

Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 5 October 2015 in Guilden Sutton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Cllr P M Paterson.

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

In attendance: Cllr S Parker

1 Procedural matters.

(a) Apologies for absence.

Members: Nil.

Visitors. Cllr M Parker, Cllr P Hall, PC R Boulton. **Action: Noted.**

(b) Code of Conduct. 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.

Cllr S Ringstead declared an outside bodies interest with respect to any discussion relating to a planning application at the Village Hall by virtue of being secretary of the Guilden Sutton Community Association.

Cllr P M Paterson declared an outside bodies interest with respect to any discussion relating to a planning application at the Village Hall by virtue of being treasurer of the Guilden Sutton Community Association.

(c) Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 7 September 2015. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 7 September 2015 were proposed by Cllr Moulton, seconded by Cllr Ringstead and agreed subject to the principle of the occupancy condition requested on application 15/03260/FUL demolition of garage and erection of annex, 3 The Nook, Guilden Sutton being revisited at a future meeting.

(d) Review of handling of information correspondence. The continued increase in the volume of information correspondence being received would be assessed by the Clerk at the request of Cllr Paterson pending a review by the Council as to arrangements for its handling.

(e) E circulation of Agendas. The issue was in the hands of the Audit and Governance Group which would also consider the provision of tablets should a migration to paperless business be considered to be desirable. As a preliminary step, a question would be asked through ChALC of other Councils which had considered migration. With respect to tablets, Cllr Fisher and the Clerk would consider the utility of acquiring a suitable tablet to assist with consultations on planning applications. **Action: Audit and Governance Group, Cllr Fisher, the Clerk.**

(f) Dates of future meetings: 2 November and 7 December 2015.

The following dates were agreed for 2016. Mondays 4 January, 1 February, 7 March, 4 April, 9 May, 6 June, 11 July, 5 September, 3 October, 7 November and 5 December.

(g) Late information report 5 October 2015. The late information report for the current meeting was received and noted.

(h) Pipers Ash Advisory Panel. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

15/16 083

(i) Transparency requirements. The Clerk reported the requirements imposed by the £25,000 threshold figure should be taken into account on a year by year basis. Given the Council's commitment to transparency he would prefer to publish all the relevant information, much of which was already included on the web site, on a year by year basis irrespective of whether the threshold was reached subject to the agreement of the Webmaster with whom he was in discussion, in carrying out the additional work. **Action: The Clerk.**

(j) Parish Councils: Data Controllers. Further to Members and Clerks being advised to check they were meeting the legal requirements relating to data protection and to it being noted that all Borough Councillors were registered individually with the ICO as data controllers for their Council activities, further advice had been sought by the Clerk from ChALC. This indicated that Members should only register if they believed they organised and retained information. The Clerk would inquire as to the action he should take. **Action: The Clerk.**

(k) Volunteer of the Year. The Clerk indicated he had informed Mr Young of his award and had inquired if he wished a presentation at a meeting of the Council or not. The Chairman reported further. A formal response was awaited. **Action: The Clerk.**

2 Community engagement.

(a) Public speaking.

Cllr A Davis in the Chair. Cllr D Hughes, speaking from the public seats as Chairman of Guilden Sutton Community Association, kindly informed the Council of a forthcoming application by the Community Association for an extension to the Village Hall and helpfully circulated plans. Cllr Hughes indicated the new build was expected to be the final phase in the development of the hall. **Action: Noted.**

Cllr Paterson in the Chair. Cllr S Parker reported on issues currently under consideration by the borough council. He noted the possibility of an application to the Ward Members' budgets for an enhancement to the CCTV system at the Village Hall. With reference to properties at Willis Close Cllr Parker responded to the Chairman as to the future disposal of shared ownership properties. The Clerk indicated the application process for these had yet to be clarified. Cllr Roberts, supported by other Members, expressed concern the Council was not involved in the allocations. It was agreed a meeting should be sought with officers.

Cllr Moulton referred to the absence of the mobile library since June. It was understood the driver was sick. The Chairman observed that nonetheless residents continued to pay for a service which was not being provided.

Cllr Parker provided assurance to Cllr Davies that the monthly collection of non recyclable waste, reported elsewhere, was not under consideration.

Cllr Parker responded further to Members' questions and was thanked by the Chairman for his attendance.

(b) Surgeries. Report of surgery held on Saturday 3 October 2015. There were no issues. Cllrs Davis and Fisher would preside at the surgery due on 31 October 2015.

(c) Notice boards. The Clerk reported the contractor had replaced the notice board transferred from Great Boughton at Green Lane South at the agreed price and was to refurbish that board and transfer it to the Parish Car Park, Church Lane in place of the existing which at the minimum required repairs. Members had been requested to inspect the new board prior to payment of the invoice which had now been received.

3 Planning.

(a) New and current applications.

Pruning of sycamore and yew trees Open for Comment
Cedar Lodge School Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EU
Ref. No: 15/03979/TPO | Received: Fri 25 Sep 2015 | Status: Awaiting decision. NEW APPLICATION.
Cllr Brown.
For information only.

First floor side extension and single storey rear extension Open for Comment
Bramble View Belle Vue Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EJ

Ref. No: 15/03777/FUL | Received: Tue 15 Sep 2015 | Status: Awaiting decision. NEW APPLICATION.
Cllrs Fisher and Ringstead indicated.

Two storey side extension and front porch Open for Comment
8 Arrowcroft Road Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7ES
Ref. No: 15/03750/FUL | Received: Fri 11 Sep 2015 | Status: Awaiting decision. NEW APPLICATION.
Cllrs Hughes/Davis.
Following a report it was agreed no objection should be raised.

Single storey rear extension
43 Oaklands Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HE
Ref. No: 15/03297/FUL | Received: Thu 06 Aug 2015 | Status: Approved. NEW DECISION.
Cllr Davis, Moulton.
No objection.

Demolition of garage and erection of annex
3 The Nook Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HB
Ref. No: 15/03260/FUL | Received: Wed 05 Aug 2015 | Status: Approved
Cllr Paterson, Ringstead.
No objection.

Replacement of existing garage flat roof with new pitched roof
1 Wood Croft Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7SS
Ref. No: 15/03040/FUL | Received: Mon 20 Jul 2015 | Status: Approved

Demolish a ground floor bathroom and construct two storey rear and single storey side extension. Re-position Front door.
3 Ash Bank Hare Lane Chester Cheshire CH3 7EH
Ref. No: 15/02796/FUL | Received: Fri 03 Jul 2015 | Status: Approved. NEW DECISION
(Decision received via Great Boughton Parish Council).

Single Storey Extension to Front
1 Oaklands Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HE
Ref. No: 15/02676/FUL | Received: Thu 25 Jun 2015 | Status: Approved

Chester House, Hare Lane. Members noted development of this site was in progress. The land, with permission for three dwellings, two semi detached (13/05092), had been sold with an asking price of £300,000.

The report for approved application 15/01299 for 2 no dwellings was now available on the borough council web site.

Chester RU Football Club. Further to Cllr Fisher asking if changes to the entrance to the club which had affected the swept entrance had been the subject of a planning application, inquiries by the Clerk had not disclosed any proposal. **Action: Noted.**

(c) Unconventional energy sources. Proposed IGas Seismic Survey - Guilden Sutton Parish Council Area.

Documents relating to a 3D survey by TESLA Exploration in the Ellesmere Port/Chester area which included the parish were being considered by Cllr Fisher. It was noted that such surveys were considered to be permitted development but there was a requirement for TESLA to obtain the landowner's permission before entering onto land. The parish was included in the second phase of the overall survey which was being carried out in two phases.

It was noted a community exhibition was to take place on Thursday 8 October 2015 from 3pm-8pm at Chester Rugby Union Football Club, Hare Lane, Littleton. Cllr Fisher and the Clerk indicated.

(d) Development control process. (i) e notifications. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) Community planning.

(i) Parish Plan. There was nothing to report at this stage.

(ii) Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Paterson reported further. Replies to the questionnaire which had been circulated totalled 170. Two public meetings were to take place in November.

The suggestions received from Mrs S R Proctor, Ash Bank, as to desirable actions in the newly acquired areas of Pipers Ash, remained under consideration by the Clerk. Those already not in hand would be pursued with the Area Manager, Place Operations or other appropriate officers/organisations by the Clerk.
Action: The Clerk.

The Council noted advice from Cheshire West and Chester Council as to new guidance notes available in Neighbourhood Planning Toolkit.

(iii) Bird in Hand Support Group. Further to the Council noting advice from Mr B M Lewin that the owner of the Bird in Hand had given the current tenant three months notice to vacate by the end of October together with correspondence from Mrs S Davies on behalf of the Support Group and Cllr Ringstead, the Clerk informed an inquiry had been made of the owner. A response was awaited.

(f) Affordable housing policy. Willis Close. Further to the ward Members being requested to seek clarification as to the allocations position as a member of a fourth generation family in the village had been advised they may only apply if they are already on the waiting list despite having a local tie and to the Chairman believing the Council should be involved to ensure local people who required housing were considered and that the process must be transparent the Clerk reported a response had been received from the Senior Manager, Strategic Housing and Commissioning.

This provided the Affordable Housing Statement which covered the letting of the homes and asked to be informed of any further concerns. It was further stated that it was usual practice for all affordable rent homes to be let to households who had registered and were eligible to be on the Housing Register and that a single person without children would not be eligible for a house.

The Senior Manager had also explained the borough council and its Housing Association partners had agreed an allocations policy and this determined eligibility and priority based on housing need. The register determined whether a household was in need through its priority banding scheme. The Parish Council had been right to point out that the affordable housing condition did not specifically state that applicants should be on the housing register and this would be amended in the future.

Members remained greatly exercised at what they perceived to be the distance to which they were being kept from the allocations process and their subsequent lack of understanding and were insistent an officer should attend to deal with this.

(g) Strategic Planning.

(i) Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies - Issues Consultation. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

4 Quality Council issues.

(a) Training. ChALC 2015 Training Schedule. Members would indicate should they wish to attend any training in this schedule. **Action: All Members.**

Councillor 3 training. 15 September 2015. No Members had indicated.

(b) Standing Orders review. See beneath.

(c) Local Council Award Scheme.). The Clerk had attended the County Office on Wednesday 23 September 2015 to discuss the Local Council Award Scheme and the extent to which the Council met the Foundation stage requirements with the Assistant Chief Officer. The Clerk had since registered the Council's interest, which has been acknowledged, for which there would be a fee of £50 payable to NALC.

5 Parish car park.

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

(b) Improvement scheme. Members remained of the view that a concrete boundary topped by cobbles would be the preferred solution if a suitable contractor could be found.

In the meantime the effect of the works completed by the previous grounds maintenance contractor was being kept under review. **Action: All Members.**

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

(d) Trees. The Clerk was informing the Warden of the previous price and date. **Action: The Clerk.** Further to the advice from the tree contractor of a split in the left hand side rear tree, the warden would inspect although the advice was no action was required at present. **Action: Cllr Brown.**

6 Leisure Services

(a) Children's Playing Field.

(i) Grounds maintenance issues including litter bin emptying. There were no issues to report.

(ii) Mole infestation. The Clerk advised there was presently one possible mole hill.

(iii) Further to a Member informing of the encroachment of an adjoining boundary hedge and to the issue being raised by the grounds maintenance, the matter was being progressed with the occupier by Cllr Davis and The Clerk. **Action: Cllr Davis/The Clerk.**

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

(v) Inspections. The Clerk advised there were no current issues.

(vi) Playing Pitch Study. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(vii) Playing field provision. The Vice Chairman kindly agreed to approach a landowner as to a possible future field.

(b) Children's Play Area.

(i) CCTV and CCTV protocol. (a) 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. See also beneath. (b) 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.** (c) Maintenance. Cllr Paterson and the Clerk had attended a site meeting with Chester Security on Monday 14 September 2015. The contractor had subsequently provided estimates for maintenance and/or enhancement to the system. Cllr Hughes expressed concern at the money which had historically been expended on the system. It was agreed the contractor would be asked to advise of a suitable installed system which the Council would arrange to visit. **Action: The Clerk.**

(ii) Inspections. The Clerk informed there were no current issues apart from corrosion affecting the 4 no benches. This would be reported.

(iii) Replacement children's playground. The Clerk was providing Cllr Hughes with a CAD image of the project as proposed. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iv) Grounds maintenance issues including boundary hedging. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Smoke free playgrounds. Further to the Clerk registering an expression of interest with respect to an initiative by Cheshire West and Chester Council to erect signage at the Parish Council's expense promoting playground areas as smoke free, the likely cost of which would be advised to the Council, there was nothing further to report at this stage. **Action: Noted.**

(c) Public Footpaths.

(i) Restricted Byway no 7 proposed improvement. The Council noted the Public Rights of Way Officer (North Chester & Ellesmere Port) had indicated no objection to the proposed improvement subject to prior approval. The completion of a form was being progressed through the Public Rights of Way Warden.

(ii) Footpath 2. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

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

(iv) Footpath 3. Further to the concerns expressed by the Public Rights of Way Warden as to the state of the bank and a leaning wall adjacent to Footpath 3 at the rear of houses on Cinder Lane, there was nothing further to report at this stage. The matter would be revisited by the Clerk with the warden in due course.

Action: The Clerk.

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

(vi) Mid Cheshire Footpath Society. There were no action items to report.

(vii) Greenway, Mobility access, Garners Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(d) Grounds Maintenance. (i) Cheshire West and Chester. The Council continued to monitor the extent to which arisings were distributed on footways, in gulleys and in the highway when cutting followed vigorous growth. (ii) Parish Council contract 2015/16. Further to the Vice Chairman informing of the receipt of a complaint as to the annual cut of the playing field hedge, a formal approach had been made to the contractor as to future assurances. The Clerk advised a reply had been received which confirmed the standard practice adopted by the contractor which was said to meet the requirements. **Action: Noted.**

(e) Public Seats: Guilden Sutton Lane/Wicker Lane. Members continued to note the Council would need to consider action for future maintenance following the closure of Messrs Deva Forge. Advice would be sought as to the capacity of Northwich Town Council. **Action: The Clerk.**

(f) Fox Cover: Landscaping. Continued growth in this area was being monitored.

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

(h) Wild flower meadow. Further to the Chairman referring to possible planting at the dingle path including marsh marigolds, the agreed quantity of marsh marigold seeds had been obtained Cllr Paterson.

(i) Hare Lane beacon. The Clerk informed Cllr Pamela Hall, Great Boughton ward, was kindly pursuing the overgrowth with officers in the absence of any progress report. Officers had reported the issue, reference 101003171145. Mr G Proctor had indicated he would advise as to the procedure for lighting the beacon. It was noted the present overgrowth in the area which was not present when the beacon was installed somewhat precluded crowds gathering.

(j) Open Space, Sport and Recreation study, Town and Parish Councils, Needs and aspirations. This survey was being dealt with by Cllr Paterson due to links with the neighbourhood plan. **Action: Cllr Paterson.**

(k) Active Cheshire. Further to the Council considering and accepting the offer from Active Cheshire to present to the Council about their Plan, local issues around transport, facilities, access to services, young people and rural isolation and opportunities available through Active Cheshire and Sport England, this was being progressed by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(l) Cultural Services Review - Public Consultation (Cheshire West and Chester Council). The Council received this consultation. It was noted a response was due by 2 December 2015.

7 Public transport.

(a) Services, general.

(i) Withdrawal of DB8 (part). There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Withdrawal of C27 replaced by C26. Further to the concerns raised by residents, the Clerk was forwarding the petition to Mr John Ellis Jones, Assistant Team Leader, Planning and Strategic Transport, Places Strategy at the borough council to demonstrate the strength of feeling. He indicated Mr Jones was agreeable to attending the village to discuss alternative transport solutions in particular with regard to access to the doctor's surgery in Hoole. **Action: Noted.** Diversion of service 21. Members noted a response to Mr J Browne, Summerfield House from Arriva declining to divert this service.

(b) 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 Manager, Place Operations.

8 Highways

(a) Strategic issues. None.

(b) Issues with the highway authority, ownership by Traffic Group. A meeting of the Group was to take place to consider current issues.

(c) Current issues.

(i) Community speed management.

(a) SID. Further to Members being informed of unattended SID sessions taking place on Guilden Sutton Lane operated by the PCSO Cllr Moulton would discuss with officers the lease requirement for borough council owned devices to be attended. **Action: Cllr Moulton.** The SID session intended for September had been cancelled due to the indisposition of Cllr Moulton, the co-ordinator.

From experience elsewhere it was understood a mobile SID could be obtained by the Parish Council at a cost of £3k.

(b) Community Speed Management guidance. There was nothing further to report at this stage **Action: Traffic Group.**

(c) 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.**

With respect to speed activated signs, Members were reminded the Area Manager, Place Operations had undertaken to arrange for a speed / traffic count to be carried out on Station Lane as soon as practicable and would base his decision for funding on the results. If both elements showed an existing problem the highway authority would match fund the cost of provision, however if only one or neither factor existed then the Parish Council would be required to fund the whole cost. The current position would be ascertained. **Action: The Clerk.**

(d) Speed activated sign, Guilden Sutton Village.(2127074). There was nothing further to report at this stage. The current position would be ascertained. **Action: The Clerk.**

PC Boulton was kindly assisting in determining if the Police would be prepared to provide support which may enable an application to the Police and Crime Commissioner. This would enable a second location to be equipped given the availability of the funding which had now been released.

(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. **Action: Traffic Group.** Consideration would also be given to the creation of a Community Speed Watch Area. Further details were being sought by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

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

(ii) School parking. There was nothing further to report at this stage further to the Rural Localities Officer indicating she was aware of actions which could be taken.

(iii) Planter. Green space, junction of Hare Lane and Green Lane South. This was being progressed by the Clerk following the site meeting which had taken place on Monday 20 July 2015 attended by himself and Mr Karl Siteine, Streetscene which had agreed the position on the green of the proposed planter and supply arrangements. The Clerk reported a favourable quotation had been received from Mr J Carswell for 4 no inscriptions.

(iv) Traffic group. There was nothing further to report at this stage other than that minuted above. 15/16 089

(v) Guilden Sutton Lane: footway drainage. In addition to renewed obstruction of the footway by flooding from the adjacent field which had been reported to the highway authority by the Clerk, reference 4767529, the matter now lay with the Area Manager, Place Operations.

(vi) Parking, Guilden Sutton Lane. Further to Cllr Moulton expressing renewed concern as to vehicles parking without lights within the 40mph limit, advice had been received from PC Boulton that he had assessed the issues reported to him but action was not justified although the position would continue to be monitored. **Action: Noted.**

(vii) Boundary fencing. Further to a Member referring to the condition of a length of boundary fencing adjoining a footway in the parish and to this being raised with the landowner there was nothing further to report at this stage. **Action: Noted.**

(viii) Guilden Sutton Lane, sight lines. 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 were understood to be being monitored by the Area Manager, Place Operations. Overgrowth at the junction of the diversion and the CDS had also been referred.

(ix) Village access for mobility scooters. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(x) A 41 Speed limit. Further to the Clerk inquiring of the Area Manager, Place Operations as to the short length of 60mph which remained on Guilden Sutton Lane following the introduction of the 50mph restriction on the A41, this was to be considered under the assessment of Hare Lane as minuted beneath.

(xi) Disabled parking bay, Summerfield Road. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the surgery request for the provision of a disabled parking bay in front of the Summerfield Road shops which had been referred to the highway authority and had been logged on as 2127075 and passed to the relevant Engineer.

(xii) Sight line, Copple's corner. Further to Cllr Moulton expressing concern at sight lines being obstructed by cars parking on the verge/footway, advice had been received from PC Boulton that he had assessed the issues reported to him but action was not justified although the position would continue to be monitored. **Action: Noted.**

(xiii) Footway, School Lane. Further to Cllr Paterson referring to the unevenness of the footway between Arrowcroft Road and Oaklands (opposite Wood Farm), there was nothing further to report at this stage. The matter had been raised with the highway authority (2127961) and passed to an inspector for action. Cllr Brown having further referred to uneven pavements elsewhere would provide the Clerk with details. **Action: Cllr Brown.**

(xiv) School access footway, rear Orchard Croft. The position remained that further to the concerns raised by Members at the July meeting, the ward members had been requested to escalate this issue to director level to determine the issue. The outcome remained disappointing in that despite extremely effective sweeping following an inspection, about which this Council had no complaint and a great deal of work at the rear of the village hall, there was no firm commitment to schedule the cutting back of overgrowth or to rectify the surface faults. This had been pressed by the Clerk. **Action: Noted.**

(xv) Assessment, 60mph limit Hare Lane/Belle Vue Lane. The Council noted the highway authority had indicated it was hoped to carry out the assessment by the end of October. It would then discuss the outcome with the Parish Council and how the Council wished to proceed. The remaining derestricted section of Guilden Sutton Lane would also be included.

(xvi) Speed limit, Wicker Lane. Further to Mr D Walters, Wicker House making an approach to Cllr S Parker re the existing 60mph limit on Wicker Lane there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(xvii) Water, Porters Hill. Further to it being noted water had been flowing down Porters Hill following heavy rainfall and to the Clerk advising this was issuing from a BT chamber, the matter had been reported. The Vice Chairman reported an inspection had been observed.

(xviii) Gutter weeds. Cllr Ringstead expressed concern at the state of gutters in the parish.

(xix) A41/A51 junction. Further to Cllr Fisher referring to the possibility of a yellow box junction being implemented in view of the frequent congestion this would be discussed by the Clerk at his intended meeting with Place Operations.

(d) Lighting.

(i) Faults. Members were asked to continue to report faults to the Clerk for reporting with details.

9 Finance:

(a) Income

Co-operative Bank

Bank interest

September

£ Statement awaited

(b) Payments.

John Carswell

Green Lane South notice board

7596

£ 456.00 (inc VAT £78.00)

Patricia Paterson

Marsh marigold seeds

4416

£ 13.61

Post Office

(HMRC BR)

£ 289.60

Clerk

Salary

1 July - 30 September 2015

£1157.96 (net including 13 hours lengthsmen)

Mrs P Blythe

Playing field rent October – December

£ 160.00

Clerk's expenses

Postage

£ 2.79

Mileage

61 @45p

£ 23.85 (inc County Office)

Copies

394 @5p

£ 19.70

£ 46.34

Proposed by Cllr Hughes

Seconded by Cllr Roberts

and agreed.

(c) Balances

Co-operative Bank

Current account

28 August 2015

£34424.02

Scottish Widows no 1

1 July 2015

£20109.42

Scottish Widows no 2

1 July 2015

£ 3411.81

Scottish Widows (following gratuity payment transfer)

Scottish Widows No 1
2 September 2015 £19519.33 (transfer out £590.09)

Scottish Widows no 2
2 September 2015 £ 4001.90

(d) Finance: general. (i) Balances. Further to Cllr D Hughes revisiting the negligible rate of interest attracted by the balances, this continued to be monitored.

(e) Report on contingency payments.

Budget: £ 983.00
Payments: £ 0.00

(f) Audit issues.

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

(h) Clerk's gratuity. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(i) Insurance issues. Renewal. Further to the Clerk referring the renewal documents to the Audit and Governance Group, it was noted the insurers had confirmed the Council's renewal from 1 October 2015. These documents had also been circulated to the Audit and Governance Group. **Action: Audit and Governance Group.**

(j) Audit and Governance. It was noted the Chairman and Clerk had met on Thursday 17 September 2015 to review current issues.

(k) Financial Services Compensation Scheme, policy change. Advice from the National Association of Local Councils was with the Audit and Governance Group. **Action: Noted.**

10 Environment Services.

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

(b) Environmental issues.

(i) 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 former vicarage where there was no footway and concerns as to the steps from Heath Bank to Guilden Sutton Lane were with the borough council. Further to the correspondence from Mr Tony Fisher, Killearn House, Church Lane as to the verge at the junction of Wicker Lane and School Lane, which had been referred to the supervisor, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

Other Streetscene issues being monitored included visibility at the junction of the Guilden Sutton Lane diversion and the CDS, opposite Wood Farm at the junction of Oaklands and School Lane due to basal growth on nearby oaks, at the junction of Wicker Lane and Church Lane and nettles on the Church Lane steps.

A 51 footway adjoining the Rugby Club. There was nothing further to report as this stage as to Cllr P Hall informing of a complaint from a Vicars Cross resident with respect to overgrowth between the traffic signals and Hare Lane. There was presently a disappointing response from the borough council offering no action and indicating that residents should be encouraged to self report.

(ii) Lengthsman. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iii) 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. 15/16 092

(iv) Dog fouling: Requests remained outstanding for additional bins on School Lane and Garners Lane together with that from Cllr Ringstead for a bin on Station Lane to assist users of the greenway.

Further to Cllr Paterson referring to a recent borough council initiative enabling fouling to be marked with pink paint, a supply of which had been requested under 101002823537, the issue had been pursued but no response had been received.

The concerns raised by Mrs G Jones via the Public Rights of Way Warden as to dog fouling which had been circulated remained under consideration..

11 Trees and hedges.

(a) 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.

Cllr Moulton expressed concern at the general overgrowth of hedges obstructing footways.

The new issue raised by Mrs G Jones via the Public Rights of Way Warden which had been circulated remained under consideration.

(b) 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 there was nothing further to report at this stage. Cllr Paterson's concerns as to the state of other trees adjacent to the path remained.

(c) 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, action was now being taken by the Clerk as minuted above.

(d) Growth, Wicker Lane/Church Lane junction. Growth at this junction continued to be monitored. (minute 10 (b) refers).

(e) Overgrowth, Heath Bank. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(f) Visibility, junction Guilden Sutton Lane/Guilden Sutton Lane CDS. Further to Cllr Davis referred to the ongoing concern as to visibility for emerging vehicles being obstructed, this issue was with Area Manager, Place Operations.

(g) Basal growth Oaklands. Basal growth on the oaks at the junction with School Lane and Oaklands opposite Wood Farm had been reported at the request of the Chairman. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(h) Overgrowth Guilden Sutton Lane/Heath Bank. **Cllr Roberts**. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(i) Trees, dingle path, There was nothing further to report at this stage as to a constituent in Guilden Green raising concerns with Cllr M Parker who was progressing the issue having spoken to the Clerk.

(j) Replacement trees, Scottish Power. The suggestion by Cllr Hughes re 2 no cherry, 2 no flowering crab trees and 1 no almond tree being planted in the bank to the rear of the parish car park had been actioned by the Clerk.

Members who had raised particular issues listed above were requested to indicate to the Clerk if they should remain on the agenda.(k) Hedges and trees overhanging the highway, advice from Place Operations. Advice from Place Operations was received and noted.

(l) Tree felling, Janet Tindle, **Cllr Brown**. The Clerk informed he had provided a response to Mrs Tindle following an approach as to felling particularly on the dingle path. **Action: Noted.**

(m) Trees, general. Cllr Hughes informed he was frequently approached by residents concerned at the threatening nature of large trees on both public and private land within the parish. It was agreed a Tree Officer should be invited to visit. **Action: The Clerk.**

(n) Cheshire Wildlife Trust. It was noted a meeting was to be held on Tuesday 13 October 2015 from 7.30pm-9pm at Bickley Barn to discuss the future management of the Cheshire Tree Warden scheme.

12 Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

(a) Chester Area Meeting. It was noted a Chester & Vale Royal Area Meeting would take place on Monday 2 November 2015 from 7pm at Castle Park, Frodsham. (b) Audit and Finance Update. This had been referred to the Audit Group. (c) Changes to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme for Local Councils. This had been circulated separately to the Audit Group. (d) Annual meeting. It was noted the Annual Meeting would now take place on 29 October 2015 in Middlewich Civic Hall and not as previously advised. (e) Planning seminar 20 October 2015. The additional date was noted. (f) Pensions Update Session, Monday 12 October 2015. Details of this event were received and noted.

13 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

(a) Community governance reviews.

(i) Guilden Sutton. There was now nothing further to report.

(ii) Great Boughton. Further to Cllr Fisher suggesting information should be sought as to the precept levels in Guilden Sutton and Great Boughton this had been researched by the Clerk who would contact Cllr Fisher. **Action: The Clerk.**

(b) Members budgets applications. (Speed activated indicators, 2 no Bracket lights, Defibrillator.) There was nothing further to report at this stage following the Clerk meeting Sarah Dobbins, Rural Localities Officer, Cheshire West and Chester Council, to discuss progress with Member Budget grant funded schemes and other issues.

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

(d) Community resilience. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) Precepts. The disparity in precepts across the borough raised by Cllr Fisher had been researched by the Clerk who would contact Cllr Fisher. **Action: The Clerk.**

(f) Public Space Protection Order in Chester. It was noted this consultation had a closing date of 15 October 2015. **Action: Noted.**

(g) Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - Public Consultation. Correspondence has been circulated. **Action: Noted.**

(h) Community Energy Question Time 10 September 2015. Further to correspondence having been circulated, it had not been possible for the Council to be represented.

14 Cheshire Community Action.

(i) Future funding. There was nothing further to report at this stage further to the Clerk signing the e petition requesting DEFRA to continue funding for community councils.

15 CPRE. An action item relating to the Green Belt nationally had been referred to Cllr Brown.

16 Health.

(a) Public access defibrillator. There was nothing further to report at this stage, the Clerk having informed that Sarah Dobbins, Rural Localities Officer, Cheshire West and Chester Council was in a position to advise on procurement and training.

17 Policing/Fire Service.

(i) Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner, meeting With Parish & Town Council Representatives 30 July 2015. Tarvin. Notes of the issues raised with the Police & Crime Commissioner had been circulated by the Clerk.

Members noted the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 4 November 2015 at 6.30pm in the Civic Hall, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port.

(ii) Crime. There were no action items to report.

(iii) Homewatch. There were no action items to report.

(iv) Crime fund. The possibility of the proposed 'flashing 30' being partly financed by funds held by the Commissioner would be pursued in the event of evidence which met the guidelines becoming available.

Action: The Clerk.

(v) PCSO funding. The Clerk informed of an approach from Mickle Trafford and District PC as to shared funding of a PCSO. A response was due by 14 October 2015. After due consideration, Members were not persuaded to depart from their settled policy that such funding would be double taxation and should be resisted. Mickle Trafford and District PC would be advised. **Action: Noted.**

(vi) Public meeting. The Council noted the Chief Constable and the Police & Crime Commissioner were holding a Working Together public meeting and stakeholder event at The West Cheshire College, Eaton Road, Handbridge, Chester CH4 7ER on Wednesday 7 October 2015 from 7pm to 8pm.

(vii) PC R Boulton, Further to his attendance at the September meeting of the Council at which he had spoken to revised policing arrangements which were in place, the Council noted correspondence from PC Boulton as Beat Manager for the wards of Elton and Chester Villages.

(viii) Have Your Say Survey. Members noted this survey intended to inform the Commissioner's decisions on policing and budgeting.

18 Newsletter. The Clerk hoped to be able to produce an Autumn issue. **Action: Noted.**

19 War Memorial.

(i) Memorial Garden. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to a possible modest poppy installation.

Further to the Clerk referring to the overgrown state of the garden, it was noted this had been tidied by the contractor. **Action: Noted.**

20 Bulb planting. The informal approach adopted in 2014 was revisited.

21 Parish IT.

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

(ii) Ownership of site. Further to Members revisiting the ownership of the site, further consideration would be given to the need, if necessary to revise the terms of the current disclaimer.

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

22 Primary School. Cllr Hughes reported on the appointment of Governors.

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) Film group. It was noted the next showing would take place on 17 October 2015.

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(ii) Christmas tree project. Further to the Council agreeing its annual contribution of £50 towards a community tree should continue under a transfer to the costs associated with the permanent tree in place in the grounds of the Village Hall, in future the payment would be made through Guilden Sutton Community Association with the first such payment of £100 to cover 2014 and 2015 to be made in December 2015.

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 had been pursued by the Clerk. Documentation received was under review. **Action: The Clerk.**

26 Village Hall Management Committee. Cllr Hughes reported further.

27 Electricity sub stations: Oaklands estate. There was nothing further to report as to the condition of some electricity sub stations on the estate which had been brought to the attention of Scottish Power.

28 Members' information items.

There were no issues not appropriate to be included within the general body of the minutes.

29 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.

30 Highways issue. Further to a Member revisiting a highways issue which the previous Network Steward had understood would be resolved but on which no action had been taken and to the Clerk advising the issue has been re referred to the highway authority, there was nothing further to report at this stage. Further action would be taken by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

31 Unconventional energy sources. The Clerk reported the offer by IGas to provide further information following the community day minuted above had been accepted in principle.

Matters considered in the absence of the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 2129 .

Date of next meeting: Monday 2 November 2015

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