

Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 1 February 2016 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 and nine members of the public.

1 Procedural matters.

(a) Apologies for absence.

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

Visitors. Apologies were received from Cllr M Parker, Cllr S Parker, Cllr P Hall. **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.

There were no declarations.

(c) Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 4 January 2016. The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 4 January 2016 were proposed by Cllr Ringstead, seconded by Cllr Moulton and agreed.

(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) Tablet. Further to Cllr Ringstead believing the acquisition of one suitable tablet would be of benefit for use in progressing planning application consultations as this would also enable photographs to be taken if this was relevant, the acquisition of a suitable refurbished device, within a budget of £200, was being progressed by Cllr Fisher and the Clerk. It was noted a higher specification device might be available for a slightly higher figure to be agreed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman if necessary. **Action: Cllr Fisher/ the Clerk.**

(f) Dates of future meetings: Mondays 7 March, 4 April, 9 May, 6 June, 11 July, 5 September, 3 October, 7 November and 5 December 2016.

(g) Late information report. 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.

(i) Transparency requirements. Further to the Clerk reporting the requirements imposed by the £25,000 threshold figure should be taken into account on a year by year basis but 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, there was nothing further to report at this stage. This was subject to the agreement of the Webmaster with whom he was in discussion to carrying out the additional work. **Action: The Clerk.**

(j) Parish Councils: Data Controllers. The Council noted the current position was that having consulted the ICO, the Clerk was registering as a data controller at a cost of £35pa. This was in line with advice received from ChALC following the receipt of correspondence from a third party by this and other councils.

The ChALC advice had further suggested it was unlikely that Members would need to register as the receipt of e mails as distinct from holding case work files did not require a registration.

(k) Parish representatives to Standards Committee. Notification of the successful nominations was awaited.

(l) Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2016, 19 May 2016. The receipt of this Council's nomination of Cllr P M Paterson has been confirmed by ChALC.

(m) Dispensations. In order to deal adequately with the Budget and Precept the Clerk advised the Council needed to resolve that all Members who may have a disclosable pecuniary interest in the setting of the precept by virtue of ownership of property within the parish should be granted a dispensation to enable the business to be dealt with. It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr Ringstead and agreed that dispensations should be granted to 31 January 2020. Members duly completed the requisite forms.

## 2 Community engagement.

(a) Public speaking.

(i) Members of the public.

Bus Service. Members of the public attending from Summerfield House revisited their concerns as to the lack of services serving Hoole Road and of weekend and bank holiday services and indicated they were happy to be visited by Mr John Ellis Jones, Assistant Team Leader, Planning and Strategic Transport, Places Strategy, as had been suggested, on any weekday afternoon. The residents were thanked by the Chairman for their attendance. **Action: The Clerk.**

Frack Free Guilden Sutton. Members of this new residents' group, created to raise awareness of the possibility of fracking and coal bed methane extraction within the parish, introduced themselves to the Council and indicated they wished to work with the Council in the best interests of the community. The group believed the general consensus within the parish as to hydraulic fracturing was not known and suggested awareness raising to include a survey and a public meeting. The group was thanked by the Chairman for their attendance.

The Clerk reported Mrs S Wells-Walters, Wicker House, Wicker Lane had also indicated with respect to unconventional energy extraction and had furnished the Chairman with a letter seeking answers to various aspects of the issue which the Clerk had circulated. This would be dealt with. **Action: Noted.**

(ii) Visitors. PC R Boulton was welcomed to the meeting and reported on current issues. PC Boulton responded further to Members' questions and was thanked by the Chairman for his attendance.

(b) Surgeries.

Report of surgery held on Saturday 30 January 2016. Cllr Moulton reported. No issues had arisen.

Surgery to be held on Saturday 5 March 2016. It was agreed Cllrs Paterson and Roberts would preside.

(c) Notice boards. Further to the issue raised at the December surgery, further inquiries as to the Guilden Sutton Lane noticeboard had been made by the Clerk. The advice of a Member that in his opinion only repainting would be necessary had been independently confirmed by the contractor who had estimated £100 plus VAT for the work. It was agreed this should be accepted. **Action: The Clerk.** Members noted the planning authority had indicated that subject to the approval of the highway authority, a replacement noticeboard of a similar size would not require an application, otherwise the fee would be £385.

Further inquiries had been made by the Clerk as to what had been described as correspondence previously displayed on the Hare Lane noticeboard. This was believed to have been copies of agendas and minutes displayed informally by a local Member. Further consideration was being given by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

## 3 Planning.

(a) New/current applications.

Single storey front and side extension Open for Comment  
29 Oaklands Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HE  
Ref. No: 16/00115/FUL | Received: Wed 13 Jan 2016 | Status: Awaiting decision  
Further inquiries would be made by Cllrs Fisher and Brown.

Residential development of 10 dwellings (demolition of existing buildings) with garages, sheds and associated access road.

The Wood Farm, School Lane, Guilden Sutton, Chester

Ref No 15/05213/FUL Date: 21 January 2016

It was noted comments were due by 11 February 2016. Three affordable homes were proposed. The Clerk informed that through the good offices of the Vice Chairman a site meeting was to take place with the Architect, Mr Ken Bruce, Director, TFA Architects and Mr Gresty on Wednesday 3 February 2016 at 11.15am.

The Architect had helpfully provided the following.

*We attach a copy of the site layout plan and streetscene that shows our proposals for the land.*

*Archway Homes Limited is an established, family owned and run, residential developer based in Great Barrow with a reputation for providing high quality living environments.*

*The developer and ourselves would be happy to present our proposals to the Parish Council if you feel that would be beneficial and we outline below the salient points of the proposals for your information at this time.*

*The existing planning permission has established the residential use for the site. The only conditions attaching to the consent relate to practical details of the scheme.*

*It is adjacent and opposite to existing housing that is of a similar character to these proposals.*

*The scheme provides 30% affordable housing in line with CWAC policy. According with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's recent statement the proposal optimises the use of the site whilst enhancing the variety of properties available in the location.*

*The layout has been designed to have a courtyard character comprising largely detached properties that, unlike the previous scheme, provide permeability to allow views and vistas to the open countryside at the rear of the site.*

*These proposals retain significantly more trees and hedges than the previously approved scheme including the hedge on the western boundary and the vast majority of the trees to the site frontage and the eastern boundaries. This will provide privacy for rear garden areas and give a mature feel to the development upon completion, as well as providing a more natural road frontage on School Lane.*

*The houses on plots 9 and 10 have been carefully designed and located in relation to the adjacent house, Pinewood, to prevent overlooking. Archway have met with the owner of Pinewood and she commented that this proposal is a distinct improvement compared to the previous scheme.*

*The proposed houses have been carefully designed in scale and massing to ensure that they harmonise with the setting of the surrounding area. They will be two storeys and sit within plots of similar size to many other properties found in the area. The overall footprint of the proposed open market housing has been taken into consideration and is kept below the footprint of the existing buildings.*

*A comprehensive landscape scheme, that is submitted as an integral part of these proposals, has been designed to complement the retained vegetation and mature trees and provide the proposed houses with an attractive setting to encourage wildlife.*

*The houses are of a traditional form and proposed to be built with predominantly multi coloured reddish/brown rustic brick with contrasting red or blue brick detailing features, under red tiled roofs, in a variety of forms to add interest to the street scene and blend with the surroundings.*

*Fenestration is of a simple domestic scale with white window frames & traditional detailing to the doors to tie in with those of the surroundings. Black PVCu rainwater gutters & downpipes will provide crisp details to the roof edges.*

*As you will be aware the site is within walking distance of the local village amenities, with good public transport and being close to schools, services, shops & places of employment it offers opportunities for walking & cycling as an alternative to everyday car use, particularly with the access to the Millenium Greenway cycle route linking Mickle Trafford with Deeside about 700m from the site.*

*The proposal has been designed to meet or exceed the requirements of the Building Regulations in terms of energy efficiency, drainage & water usage. Building materials will be sourced locally wherever possible & careful site control utilised to minimise waste. All of the above will add to the sustainability of these proposals.*

*This is a high quality design proposal using good quality materials for family homes, based on sound design principles that create a sense of place & identity that will provide accommodation to meet current & future needs.*

*We look forward to hearing from you if you have any further questions or would like us to attend the Parish Council to explain the proposals.*

Discharge of conditions 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 and 11 attached to planning permission 15/01196/S73  
Land Adjacent To Treetops School Lane Guilden Sutton Chester  
Ref. No: 15/04608/DIS | Received: Wed 11 Nov 2015 | Status: Approved. Cllr Fisher/The Clerk.

Cllr Hughes having informed he had delivered Footpath Maps to occupiers the Clerk reported he had similarly delivered the two most recent newsletters together with useful telephone numbers and a copy of the C26 timetable. **Action: Noted.**

Discharge of conditions 3, 5, 8, 10 and 11 of planning application 15/01299/FUL Open for Comment  
Chester House Hare Lane Chester Cheshire CH3 7ED  
Ref. No: 15/04453/DIS | Received: Wed 28 Oct 2015 | Status: Awaiting decision.

Single storey extensions to front and side and alterations  
Village Hall Summerfield Road Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7SW  
Ref. No: 15/04283/FUL | Received: Mon 19 Oct 2015 | Status: Approved..  
Cllrs Davis, Fisher.

The applicant had been encouraged to maintain a 1 metre wide access along the side of the village hall. Cllr Fisher had pointed to the need to have an understanding with the applicant as to the implications for the CCTV equipment during construction.

Two storey side extension, revision of previously approved application reference 15/01138/FUL.  
16 Oaklands Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7HE  
Ref. No: 15/04105/FUL | Received: Wed 07 Oct 2015 | Status: Approved..  
Cllrs Paterson, Brown.

Pruning of sycamore and yew trees  
Cedar Lodge School Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EU  
Ref. No: 15/03979/TPO | Received: Fri 25 Sep 2015 | Status: Approved

First floor side extension and single storey rear extension  
Bramble View Belle Vue Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EJ  
Ref. No: 15/03777/FUL | Received: Tue 15 Sep 2015 | Status: Approved.  
Cllrs Fisher, Ringstead.

Two storey side extension and front porch  
8 Arrowcroft Road Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7ES  
Ref. No: 15/03750/FUL | Received: Fri 11 Sep 2015 | Status: Approved  
Cllrs Davis/Hughes.

First floor side extension and single storey rear extension  
Bramble View Belle Vue Lane Guilden Sutton Chester Cheshire CH3 7EJ  
Ref. No: 15/03777/FUL | Received: Tue 15 Sep 2015 | Status: Approved.  
Cllrs Fisher, Ringstead.  
The case officer's report had been circulated to all Members.

Variation of condition 2 on application 13/05410/FUL to allow amendments to driveways and boundary treatments  
Land Adjacent To Treetops School Lane Guilden Sutton Chester  
Ref. No: 15/01196/S73 | Received: Mon 23 Mar 2015 | Status: Approved

Further to the visit by officers, the Clerk had pursued the promised response to Cllr Fisher as to part of the boundary treatment being not as permitted in that close boarded fencing had replaced the approved brick pillars and infill panels. The response, forwarded to Cllr Fisher, had indicated this had been proposed by the contractor and not by the client who had intended the close boarding fence which had been erected on cost grounds. This was noted with disappointment as it was considered an opportunity had been lost to provide a more attractive gateway to the development. Cllr Fisher commented further.

(b) Unconventional energy sources. Briefing meeting. The views of Great Boughton Parish Council were being ascertained.

The Council noted comments made at public speaking together with correspondence from Mrs S Wells-Walters, Wicker House, Wicker Lane . Cllr Paterson advised consultation in connection with the Neighbourhood Plan had led to a response of Yes - 41, No -121, N/K-19 although the Plan itself could not deal with mineral extraction. It was noted the Government was both broadly supportive of the benefits of hydraulic fracturing and of protecting the Green Belt. Members referred to having attended meetings on both sides of the debate and to iGas (the local licence holder) being generally informative. The Council agreed the new group should be supported in raising awareness within the parish through a survey and by holding a public meeting. It would be explained this would be in the context of the Council maintaining an open position while seeking the views of parishioners.

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

(d) Community planning.

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

(ii) Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Paterson reported further. The Clerk informed a large scale map of the new parish boundaries was awaiting at the County office. He had provided Mr R Batterham with a digital map of the new parish boundaries to enable the area application to be progressed.

The suggestions received from Mrs S R Proctor, Ash Bank as to desirable actions in the newly acquired areas of Pipers Ash remained under review by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iii) Bird in Hand Support Group. Having noted the premises had re-opened, there was nothing further to report at this stage. It remained the hope that patronage from within the village would support the business.

(e) Affordable housing. There were no policy issues to discuss.

(f) 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.

(ii) Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan, consultation on proposed supplementary planning documents: Draft Houses in Multiple Occupation and Student Accommodation in the Chester Area SPD, Draft Travel Planning Guidance SPD. It was noted this consultation had now closed.

4 Quality Council issues.

(a) Training.

(i) Training dates 2016. Members wishing to attend any of the training opportunities in the 2016 calendar, which had been circulated separately, would advise the Clerk. **Action: All Members.**

(ii) Planning training. The Clerk informed Cllrs Paterson and Ringstead had been allocated places at the Planning Forum with Cheshire West and Chester Council proposed for Tuesday 23 February 2016 at Cheshire View which was intended to improve relations and understanding between local councils and the planning officers.

(b) Standing Orders review. This would now be incorporated within any Award Scheme application.

(c) Local Council Award Scheme. The Clerk reported he had attended the Chester & Vale Royal Joint Area Meeting held on 27 January 2016 in Malpas.

This had received an informative presentation from the Assistant Chief Officer. He would recommend the Council should pursue Quality status rather than Foundation status should this be progressed and would report further.

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 issue remained with the Vice Chairman. It had been agreed a further written approach should be made to the landowner and to landowners within the parish as to a possible purchase.

(b) Children's Play Area.

(i) CCTV and CCTV protocol. (a) Upgrade. Further to Cllr Hughes expressing concern at the amount of money which had historically been expended on the system, the possible alternative proposed by Cllr Ringstead was being examined.

(ii) Inspections. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the corrosion affecting the 4 no benches which had been reported to the supplying contractor. Further to the Clerk advising a formal inspection report for December 2015 had been received from Northwich Town Council (inspections during the season having been incorporated within grounds maintenance work) with a recommendation the sign relating to the age group the playground was intended for, which was damaged, should be replaced, an estimate was being sought for a replacement. **Action: The Clerk.**

(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 reporting he had been advised the cost of signage to be provided by the borough council promoting the playground as smoke free would be £32.30, which had been accepted, he had now been informed the sign would initially be delivered to the County Office. Affixing the signage would fall to the Parish Council. **Action: Noted.**

(c) Public Footpaths.

(i) Restricted Byway no 7 proposed improvement. Further to the Council noting the Public Rights of Way Officer (North Chester & Ellesmere Port) had indicated no objection to the proposed improvement subject to prior approval, which was being progressed through the Volunteer Public Rights of Way Warden, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(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 Volunteer 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. 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. The Chairman referred to flooding on part of the route beneath the bridge.

(viii) Kissing gates. The Vice Chairmen referred to the state of kissing gates within the parish and feared these would be lost. It was agreed the Public Rights of Way Unit should be approached.

(d) Grounds Maintenance. (i) Cheshire West and Chester. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (ii) Parish Council contract 2015/16. The Clerk reported he had met the Town Clerk, Northwich Town Council for a review meeting. This had identified the less than satisfactory billing arrangements, which were being rectified, although the core grounds maintenance activities had been to specification during this first season. Outstanding invoices were under consideration by the contractor. A further meeting would be sought to discuss proposals for the 2016/17 season.

(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. The Chairman and Members reported further as to the planting of the marsh marigold seeds which had been purchased.

(i) Hare Lane beacon. The overgrowth issue remained with Cllr Pamela Hall, Great Boughton ward, who was kindly pursuing the matter with officers in the absence of any progress report (reference 101003171145.) It continued to be noted that the present overgrowth in the area, which was not existing when the beacon was installed, somewhat precluded crowds gathering. Advice had been received from the grounds maintenance contractor that pruning back could be problematical as his insurance did not cover working in proximity to 60mph roads.

(j) Open Space, Sport and Recreation study, Town and Parish Councils, Needs and aspirations. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to this survey which had been dealt with by Cllr Paterson due to links with the neighbourhood plan.

(k) Active Cheshire. Further to the Council considering and accepting the offer from Active Cheshire to present to the Council, this would now be deferred to the March 2016 meeting. The presentation would include the Active Cheshire Plan, local issues around transport, facilities, access to services, young people and rural isolation and opportunities available through Active Cheshire and Sport England.

(l) Cultural Services Review - Public Consultation (Cheshire West and Chester Council). There was nothing further to report at this stage.

## 7 Public transport.

### (a) Services, general.

(i) DB8. Willis Close. The Vice Chairman and Clerk having advised of concerns as to the safety of alighting passengers due to lack of adequate street lighting, this stood referred to Mr John Ellis Jones, Assistant Team Leader, Planning and Strategic Transport, Places Strategy who had advised he had passed the issue to the Infrastructure Team. Cllr Roberts had advised of further complaint as to lack of street lighting but had noted the stop this had replaced had been similarly unlit.

Further to Cllr Davis referring to the proximity of a substantial dead branch overhanging the stop, this would be reported by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(ii) Withdrawal of C27 replaced by C26. In connection with public speaking, the Clerk informed he was pursuing the offered meeting with John Ellis Jones Esq, Assistant Team Leader, Planning and Strategic Transport, Places Strategy and would advise residents of Summerfield House.

(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) Mrs Y Kirk. The concerns raised by Mrs Y Kirk as to the lack of the lack of a bus service on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays were being included by the Clerk in the proposed meeting with residents of Summerfield House. This would include her suggestion that a Hoole Lane service should be extended to the village. **Action: The Clerk.**

(d) Community transport scheme. Arising from the above and general public transport concerns the Clerk informed he was obtaining further details of this scheme operated by Cheshire Community Action. These would be included in the newsletter and provided to Summerfield House. **Action: The Clerk.**

(e) Concession fares. The suggestion by Cllr Hughes that information should be sought by the Clerk for inclusion within the newsletter as to the application of concession fares to the C26 service was being pursued by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(f) Hardstanding, Guilden Sutton Lane. Further to the request on behalf of Pipers Ash for an inward bus stop close to the Hare Lane junction, the Clerk advised the issue had been referred to the Assistant Team Leader, Planning & Strategic Transport. The Operations Assistant, Information, Concessions and Smartcard had informed the provision of hardstanding would be considered. Members were invited to note the stop on the footway side of Guilden Sutton Lane at that point is intended to serve services in both directions.

## 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. Cllr Moulton would report on arrangements for further SID sessions during 2016 in due course. **Action: Cllr Moulton.**

(b) Community Speed Management guidance. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(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 had now discussed this with PC Boulton.

With respect to speed activated signs, Members remained aware the former Area Manager, Place Operations had undertaken to arrange for a speed / traffic count to be carried out on Station Lane. 15/16 148

Any decision for funding would be based 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 position had been discussed by the Clerk at his recent meeting with the Principal Engineer and it had been agreed the issue would remain live although priority would be given to the provision of speed activated signs within the village. **Action: Noted.**

(d) Speed activated sign, Guilden Sutton Village (2127074). Further to Members having expressed considerable concern at the inordinate length of time which was being taken to secure a sign at the approach to the village, the Clerk had informed the Principal Engineer that in the absence of movement Members would visit the Highways Office to secure progress. He was pleased to be able to report that following the January Council meeting the Principal Engineer had confirmed light 32 at the approach to the playing field as the position for the proposed installation and was seeking estimates. The Vice Chairman had indicated he supported that location.

The Clerk had also been advised the suggestion there may be justification for a flashing 40 on Guilden Sutton Lane failed as examination of the data confirmed speeds were too low to support such a sign with the 85 %ile being at 38mph, the requirement being for it to be 46mph. On that basis the sign would rarely flash. The Clerk had encouraged highways to consider an assessment in the Wicker Lane 30 at the junction with Cinder Lane as a prospective alternative assuming that would require average speeds above 35mph on the same basis - 10% plus 2 and to carry out the long promised survey on Station Lane. PC Boulton was now active on the Station Lane issue having been similarly encouraged by Cllr Hughes.

PC Boulton was also 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. In relation to this and other related concerns the Clerk had approached Mr D Reeves, Engineer, Place Operations, Cheshire West and Chester Council, as to a possible meeting with the Traffic Group and this was due to take place on Wednesday 3 February 2016 at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. **Action: The Clerk.**

(f) School Lane. Concerns per Mr P Crompton, Belle Vue Lane. Further to the correspondence to Cllr S Parker from Mr P Crompton as to the speed of traffic on School Lane and Guilden Sutton Lane which referred to Mr Crompton having witnessed two accidents, the position remained the Council had not been made aware of these collisions.

(ii) School parking. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the Rural Localities Officer indicating she was aware of actions which could be taken. Cllr Hughes reported further and it was agreed the head teacher would be informed the concerns as to parents parking irresponsibly were supported. **Action: Noted.** Cllr Brown informed of the school's mobile friendly text messaging service which might also have a role.

(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. A suggestion had been made by a resident the feature should be installed diagonally to afford visibility of both the 'Guilden Sutton' and 'Pipers Ash' inscriptions. This had been notified to Streetscene.

(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 issue had again been raised following the suggestion by Cllr Hughes that the gulleys should be dealt with. The Chairman informed nearby gulleys had in fact been cleared. **Action: Noted.**

(vi) Parking, Guilden Sutton Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage **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. Further to this issue being revisited by Cllr Ringstead, the Clerk had approached Mr D Reeves as to whom should be approached at the borough council. Advice had been received the appropriate officer was the Principal Engineer who had been approached.

(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 dealt with under the assessment of Hare Lane/Belle Vue 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, Cople's corner. There was nothing further to report at this stage **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 issue had been raised with the highway authority (2127961) and passed to an inspector for action. Further to Cllr Brown referring to uneven pavements elsewhere and the concerns of Mrs Y Kirk as to the condition of the surface of the footway on Porters Hill, a walkabout had been sought with the highway authority. The Clerk informed the Principal Engineer was happy for this to take place once a peak of work being undertaken by network stewards had passed. In the meantime the Council was advised to report any dangerous issues.

(xiv) School access footway, rear Orchard Croft. 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 on the section to the rear of Orchard Croft. This had been pressed by the Clerk but no response had been received. **Action: Noted.**

(xv) Assessment, 60mph limit Hare Lane/Belle Vue Lane. The Clerk reported advice from the Principal Engineer that Hare Lane/Belle Vue Lane were recommended for 40mph subject to consultation with residents by the Parish Council. Similarly the short length of 60mph on Guilden Sutton Lane was recommended for 50mph. This was welcomed and would be progressed by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk.**

(xvi) Speed limit, Wicker Lane. The Clerk reported advice from the Principal Engineer that the 60mph speed limit on Wicker Lane was recommended for 40mph. The Clerk would clarify the consultation requirements as this assessment had not been requested by the Parish Council although the outcome was welcomed. **Action: The Clerk.**

(xvii) Water, Porters Hill. The Vice Chairman reported a recurrence of water spreading across the surface of the carriageway leading to a possible skid hazard in cold weather. This would be reported. **Action: The Clerk.**

(xviii) Gutter weeds. There was nothing further to report at this stage, Cllr Ringstead having expressed concern at the state of gutters in the parish. The issue had been raised by the Clerk at his meeting with the Principal Engineer. **Action: Noted.**

(xix) Scottish Power cable lay. Members referred to the condition of parts of Belle Vue Lane and it was agreed further information as to the progress of the scheme would be sought from the contractor. **Action: The Clerk.**

(xx) 30 mph repeater Station Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the damaged repeater sign which had been reported. **Action: Noted.**

(xxi) Proposed 20mph areas. The Clerk reported the Cabinet had agreed the implementation of 20 mph limits on residential roads across the borough.

This would involve roads where mean speeds were currently less than 24 mph and around schools where the mean speed was currently less than 30 mph be approved. A map indicated the main built up area of the village had the potential to qualify but had yet to be assessed.

(d) Lighting.

(i) Faults. A fault affecting a light outside 46 Oaklands would be reported. **Action: The Clerk.**

9 Finance:

(a) Income

Co-operative Bank  
Bank interest  
4 December 2015

£ 1.49

Scottish Widows 1  
1 January 2016

£ 19.67

Scottish Widows 2  
1 January 2016

£ 4.03

(b) Payments

Northwich Town Council  
Inspection  
Invoice 1613

£ 88.20 (inc £14.70 VAT) (Under query)

Information Commissioner  
Data controller fee

£ 35.00

St John the Baptist PCC Guilden Sutton  
Timeline grant

£ 168.15

Northwich Town Council  
Grounds maintenance  
(1550)

£ 235.20 (inc VAT 39.20)

Clerk

Expenses

Postage  
Mileage  
8 @ 45p

£ 1.26

£ 3.60

Copies  
520 @ 5p

£ 26.00

£ 30.86

Mrs P M Paterson  
Christmas voucher

£ 10.00

Proposed by Cllr Brown  
Seconded by Cllr Hughes  
and agreed.

(c) Balances

Co-operative Bank  
Current a/c

£30991.61

Scottish Widows no1  
1 January 2016

£19559.06

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Scottish Widows no2  
1 January 2016

£ 4009.55

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

(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. The Clerk had circulated the renewal documents to Audit and Governance Group. **Action: Audit and Governance Group.**

(j) Budget 2016/17. The Clerk reported the draft budget documents had been circulated to all Members and had been considered by the Audit and Governance Group.

He invited Members to note the grounds maintenance out turn and the overall balances figures may be affected by grounds maintenance invoicing issues although this expenditure should remain within budget. For clarity this issue did not affect the draft precept based on this being held at the current figure of £25.60 per band D property.

As RFO he believed the gradual withdrawal and loss of Council Tax Reduction Grant referred to by Cllr Fisher should not affect the precept in future years as it was already modest. However the overall impact of the loss of this grant, the withdrawal of direct payment of New Homes Bonus and a possible reduction in ward member's budgets would have an effect on the precept in due course and/or on activities if there was no access to alternative funding streams and balances fell to levels which would not sustain unexpected but necessary expenditure.

The papers contained a draft recommendation for the precept to be held at £25.60 per Band D equivalent property. The Clerk invited Members to note a 3.99% increase was proposed by the borough council (1.99% general expenditure, 2.0% adult social care), with an additional 3.2% for the Police to take account of the Force's historically low precept and 1.99% for the Cheshire Fire Authority.

The Council was invited to consider the following draft recommendation: That a budget of £22625 be agreed for the financial year 2016/17 as set out in the budget reports which have been circulated together with a precept of £16794 which maintained the present Band D charge of £25.60.

The key features were a budget of £22625 to be financed by precept income of £16794 but held at the existing £25.60 per Band D property level applicable within Guilden Sutton parish, council tax reduction grant of £495 and income from other sources including VAT refund, grants, New Homes Bonus (subject to decision) and the use of £3638 from unallocated balances which were estimated at £23150 at 31 March 2016.

This proposal was moved by Cllr Ringstead, seconded by Cllr Fisher and agreed unanimously.

Members further considered the risk level associated with this budget and with all other aspects of the Council's business which would continue on an ongoing basis under the auspices of the Audit Group. The procedures in place were proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr Hughes and agreed unanimously.

Further to Cllr Fisher referring to aspects of the letter received from the borough council with reference to decisions on the precept which he felt contained incorrect wording, this had been considered by the Clerk who had suggested that although the particular wording referred to might be capable of misinterpretation the intention of the letter overall was clear. Cllr Fisher having sought information on the methodology surrounding the calculation of the number of Band D equivalent properties within the parish, additional information had been provided by officers following a request by the Clerk and provided to Cllr Fisher.

## 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.

A 51 footway adjoining the Rugby Club. Further to the complainant advising Cllr Hall the overgrowth had been cut back with the suggestion further work might be carried out to widen/clear the footpath to its proper width in the near future. there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(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. The Clerk confirmed he was progressing the provision of a bin on Station Lane. **Action: The Clerk.** Further concerns were raised by Members and it was agreed a suitable note should appear in the newsletter. **Action: The Clerk.**

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. This continued to be the position. **Action: The Clerk.**

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.

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 to be 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 referring to the ongoing concern as to visibility for emerging vehicles being obstructed, this issue was with Area Manager, Place Operations.

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

(h) 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 kindly indicated those which might be removed from the agenda.

(i) Trees, general. Further to Cllr Hughes informing he was frequently approached by residents concerned at the threatening nature of large trees on both public and private land within the parish, the Natural Environment Officer (Trees and Woodlands) Mr P Murray had been invited to visit and had indicated he would be willing to do so to inspect trees on public land. It was understood the officer was to contact Cllr Hughes. **Action: The Clerk**.

It was further understood the new Tree Officer, Mr S Kimber had advised the borough council was only in a position to deal with dangerous trees on its own land.

(j) Mrs Y Kirk. The concerns raised by Mrs Y Kirk as to trees said to be overgrowing the footway on the Guilden Sutton Lane diversion and their vigorous growth on the opposite side of the road were being pursued by the Clerk who believed they might fall to Highways England. **Action: The Clerk**.

(k) Hedge rear Village Hall. The Clerk reported this had been cut by Streetscene who, it was noted, had also carried out further work within the parish. It was agreed Streetscene should be thanked. **Action: The Clerk**.

(l) Hedges, Wicker Lane. Cllr Fisher referred to erosion of the banks on both sides of this road near the junction with the A41 outside the parish boundary and expressed concern the hedges might be lost. **Action: Noted**.

(m) Cheshire Wildlife Trust. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

12 Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

(a) Audit and Finance Update. This stood referred to the Audit and Governance Group. (b) Changes to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme for Local Councils. This had been circulated to the Audit and Governance Group. (c) Appointment of Parish Standards Representatives. As minuted above. (d) Chester & Vale Royal Joint Area Meeting 27 January 2016, Malpas. The Clerk suggested Members may wish to visit the minutes of the previous meeting, which had been circulated, as those contained a presentation by the Leader of the borough council on the future direction of the authority. **Action: Noted**.

13 Cheshire West and Chester Council.

(a) Community governance reviews.

(i) Guilden Sutton. The advice from the County Office that a large scale map of the revised parish was available for collection was being progressed by the Clerk. **Action: The Clerk**.

(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 together with the disparity in precepts across the borough which Cllr Fisher had also raised. The Clerk would contact Cllr Fisher. **Action: The Clerk**.

(b) Members budgets applications. (Speed activated indicators, Defibrillator.) There was nothing further to report at this stage arising from 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) Public Space Protection Order in Chester. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(f) Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - Public Consultation. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(g) New Homes Bonus. Further to the advice received from David Sconce Esq, Finance Officer, Budget Planning, Financial Reporting & Capital as to the future of the fund and from Cllr S Parker who had advised the new administration was looking to remove the New Homes Bonus allocations to town and parish councils as part of the process to allow for reduced grant income, the Clerk informed the submitted response was as set out beneath. Cllr S Parker had advised the letter of objection to the consultation should also be sent directly to the Leader of the Labour administration to strengthen the depth of opposition to this proposal in the rural areas. This had been done.

*The Council does not disagree with the principle that scarce resources must be devoted to the areas of greatest need but objects to the proposed withholding of New Homes Bonus as it believes this would have a disproportionate effect on the already disadvantaged rural area.*

*The Borough Council itself reports that 40% of its population live in the rural area and the rural areas of Cheshire West & Chester suffer from many of the same issues as other rural areas across England, including poor access to services, limited public transport, an ageing population and a critical lack of affordable housing. It goes on to say that rural communities face some serious threats to their long term sustainability including population imbalance, a shortage of the right sort of housing, unaffordable housing, withdrawal of services, limited economic opportunity, the economic infrastructure and the increasing cost of fuel and energy.*

*Across the country there has long been evidence that the ever widening differences in the level of services between town and country threatens the long term viability of many rural communities. Deprivation may be more readily discerned in a compact urban ward but in the rural areas it can go undetected and unacknowledged. New Homes Bonus payments have more recently played an important part in helping to redress the balance*

*A deprived urban ward is likely nonetheless to have reasonable access to a children's centre, a community centre, a high school, health services and public transport but this is often not the case in a deprived rural area. Occupiers, often elderly, experience a higher incidence of fuel poverty and face higher transport and housing costs.*

*Figures suggest that funding for local authorities from central government is £131 lower per head in rural areas compared with urban areas. This highlights the immense value to Town and Parish councils of the current arrangement which can go some way to ensuring the vitality of rural communities. In summary, Members are concerned that need in urban areas which may be more visible might be seen as a greater priority when there can be similar but unseen deprivation and isolation in the rural area which New Homes Bonus can play an invaluable role in addressing by supporting community cohesion.*

The following response had been received from the borough council.

*Re: Proposal to Withdraw New Homes Bonus*

*Dear Mr Norbury*

*Thank you for your letter dated 19th January 2016 to Councillor Dixon expressing Guilden Sutton Parish Council's concerns about the proposal to discontinue the discretionary New Homes Bonus Community Fund from 2016/17. I understand that the proposal could impact on some parish areas which is why we considered it important to consult with communities before making a decision on any changes. Please be assured that all responses to the consultation will be taken into consideration before arriving at a decision on this difficult issue.*

*Cheshire West and Chester Council is facing significant financial challenges over the coming years due to continued reductions in central government funding and rising demand on services. The Council needs to make significant savings over the next 4 years.*

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*The decision on whether to continue the discretionary payment of New Homes Bonus to local communities is just one of many difficult decisions that the Council will need to make when deciding which services are protected, which are done differently and even which are stopped altogether. We need to try to balance the needs of local communities with the needs of an aging population and vulnerable families across the borough and with the ever reducing funding available to the Council this is becoming increasingly challenging year on year.*

*The Council's communications with Town and Parish Councils since the inception of the discretionary policy have always been clear that future year payments from the Fund were not guaranteed and would be subject to future policy decisions, both at a local and national level. Indeed in the recent Spending Review, the Chancellor announced there are likely to be reforms made to the New Homes Bonus grant nationally and the impact of these changes is not yet known.*

*If the decision were to be taken that 20% of New Homes Bonus funding is retained centrally by Cheshire West and Chester Council please be reassured that the funding will not be lost; it would be targeted in a focused way towards delivering the Council's key priorities and ensuring the communities that need it most feel the benefit. In this way we can ensure that all New Homes Bonus funding continues to be used to improve the quality of life for the community. As requested within the consultation questionnaire if you have suggestions for ways in which Cheshire West and Chester Council and Town and Parish Councils can work better together for the benefit of our communities we would welcome hearing about them. Equally if you have suggestions for how the Council could make savings to the value of 20% of New Homes Bonus (around £1.4m in 2016-17) we would welcome your suggestions.*

*I hope you will agree that the most important thing is that we utilise all available resources in the best way possible for the benefit of our communities.*

*Yours sincerely  
Councillor David Armstrong  
Portfolio Holder for Finance & Legal*

*On behalf of Councillor Samantha Dixon  
Leader of the Council*

(h) Statement of Policy for Hackney Carriages, Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers and Private Hire Operators Consultation. It was noted a response was due by 21 February 2016.

(i) Invitation to attend the Lords Mayor's Banquet. This invitation had been circulated separately. Members were invited to indicate.

(j) Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule. Details of this consultation, on which comments were due by 11 March 2016 had been circulated separately.

14 Cheshire Community Action. The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation to enter the 2016 Community Pride Competition which had been circulated. **Action: Noted.**

15 CPRE. Countryside Voice reader survey. This survey had been referred to Cllr Brown.

16 Health. Public access defibrillator. Further to the decision at the previous meeting to agree the option B package in principle, (supply only, seven years supply of consumables) the Clerk informed an inquiry to the option B provider had led to a response indicating he was to be contacted by the local representative. This was awaited. Approaches to both the North West Ambulance Service and the Rural Localities Officer at the borough council for assistance had failed to elicit any reply. Frodsham Town Council, which had installed a number of devices, had helpfully advised of the charitable organisation through which they have provided the service. **Action: Noted.**

17 Policing/Fire Service.

(i) Policing:

(a) Police & Crime Commissioner, Cheshire Police precept consultation. This consultation seeking views on the Cheshire police precept for 2016/17 had been circulated separately to all Members. 15/16 156

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

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

(d) Crime fund. The possibility of the proposed second '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.**

(e) Meetings.

Police & Crime Commissioner's meeting with parish and town councils, Tuesday 9 February 2016, 6.30pm, Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, WA6 7QN.

Cheshire Constabulary Rural Crime Conference Monday 29 February 2016.

Details of both these events had been circulated separately. Members wishing to attend were invited to kindly indicate.

(ii) Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Cheshire Fire Authority: Consultation on draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2016/17. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

18 Newsletter. The Clerk informed a further newsletter would be prepared. **Action: Noted.**

19 War Memorial. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to a possible modest poppy installation.

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 further to that minuted above.

(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 further.

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 a further showing had taken place on 30 January 2016. The next film evening would be held on 23 April 2016. (ii) St John's 200th anniversary. Cllr Paterson reported further as to the Timeline history of the church. It was noted a fully illustrated book had been produced, price £25, to commemorate the anniversary and agreed 1 no copy should be purchased to be held by the Local History Group. (iii) HM The Queen 90th Birthday Celebrations. The Clerk informed he had responded positively to a request from the Clerk to Great Boughton PC for that council to be invited if the beacon was to be lit. The grounds maintenance contractor was to inspect the extent to which any clearance of the overgrowth may be possible but, as minuted above, may be unable to help as he was not insured to work on a 60mph road. The highway authority had been made aware of the position.

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 documentation received was under review. **Action: The Clerk.**

26 Village Hall Management Committee. Cllr Hughes reported further.

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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 Volunteering.

The Clerk reported the receipt of the following correspondence and advised he had passed it to the Community Association and to St John's PCC.

*I work for a local company called Qwest Service. We are committed to volunteering in the local community and are looking for one-off opportunities for our staff.*

*Can you advise if you know of any community groups that need help with;*

*DIY*

*Painting in the community*

*Gardening*

*General tasks*

*I am also looking at any community centres or organisations in the local area. If you know of any that need help can you let me know as well please?*

*Denice Whiteland*

*Corporate Social Responsibility Manager & Communications*

*Qwest Services*

29 Members' information items.

Highways. Cllr Ringstead advised of a large pothole on Belle Vue Lane which would be reported.

Men in Sheds. Cllr Ringstead informed of this project.

Children's activities. Cllr+ Ringstead informed of a festival of activities for children taking place in Chester at half term.

Environmental Services. It was noted that tipping was again taking place in the dingle and agreed a note should appear in the newsletter. **Action The Clerk.**

Main noticeboard. Cllr Fisher referred to the condition of this noticeboard.

Doctor's surgery. The Vice Chairman inquired as to the possibility of a surgery taking place in the village. It was noted a washbasin had been installed in the Committee Room of the Village Hall for this purpose.

Car washing. The Vice Chairman referred to car washing which had taken place on private land.

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.

32 Permitted development. Further to Members revisiting the withdrawal of permitted development rights on the Oaklands estate and referring to possible instances where occupiers may not have been aware an application was required, a note was to appear in the newsletter to raise awareness.

The meeting concluded at 2207

Date of next meeting: Monday 7 March 2016.

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