

Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 7 September 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.

In attendance: PC R Boulton, PCSO D Netherton and six members of the public

1 Procedural matters.

(a) The late Mr R J K Bayton. The Chairman informed the Council had been saddened to learn of the death on holiday in Cyprus of Mr R J K Bayton, a former Member and Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the Parish Plan Implementation Group who would be greatly missed. The funeral had taken place on Thursday 13 August 2015 in St John's and the Chairman had tendered the Council's condolences. The meeting stood in respect.

(b) Apologies for absence.

Members: An apology was received and accepted from Cllr M S J Roberts..

Visitors. Cllr M Parker, Cllr S Parker, Cllr P Hall. **Action: Noted.**

(c) 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.

(d) Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 13 July 2015. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 13 July 2015 were proposed by Cllr Moulton, seconded by Cllr Ringstead and agreed.

(e) 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.

(f) 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. **Action: Audit and Governance Group.**

(g) Dates of future meetings: 5 October, 2 November and 7 December 2015.

(h) Late information report 7 September 2015. The late information report for the current meeting was received and noted.

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

(j) Transparency requirements. The Clerk was ascertaining the impact of these requirements on the Council given the £25,000 threshold figure had been exceeded during 2015/15 due to the play area refurbishment. **Action: The Clerk.**

(k) 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, it was agreed further advice should be sought by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

15/16 069

(l) Volunteer of the Year. The Council received a nomination of Jack Young Esq as Volunteer of the Year 2014/15 for his actions in assisting a collapsed diabetic. This was unanimously agreed. **Action: The Clerk.**

(m) Registers of interests. The Clerk advised the Registers of Members' interests had been scanned in by the borough council and returned to the Clerk.

## 2 Community engagement.

(a) Public speaking. Members of the public present spoke to the withdrawal of the C27 and the effect on travel to the shops in Hoole, Park Medical Centre, Fountains Medical Centre, the railway station and main bus services from Chester. The loss of the Saturday service was also referred to. A petition was submitted. Members of the public present were thanked for their attendance.

PC R Boulton. PC Boulton introduced himself as Beat Manager, Chester Villages and Elton wards and referred to the new arrangements for policing introduced on 6 July 2015 and to current issues. PC Boulton and PCSO Netherton responded further to Members' questions and were thanked for their attendance.

(b) Surgeries. Reports of surgeries held on Saturday 1 August 2015 (Cllrs Davis, Hughes) and Saturday 5 September 2015. (Cllrs Paterson, Roberts). **Action: Noted.** It was agreed that Cllrs Moulton and Fisher would preside at the surgery due on 3 October 2015.

(c) Notice boards. The Clerk reported the contractor was proposing to replace the notice board transferred from Great Boughton at Hare Lane at the agreed price and 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. **Action: Noted.**

## 3 Planning.

(a) New/recent applications.

Single storey rear extension Open for Comment  
43 Oaklands Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HE  
Ref. No: 15/03297/FUL | Received: Thu 06 Aug 2015 | Status: Awaiting decision. NEW APPLICATION.  
Cllrs Davis, Moulton. No objection.

Demolition of garage and erection of annex Open for Comment  
3 The Nook Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HB  
Ref. No: 15/03260/FUL | Received: Wed 05 Aug 2015 | Status: Awaiting decision. NEW APPLICATION.  
Cllrs Paterson, Ringstead. No objection. At the suggestion of Cllr Hughes it was agreed a condition should be required that the annexe should not be occupied as a separate dwelling.

Replacement of existing garage flat roof with new pitched roof  
1 Wood Croft, Guilden Sutton, Chester, Cheshire.  
Ref no: 15/03040/FUL; 22 July 2015. Approved. NEW APPLICATION, NEW DECISION.

Demolish a ground floor bathroom and construct two storey rear and single storey side extension. Re-position Front door. Open for Comment  
3 Ash Bank Hare Lane Chester Cheshire CH3 7EH  
Ref. No: 15/02796/FUL | Received: Fri 03 Jul 2015 | Status: Awaiting decision. NEW APPLICATION  
The Clerk had inquired as to the non receipt of the documents for this proposal.

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. NEW APPLICATION. NEW DECISION.

Single storey extension with garage conversion to form a lounge and shower room  
1 Green Lane Pipers Ash Chester Cheshire CH3 7EQ  
Ref. No: 15/02617/FUL | Received: Mon 22 Jun 2015 | Status: Approved NEW APPLICATION, NEW DECISION.  
The Clerk had been informed this proposal was incorrectly referred to Great Boughton Parish Council.

Felling of Field Maple Tree

The Hollies 13 Belle Vue Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EJ

Ref. No: 15/02340/TPO | Received: Wed 03 Jun 2015 | Status: Approved NEW DECISION

Cllrs Davis, Hughes. No objection.

Two storey side extension and porch

8 Arrowcroft Road Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7ES

Ref. No: 15/00694/FUL | Received: Wed 18 Feb 2015 | Status: REFUSAL OF PLANNING PERMISSION.

Cllrs Hughes, Davis.

No objection.

Erection of a Performance Centre (Class D2)

Chester Rugby Union Football Club Hare Lane Chester Cheshire CH3 7DB

Ref. No: 14/05366/FUL | Validated: Wed 07 Jan 2015 | Status: Approved. NEW DECISION.

The Clerk.

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: Approved.

Cllrs Fisher, Moulton.

No objection.

(b) Appeal:

Two storey side extension and porch

8 Arrowcroft Road Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7ES

Ref. No: 15/00694/FUL | Received: Wed 18 Feb 2015 | Status: APPEAL DISMISSED.

Cllrs Hughes, Davis.

No objection.

The inspector's report had been circulated. His conclusion was, in summary :

*The proposed extension would have an unacceptable effect on the on the appearance of Nos. 8 and 10 Arrowcroft Road and the street scene contrary to the objectives of development plan policy.*

(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.

Community Day 11 August, 2015, Ellesmere Port. This event had been was attended by the Clerk. A helpful presentation had been given by the Chief Operating Officer Mr John Blamyres with whom the Clerk held a discussion. The Clerk further reported the receipt of correspondence which had been circulated. **Action:**

**Noted.**

(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. A meeting of the group was to take place on 8 September 2015. A questionnaire had been circulated and the group was pleased with the response to date.

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.**

(iii) Bird in Hand Support Group. The Council noted 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. It was noted the public house was likely to close earlier than this date. It was noted the neighbourhood plan consultation considered the premises to be a very important asset to the village. Cllr Ringstead indicated there was also support from Mr C Matheson MP. An inquiry would be made of the owner. **Action: The Clerk.**

(f) Affordable housing policy. Willis Close. The ward Members had been 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. The Chairman believed the Council should be involved to ensure local people who required housing were considered and that the process must be transparent. The issue would remain open. **Action: The Clerk.**

(g) Strategic Planning.

(i) Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies - Issues Consultation.

Cllr Paterson reported as Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group that with the Clerk she had met a principal planning officer from the borough council's planning policy team on Wednesday 15 July 2015. The meeting was requested to clarify the position of parishes such as Guilden Sutton which are in the early stages of preparing a neighbourhood plan which had yet to consider whether the new parish should be proposed as a potential local service centre. In particular the issue was raised as to the policies which would apply should the community wish for a 'no growth' option. It had been explained that in any event Green Belt policies within the adopted Local Plan would apply. **Action: Noted.**

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 2 training session 20 July 2015, Sandbach. No Members had indicated.

Councillor 3 training. Members noted a Councillor 3 training session was to take place on the afternoon of 15 September 2015 at Northwich. Members wishing to attend would indicate to the Clerk. **Action: All Members.**

(b) Standing Orders review. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(c) Local Council Award Scheme. The Clerk would report further as to the requirements in due course. The guide had been circulated for Members' consideration at a future meeting.

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. 15/16 072

- (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.
- (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. (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. A further approach had been made to Chester Security for a site meeting. This would take place on Monday 14 September 2015. **Cllr Paterson/The Clerk.**
- (ii) Inspections. The Clerk informed there were no current issues.
- (iii) Bin emptying. The Clerk informed there were no current issues and recommended this item could be removed from the agenda.
- (iv) Replacement children's playground. The official opening had taken place on Thursday 6 August, 2015, attended by Cllrs Paterson, Moulton and Ringstead and the Clerk. Mr R Smith, WREN was present. The Clerk was also providing Cllr Hughes with a CAD image of the project as proposed. **Action: The Clerk.**
- (v) Grounds maintenance issues including boundary hedging. There was nothing further to report at this stage.
- (vi) Smoke free playgrounds. The Clerk had registered 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 would be advised to the Council. **Action: Noted.**
- (c) Public Footpaths.
- (i) Restricted Byway no 7. The advice of the borough council had been sought as to materials which were proposed to be laid to secure an improvement.
- (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. (b) Bank account. The Clerk confirmed he was in possession of closing statements from Lloyd Bank. **Action: Noted.**
- (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. The Vice Chairman informed of the receipt of a complaint as to the annual cut of the playing field hedge. This had been advised to the contractor and a formal approach would be made to the Town Clerk as to future assurances. **Action: The Clerk.**

(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 ordered by Cllr Paterson.

(i) Hare Lane beacon. The Clerk informed he had been advised the previous arrangements had been in the hands of an occupier. It was agreed further inquiries would be made as the occupier may wish to continue. Cllr Fisher indicated his willingness to stand down as prospective beacon master should this be the case

(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. It was noted the closing date was 30 September 2015. **Action: Cllr Paterson.**

(k) Active Cheshire. The Council considered and accepted the offer from Active Cheshire, reported to the July meeting, 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. **Action: The Clerk.**

7 Public transport.

(a) Services, general.

(i) Withdrawal of DB8 (part). Further to Members being informed the DB8 operated by GHA which served Ince/Elton-Guilden Sutton-Vicars Cross-Chester-Chester Business Park (Monday to Friday) would be withdrawn on 30 August 2015, the Clerk reported a revised curtailed service operated by GHA and Arrowbrook had now been publicised at stops. **Action: Noted.**

(ii) Withdrawal of C27 replaced by C26. Further to the concerns raised at public speaking, Members were aware the operator had given notice this service was to cease and be replaced by a new Monday to Friday service 26 on a new route from 1 September 2015. The preliminary timetable was on the web site and at the Post Office. There was no requirement for the Council to be consulted. The Clerk had discussed the issue with the MP Mr C Matheson and was liaising with Cllr A Black, Hoole ward, who was leading on the concerns in that area.

The Council noted correspondence from Mr J Browne, Summerfield House, Mrs S Davies, and Mr and Mrs Kirk and also from Mr C Matheson MP. The Council further noted correspondence from Mr John Ellis Jones, Assistant Team Leader, Planning and Strategic Transport, Places Strategy at the borough council, via Mr John Browne, offering, inter alia, to assess alternative transport solutions, in particular with regard to access to the doctor's surgery in Hoole. **Action: Noted.**

The Chairman expressed annoyance this change had arisen during the recess. It was noted the issue had been raised by residents and by Cllrs Paterson and Ringstead with C Matheson Esq MP at a surgery on 14 August 2015. Mr Matheson was to progress the issue and kindly indicated he was happy to visit. Cllr Hughes referred to the possibility of a subsidy being offered.

(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.

(c) Construction of New Chester Bus Interchange. The borough council had informed work was due to start at Gorse Stacks Car Park on the construction of the new interchange on 14 September 2015. The construction programme would last for a period of 15 months and was due to be completed at the end of November 2016. Gorse Stacks Car Park had closed permanently from midnight on Monday 31 August 2015 to enable site preparations to begin. **Action: Noted.**



8 Highways.

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

(b) 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.**

(b) Community Speed Management guidance. In respect of the Clerk being asked to circulate a 'Community Speed Management' scheme regarding speeding issues produced by Cheshire West and Chester Council, the Traffic Group would consider the guidance and perhaps raise Guilden Sutton Lane, Station Lane and Wicker Lane. It was noted the issue of the A41/Guilden Sutton Lane junction had now been superseded by the introduction of the 50mph limit for the A41. **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 would be 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) Planters. Green space, junction of Hare Lane and Green Lane South. A site meeting had taken place on Monday 20 July 2015 attended by the Clerk and Mr Karl Siteine, Streetscene which had agreed the position on the green of the proposed planter and supply arrangements.

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

(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 that minuted previously following the meeting between the Clerk and the Area Manager, Place Operations on Monday 25 November 2013 and Cllr Moulton expressing renewed concern as to vehicles parking without lights within the 40mph limit, this remained reported to PC Boulton. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(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. The Clerk had inquired 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 and had questioned why this might have perhaps been consolidated into the Order.

(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, Cople's corner. Further to Cllr Moulton expressing concern at sight lines being obstructed by cars parking on the verge/footway, advice was being sought by the Clerk as to whether this was a matter for the highway authority or the Police. **Action: The Clerk.**

(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. Further to the concerns raised by Members at the July meeting, the Clerk informed he had requested the ward members to escalate this issue to director level to determine the issue. The correspondence had been circulated. The position remained disappointing in that despite extremely effective sweeping following an inspection, about which this Council had no complaint, 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) Beacon bench. The Clerk informed Cllr Pamela Hall, Great Boughton ward, was kindly pursuing this with officers in the absence of any progress report. Officers had reported the issue, reference 101003171145.

(xvi) Assessment, 60mph limit Hare Lane/Belle Vue Lane. The Clerk indicated this issue was being progressed by Cllr P Hall, Great Boughton ward, who had instigated the 50mph restriction on the A41.

(xvii) 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.

(xviii) Water, Porters Hill. Further to it being noted water had been flowing down Porters Hill following heavy rainfall, the Clerk advised this was issuing from a BT chamber which would be reported. **Action: The Clerk.**

(xix) Cable lay, Wicker Lane. The Clerk reported the receipt of a temporary traffic regulation order in connection with the cable works commencing on 17 July 2015 for six weeks.

The Council noted a helpful meeting had been held on Thursday 24 July 2015 attended by Scottish Power, their contractor, the highway authority and Cllr Stuart Parker to address concerns raised by Members and by members of the public present as to the phasing of the traffic signals. It had been agreed this would be reviewed and additional signage provided to dissuade through traffic seeking the A51.

Cllr S Ringstead informed she had been made aware by Scottish Power of a possible closure of Hare Lane in the Autumn.

(d) Lighting.

(i) Faults. Members were asked to continue to report faults to the Clerk for reporting with details. 15/16 076



9 Finance:

(a) Income

Co-operative Bank

Current account interest

3 July 2015	£	4.81
5 August 2015	£	2.08

Scottish Widows no 1 Interest 1 July 2015	£	20.00
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Scottish Widows no 2 Interest 1 July 2015	£	3.39
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(b) Payments

Came & Co Insurance 2015/16	£	999.79
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Cheshire Community Action Subscription 2015/16	£	50.00
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Morrall Play Services Annual inspection	£	54.00 (inc £9.00 VAT)
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Clerk Expenses		
Postage	£	2.43
Mileage 32@ 45p	£	14.40
Copies 616 @5p	<u>£</u>	<u>30.80</u>
	£	47.63

Northwich Town Council Grounds maintenance		
Invoice 1480	£	411.60 (inc £68.60 VAT)
Invoice 1498	<u>£</u>	<u>235.20</u> (inc £39.20 VAT)
	£	646.80

Brian Lewin Esq Parish Plan	£	44.00
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Proposed by Cllr Hughes  
Seconded by Cllr Moulton  
and agreed.

(c) Balances

Co-operative Bank  
Current account

31 July 2015	£35421.94
1 September 2015	£34424.02

Scottish Widows no 1 1 July 2015	£20109.42
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Scottish Widows no 2  
1 July 2015

£ 3411.81

(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. The Clerk reported the agreed transfer of £590.09 for the three year period to 31 March 2015 had been made. **Action: Noted.**

(i) Insurance issues. Renewal. The Clerk had referred the renewal documents to the Audit and Governance Group. **Action: Noted.**

(j) Financial Services Compensation Scheme, policy change. Advice from the National Association of Local Councils had been referred to the Audit and Governance Group. **Action: Noted.**

10 Environment Services.

(a) Waste collection and recycling issues. (i) General. 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. The Clerk advised Cllr P Hall had informed of a complaint from a Vicars Cross resident as 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.

(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 Clerk reported concerns raised by Mrs G Jones via the Public Rights of Way Warden as to dog fouling which had been circulated. **Action: Noted.**

15/16 078

## 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 Council noted a new issue raised by Mrs G Jones via the Public Rights of Way Warden which had been circulated. **Action: Noted.**

(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. The matter would be progressed with Cllr Davis who kindly indicated.

(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) Cheshire Wildlife Trust. The Clerk reported advice as to a meeting 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. The Clerk advised arrangements were being made for a joint Chester/Vale Royal Area Meeting in the Autumn. **Action: Noted.** (b) Audit and Finance Update. This had been referred to the Audit Group. (c) Assistant Chief Officer. It was noted Mrs Ann Wright had been appointed Assistant Chief Officer. (d) Changes to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme for Local Councils. This had been circulated separately to the Audit Group.

(e) 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. (f) Planning seminar. In conjunction with Cheshire Community Action, a full day planning seminar was to be held on Thursday 24 September 2015. Members wishing to attend would notify the Clerk.

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) Canvassers. Members noted correspondence as to the recruitment of electoral canvassers. Applications needed to be received by 21 September 2015.

(g) Public Space Protection Order in Chester. Advice was received of this consultation. It was noted the closing date was 15 October 2015. **Action: Noted.**

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

(i) Community Energy Question Time 10 September 2015. Correspondence had been circulated. Members wishing to attend would indicate. **Action: All Members.**

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 was 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.

(b) Relate Cheshire & Merseyside. Members noted a request for support. It was agreed no further action should be taken.

17 Policing/Fire Service.

(i) Police and Crime Commissioner, meeting With Parish & Town Council Representatives 30 July 2015, Tarvin. This was attended by Cllr Hughes and the Clerk. Assurances were given as to the new pattern for Policing. Notes of the issues raised with the Police & Crime Commissioner would be circulated by the Clerk.

**Action: The Clerk.**

15/16 080

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) Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner. 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.**

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, an estimate had been sought from Northwich Town Council. **Action: The Clerk.**

20 Bulb planting. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

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. Members considered if this should remain a standing item in view of the school's revised governance arrangements under which Cllr Hughes was not now appointed by the Council and agreed Cllr Hughes should continue to report should he wish to do so. Cllr Hughes and Cllr Brown reported on school related issues.

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.

(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 who reported the receipt of documentation. **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 Dee Valley Water. Drought Plan 2015. The Council noted correspondence informing Dee Valley Water had published the final version of its Drought Plan.

29 Members' information items.

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

A41/A51 junction. Cllr Fisher raised the possibility of a yellow box junction being implemented in view of the frequent congestion.

Rugby Club. Cllr Fisher asked if changes to the entrance to the club which had affected the swept entrance had been the subject of a planning application. Inquiries would be made by the Clerk.

30 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.

31 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.**

32 Unconventional energy sources. The Clerk reported an offer by IGas to provide further information following the community day minuted above. This would be accepted in principle.

The meeting concluded at 2155.

Date of next meeting: Monday 5 October 2015