brown.** (viii) Trees, Oaklands. **Cllr Brown/The Clerk.** (ix) Trees, dingle path. **Cllr Brown/The Clerk.** (x) Hedge off Hill Top Road (xi) Trees adjacent to Summerfield House (xii) Tree School Lane/Porters Hill. (xiii) Overgrowth, Wicker Lane, **Cllr Roberts.** (xiv) Concerns per Mrs Reeder, Hare Lane. **Cllrs D Hughes/Brown.** (xv) Overgrowth Guilden Sutton Lane/Heath Bank **Cllr Roberts.** (xvi) Overgrowth from tree, Hilltop Road. **Cllr Roberts.** (xvii) Falling branches, Oaklands CDS. **Cllr Roberts.**

12 Cheshire Association of Local Councils. (a) Chester Area Meeting. The Clerk advised a well attended meeting had taken place on Wednesday 29 January 2014 in HQ.

13 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

(i) Chester Villages Community Forum. There was nothing further to report. The inaudibility of proceedings would again be raised at an appropriate stage.

(ii) Community governance reviews.

(a) Guilden Sutton. Further to the borough council agreeing to transfer the land situated between Guilden Sutton Lane and the railway line from Hoole Village to Guilden Sutton parish, the need for the boundary to run along the highway fence line at the top of the Guilden Sutton Lane planting had been raised by the Clerk with the Senior Manager, Partnerships & Development. At the suggestion of the Clerk, the Senior Manager had consulted the Area Highways Manager as a result of which the boundary had been confirmed as following the fence line at the top of the embankment.

(b) Mickle Trafford and District. To note the Senior Manager, Partnerships & Development had kindly provided a map, circulated separately, of the changes to the parish boundary at the Guilden Sutton Lane diversion and Park Farm. This also redrew the boundary of the existing parish of Hoole Village at Guilden Sutton Lane to transfer the land situated between Guilden Sutton Lane and the railway line from Hoole Village to Guilden Sutton parish as detailed above.

Great Boughton. Following the borough council publishing formal notice of this review, it was noted this Council may comment on any outstanding parish boundary anomalies which had not yet been raised through earlier reviews. Should the Parish Council wish to make representations at this stage, the deadline for initial comments was **21 February 2014.** The Clerk informed he was preparing a representation which would propose that should the review committee wish to change the Guilden Sutton/Great Boughton boundary at Pipers Ash on the grounds it was no longer clear and distinct, the preference would be in general terms for the new parish boundary to run along the A41 and A51 to ensure all properties in Pipers Ash were within the same parish, the A41 being a clear boundary. This should be subject to consultation but in line with the previous consultation in Guilden Sutton, which favoured no change, would involve change for only a very few properties.

(iii) Members budgets applications: Replacement children's playground, CCTV, flashing 30. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) Community resilience. Cllr Paterson reported further.

(v) Budget consultation. The Clerk reminded Members the borough council was currently consulting on draft budget proposals for the next three years which involved savings of £50m. Details of the proposals could be found in the consultation document published online. The closing date for comments was 9 February 2014

(vi) Communications with rural communities, Senior Locality Manager Rural Communities Mr Ewan McHenry. The Clerk reminded Members of this previous correspondence which had referred to the locality working team working with Cheshire Police to arrange a focus group with rural communities to gather views and opinions on how the police communicate and engage. A short workshop / focus group had been envisaged towards the end of January 2014 for which Cllrs Moulton and Hughes had indicated. It had been reported to the Chester Area Meeting that in view of the present consultation arrangements undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner with local councils, any further forum was unnecessary. **Action: Noted.**

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

15 CPRE. There were no action items to report.

16 Health. There were no action items to report.

17 Policing/Fire Service.

(i) Policing: (a) Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner/Cheshire Constabulary meeting. The possibility of installing a 'flashing 30' partly financed by funds held by the Commissioner would be pursued as minuted above. **Action: The Clerk.** (b) Crime. There was nothing to report. (c) Homewatch. There was nothing further to report at this stage following the appointment of Mrs C Royle as overall co-ordinator for the village. (d) Police and Crime Commissioner. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Cheshire Fire Authority: Integrated Risk Management Plan 2014/15 Consultation. Members noted that although this consultation has closed, a summary of the plans as well as supporting material and a full copy of the IRMP 2014-15 could be accessed through visiting <http://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/home/current-consultation>.

18 Newsletter. A further issue would be prepared giving details of the budget and precept.

19 Memorial Garden. The Clerk reported the receipt of the following letter and accompanying report (attached to these minutes) from the Rector and Churchwardens to the Chairman.

*Dear Mr Moulton*

*I am contacting you as Chair of the Parish Council and on behalf of Mark Hart, Rector of St John's, Peter Reid and I as churchwardens regarding the village war memorial. I have attached a paper which, I hope, is self explanatory.*

*I have spoken to Derek Hughes who agrees that the issues raised should be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the PC next Monday 3rd February. Given that 2014 is the centenary of the beginning of WW1 there is some urgency about considering the matter, if anything is to be achieved by next November!*

*Richard Worth (Churchwarden)*

The Chairman and Cllr Fisher believed there should be no change to the established procedure of the two minute silence being observed at the memorial garden wherever the Remembrance Day service was held. Cllr Hughes questioned whether the Police resources needed to achieve a safe closure of the junction given today's traffic conditions was the correct use of Police time. It was agreed Members and dates should be canvassed for a preliminary meeting. **Action: The Clerk.**

20 Bulb planting. There was nothing further to report at this stage following Cllr Moulton indicating he wished to revisit the issue of bulb planting which he believed was a valuable activity for the Council to undertake and to Cllr Hughes advising there had been little enthusiasm from Members in recent years. Members would advise of any proposals for future planting sites.

21 Parish IT.

(a) Members' photographs. The need for photographs of Members to complete the web page remained outstanding.

(b) Google Groups (Parish Plan and Bird in Hand). There were no action items to report.

(c) Ownership of site. Further to Members revisiting the ownership of the site and the excellent work being carried out by the webmaster and to it being agreed the primary purpose should be to provide information to the community and that comment should generally be avoided particularly on sensitive issues, further consideration would be given to the terms of any disclaimer.

(d) Campaigns. The issue having been raised by the webmaster, Members discussed the preferred approach to the inclusion of campaigns and other issues on which there may be differing views within the web site, the primary purpose of which, as stated above, was to provide information to the community with comment being generally avoided particularly on sensitive matters. It was agreed an acceptable approach would be to signpost such material from the home page leaving the decision whether to visit or not to the visitor.

22 Primary School. Cllr Hughes reported further. **Action: Noted.**

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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 Community events. (i).Community cinema nights. Cllr Paterson reported on the cinema night held on Saturday 1 February 2014. **Action: Noted.**

25 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 would be pursued by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

26 Enhanced broadband. Cllr Paterson reported on the drop-in briefing event which had taken place on 21 January 2014 at Tarporley Community Centre.

27 Village Hall Management Committee. The Council was informed of a possible approach from the Guilden Sutton Community Association for a grant towards the cost of a replacement heating system which would be used to pump prime other funding applications. It was agreed an application should be made on the standard form

28 Electricity sub stations: Oaklands estate. Further to Cllr Brown referring to the condition of some electricity sub stations on the estate and to the matter being brought to the attention of Scottish Power, a response remained outstanding. This would be pursued. **Action: The Clerk.**

29 Village hall trade waste. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

30 Bird in Hand. The Chairman encouraged as many Members as possible to attend the next meeting of the Bird in Hand Support group.

31 First World War anniversary 2014. Further to the Clerk reminding Members of this anniversary and suggesting some thought might be given as to what should be done including adding the names of the fallen of the Great War to the memorial garden, this would now be considered as part of the discussions with the Rector and Churchwardens.

32 Members information items.

Groundworks, Wicker Lane. Cllr Hughes reported he had responded to a request by the Clerk, raised by the Chairman, as to groundworks being carried out in the field between Cinder Lane and The Byatts. These were in connection with power supplies. The Chairman provided an update.

33 Information correspondence. Members noted information items contained within the agenda and the late information report.

Matters considered in the absence of the press and public.

34 Highways issue. Further to a Member revisiting a highways issue which the Network Steward had understood would be resolved but on which no action had been taken there was nothing further to report following a further approach the Network Steward. **Action: Noted.**

The meeting concluded at 9.55pm.

Date of next ordinary meeting: Monday 3 March 2014