

GUILDEN SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held in Guilden Sutton Village Hall on Monday 14 December, 1998.

Chairman: Councillor Mrs B Antrobus.

Apologies: Councillor Fisher, City Councillor B J Bailey, City Councillor B J Bailey, County Councillor N J Fitton.

Present: Councillors Antrobus, Arditti, Armitage, Astbury, Gartland, Hughes, Whitehouse.

1. Minutes.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 9 November, 1998 were proposed by Councillor Gartland, seconded by Councillor Armitage and agreed.

2. Planning.

(i) New applications.

98/01297/FUL, extension to front elevation at 3 The Hall, Station Lane for Mr and Mrs D McIver. This application had been considered by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillor Gartland. The Vice Chairman had reported the proposal involved change to the elevation of an important, old and original building. Adjoining occupiers had been consulted by the applicant and there was no objection. Visiting Members believed, however, that the proposed portico was quite out of keeping with a serious break to the building line and that the impact of the extension was very significant in the relatively small, ordered space which it faced.

Councillor Armitage said the Council should be careful in taking a view opposed to that of the residents but agreed the proposal was quite out of keeping.

It was resolved the Council should object to the application on the grounds the proposal involved an important, old and original building in the historic village centre. The proposed portico was quite out of keeping and the overall impact of the extension, a

likely total of 2.00 metres forward, was very significant in the context of the relatively small, ordered space which it faced. The proposal seriously broke the building line with similar departures not being obvious elsewhere in the development.

The Council would be minded to withdraw their objection if the portico were to be omitted from the proposal and the extension limited to a maximum of 1.00 metres forward to the external face. Should the planning authority be persuaded to grant approval, the Council would wish to see a requirement for the guttering to match the existing on either side and for the first floor window to match that at no 2 in height and design. There should also be a flat roof line to the forward extension to match the existing.

The applicant and the Secretary of The Hall and Stables Management Committee would be informed.

98/01353/FUL, dormer bungalow with detached garage for residential - disabled use at Wood Farm for Mr P Gresty. Councillor Whitehouse reported on the detail of the application and on the circumstances of the applicant. Adjoining occupiers had been consulted and there was no objection. Members expressed concern at the scale of the proposal and considered whether or not the size of the application site fell within the infill policy defined in the emerging local plan. The relationship between the site and adjoining areas of important open green space was considered, together with the impact of development and the Council's consistent approach to proposals within the green belt.

Having considered the outcome of their inquiries together with the policy issues and taking careful account of the special circumstances of the applicant, it was resolved to raise an objection to the proposal as the site did not meet the emerging local plan criteria for infill dwellings. The distance between the eastern face of the existing dwelling and the eastern boundary of the existing curtilage was three times the plot widths of the two immediately adjoining properties to the east. Local plan policy, which the Council strongly endorsed, would only allow development on plots suitable for one or two dwellings.

The site was located within a sensitive area of green belt in close proximity to important and valuable areas of green space protected by the emerging local plan. The proposal would be inappropriate and would impact adversely on the openness of the

principal gateway to the village. This was not continuously developed on the northerly side, contributing to the overall character of the village setting.

There would be no objection to a modest extension to the existing property appropriate to meet the applicant's special needs.

Should the planning authority be minded to grant permission, the Council would wish to see the proposal to be limited to a single storey rather than a dormer bungalow in keeping with the existing. The two dwellings should be restricted to single occupancy, conditioned to prevent the separate disposal of the in fill development.

The applicant would be informed that Members had considered the application most anxiously but had not felt able to depart from their established policy.

98/01389/FUL, amendment to approved design, Unit 5, The Steadings for Kilmorey Estates (Chester) Ltd. Following a report by the Chairman, it was agreed that no objection should be raised. (see also 95/01046/COU beneath).

98/01414/FUL, conservatory to replace wooden lean to at 81 Oaklands for Mr W Clark. Councillor Arditti reported. It was noted that neighbouring occupiers had not been consulted by the planning authority and that not all adjoining properties were shown on the plans. Concern was expressed at the overall size of the proposal relative to the garden and at the need for obscured glazing to the high level windows. Further inquiries would be made.

(ii) Decision notices.

(a) refusals:

98/00445/COU, change of use of land to incorporate a new vehicular access road to segregate car park from yard at Topaz Hair Cosmetics, Guilden Sutton Lane. The Clerk reported he had attended the Planning sub committee on 11 November, 1998 at which the principal planning officer's recommendation for permission had been overturned after all three groups had supported the concerns raised by City Councillor J R Boughton. Views had been expressed as to the unwillingness of the

applicant to follow accepted planning procedures. This was welcomed. The Chairman said the Council would wish to thank those Parish Members concerned, the Clerk and City Councillor Boughton for their contributions to achieving the decision.

It was noted the decision notice described the proposal as inappropriate development within the green belt. This was noted.

98/00874/OUT, proposed bungalow and garage at Ashbourne House, Hare Lane for Mr N Hassall. It was noted the decision notice referred to the application as falling outside the categories for appropriate development within the green belt. In addition, the proposal would exacerbate existing capacity problems in respect of the public sewerage network. This was noted.

(b) permissions:

98/01119/FUL, construction of pitched roofs and provision of chimney stack at Roewen, Belle Vue Lane for J M R Construction.

98/01155/FUL, replacement of flat roof with pitched tiled roof at 28 Oaklands for Mr M Gartland. Councillor Gartland declared an interest as the applicant and made no comment.

98/01169/FUL, conversion of garage to playroom and car port to garage at 7 Orchard Croft for Mr R Baird. It was noted the permanent provision of three on site parking spaces had been required by condition in the interests of highway safety.

(iii) Current applications.

95/01046/FUL, COU of redundant farm buildings to 8 no dwellings, swimming pool, tennis court, garages, driveway and improvements to the highway at The Byatts, (now The Steadings), Wicker Lane for Kilmorey Estates. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 1 December, 1998, of advice from the Development Control Manager that he had agreed a proposed relocation of the garage block serving Unit 7. This was noted. The Development Control Manager would be thanked for informing the Council.

It was noted the proposed improvement to Wicker Lane at the entrance to the development would involve the setting back of the existing Cheshire railings opposite the spinney. Members wished an Oak at this location to be protected and also wished

the hedge line at the original entrance to Highfield to be reinstated. The need for the reinstatement of any public footpaths affected by the overall development would also be monitored.

95/01052/FUL, alterations to dwelling and COU to form garden at The Bungalow, Church Lane for Mrs. C Jones. The proposed improvement to the remaining area of open space adjoining the footway from Church Lane to Fox Cover would be pursued following the erection of the permanent fencing to the application site.

97/01302/FUL, extension at 1 Vicarage Close for Mr L Stephani. The Clerk had not yet been able to pursue his inquiries which might assist with determining the ownership of the access between nos. 1 and 3 Vicarage Close.

97/01146/S73, extension of time period for erection of underground reservoir, Guilden Sutton

Lane for Chester Waterworks Co. The decision notice was awaited.

98/00512/FUL, (amended application), construction of 2 no four bedroom bungalows with double garages and access alterations between Ranelagh and The Wood, School Lane for LRM Ltd. Nothing further to report at this stage.

9898/00589/FUL, installation of 22.5m telecommunications radio tower, equipment cabin and new access track at Dee Valley Reservoir, Guilden Sutton Lane for Cellnet. The Clerk reported he had now received a helpful response from the Highways Agency in Manchester as to their unpreparedness to enter into agreement for the mast to be sited on highway land as had been requested by Cellnet. This rehearsed the reasons why they were unable to agree to such requests as distinct from proposals adjoining highway land. The reply was noted.

98/00729/FUL, creation of foot/cycleway Mickle Trafford - Dee Marsh junction for Sustrans. A County Council progress report had been obtained by the Clerk and was referred to Councillor Armitage.

98/00831/FUL, conversion of double garage into living accommodation at 10 Middlecroft for Mr and Mrs B Leroux. The

concerns expressed by the Vice Chairman had been raised, in the first instance, at the Chester Area Meeting. Although no widespread concerns had been voiced, there had been general agreement this would be an appropriate matter to form the subject of a motion to the annual meeting of the County Association.

98/00989/OUT, demolition of existing bungalow and erection of new dwelling at Woodcote, Wicker Lane for Mr J Cox. It was understood offers were being invited for the disposal of the property.

(iv) General:

(a) Parish Planning Forum: planning guidelines. Councillor Hughes expressed disappointment at the degree of discretion afforded to the planning authority although he believed the guidelines offered a valuable insight into planning matters. He was thanked for a generous offer to supply copies to any Member who wished to have their own set of the guidelines.

(b) Telecommunications development control. The report obtained by the Clerk was being considered by Councillor Armitage.

(d) Chester City Council, review of fees and charges. City Councillor Boughton had been thanked for his successful motion to delete a proposal that charges should be made to parish councils wishing to inspect documents relating to previous planning applications. The matter had also been referred to the Chester Area Meeting where there had been a general unawareness of the proposal and appreciation for the action taken by City Councillor Boughton.

(e) Planning applications. The Clerk confirmed a note as to the need for planning applications had appeared in the newsletter.

(f) Article 4 Directions. A City Council report on the present position with regard to Article 4 Directions, as had been imposed on the Oaklands Estate, had been obtained by the Clerk and referred to the Vice Chairman.

(v) Strategic Planning.

(a) Chester District Local Plan.

(i) Representations. The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Proposed cycleway. See planning application 98/00729/FUL above.

(b) Cheshire 2011 draft modifications. The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(c) Cheshire Replacement Minerals Local Plan. The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(d) Cheshire Replacement Waste Local Plan.

The Clerk had obtained copies of a Cheshire County Council agenda report dealing with the responses to the draft plan and of the minutes of meetings of the Waste Panel which referred, inter alia, to the possibility of extended hours at the Gowy landfill site to deal with civic amenity site arisings from Chester.

3. Parish Car Park.

(i) Trees and Shrubs. Councillor Gartland, Parish Tree Warden, reported the Landscape Trust were not in a position to supply shrubs suitable for planting within the car park.

(ii) Maintenance. Councillor Armitage reported that with the Vice Chairman and Councillor Hughes he had attended a site meeting at 10.00am on Saturday 12 December, 1998 with the contractor, Mr Paul Gresty, to discuss performance against specification. It had been agreed the rose bed had not been maintained and a reduction in the overall charge for the contract from £680 plus VAT to £665 plus VAT had been accepted. Rutting to the playing field in the early part of the season had been raised as had the absence of dockets. It had been agreed that in any future contract, these would be provided as a matter of course as was the case with other clients and that in their absence, no payment would be made.

It was resolved that a part payment of £700 would be made with the balance to follow on completion of the maintenance to the rose bed. The contractor would be advised.

4. Leisure Services.

(i) Playing field.

(a) Notice. With respect to the use of the field by residents exercising their dogs, the Clerk confirmed a notice was being prepared prohibiting the use of the field by dogs or for the playing of golf.

(ii) Play Area.

(a) Safety inspections. The anticipated report which it was understood was being prepared by the parents of children using the play area was awaited.

(b) Safety surfacing. The Clerk confirmed the contractor had raked and levelled the safety surfacing and had trimmed the boundary hedging.

(c) Nuisance. A reply was awaited from the Divisional Commander as to the arrangements for the proposed meeting with Christleton, Littleton and Mickle Trafford to discuss nuisance youths.

(d) Possible transfer. The Head of Sport and Recreation had been thanked for his suggestion that the possible transfer of responsibility for the play area might best be raised at any future visit to the Parish by an executive director to discuss the corporate plan. This would be progressed by the Clerk. The Ward Members had been informed of the response.

(e) Public seat. The need for a further public seat in the play area, would be revisited as part of the budget preparation.

(iii) Public Footpaths.

(a) Parish Paths Partnership. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Footpath no 2. The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage as to the intended surface dressing. Reference to persistent fouling was to be included in a future newsletter.

(c) Mid Cheshire Footpath Society. A copy of the Christmas 1998 Newsletter was received and would be referred to the Parish Paths Warden.

(iv) Pond Life Project. The letter of support for the project was being progressed by the Clerk on the basis of the draft provided by Councillor Gartland, Parish Pond Warden.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance. The Clerk reported he was contacting the City Council contractor to discuss the position. (see also 3 (ii) above).

5. Public Transport.

(i) Services: general.

(a) Sunday Service to Guilden Sutton. Nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Punctuality. Nothing further to report at this stage.

(c) Service reductions. The Clerk reported a series of decisions by the County Council to achieve savings in contract services due to the sharply rising cost of tenders and to a change in policy so far as the previous replacement of commercially operated routes

(ii) Bus Shelters. Nothing further to report at this stage.

(iii) District Wide Accessible Transport. The report prepared by the City Council was being considered Councillor Mrs Astbury.

(iv) Rural Transport Partnership. Details of this scheme were being considered by Councillor Mrs Astbury.

(v) Guide to public transport services for people with a mobility problem. A copy of a new issue of this guide was received and referred to Councillor Mrs Astbury.

(vi) Chester District Public Transport Liaison Committee. The Clerk reported he had been informed by the County Council, by letter dated 3 December, 1998, that the next meeting of the committee would be held on Monday 15 February, 1999 at 6.30pm in County Hall. This was noted. He had also obtained a copy of the agenda for the meeting held on Monday 23

November, 1998

6. Highways.

(i) Major schemes. The Clerk indicated there was nothing to report.

(ii) Local matters.

(a) A 41/Guilden Sutton Lane. Members were noting the number of incidences of more than one vehicle seeking to cross at any one time in order to enable an assessment of the scale of the problem.

(b) Footway, Wicker Lane. The planting of hedging to the frontage of two properties in Wicker Lane which it was believed would encroach onto the highway verge had been referred to the District Engineer.

(c) Moorcroft Crescent. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the reconstruction of the foot and carriageways.

(d) Street nameplates - Oaklands. Action by the City Council to attend to the poor condition of the street nameplates at the entrance to Oaklands opposite The Wood was awaited.

(e) Belle Vue Lane - verge maintenance. There was nothing further to report as this stage as to the District Engineer's inquiries concerning the maintenance of the verge opposite The Orchards.

(f) Verge - Guilden Sutton Lane. An appropriate response was being made to the occupier of no 64 Guilden Sutton Lane.

(g) Local Joint Highways Committee for Chester. Nothing further to report.

(h) Road surface, Guilden Sutton Lane. The egress of water across the carriageway of the railway bridge, referred to the District Engineer, was being kept under review.

(i) Speed limit, School Lane. The Clerk reported he had received a response from the Traffic Unit as to the difficulties encountered by an occupier in School Lane in emerging from his drive due to

the speed of traffic approaching from Guilden Sutton Lane and poor visibility due to the alignment of the road. Enforcement action could be expected in the period to 31 December, 1998.

(j) Drain covers, Guilden Sutton Lane. The response of the District Engineer was being referred to the occupier concerned.

(k) closure, Station Lane, Mickle Trafford. The Clerk reported the receipt from City Councillor B J Bailey, by letter dated 11 November, 1998, of details of the signing arrangements in connection with the closure affecting a length of Station Lane, Mickle Trafford for a period of three weeks from 30 November, 1998. City Councillor Bailey would be thanked for the information which had enabled a possibly misleading legend to be rectified. The position regarding bus services had been raised with the District Engineer.

(l) highways depot. The Clerk reported the receipt of informal advice from the District Engineer as to a future application for the construction of an LPG storage compound at the depot. This was noted. The District Engineer would be thanked for his consideration.

(m) Road Traffic Reduction Act. A County Council report on this new legislation had been obtained by the Clerk and was referred to Councillor Armitage.

(n) Verge, Station Lane. The condition of the verge by the bus stop, raised by Councillor Gartland, was being inspected.

(iii) Street lighting. Nothing further to report at this stage.

7. Finance:

(i) income.

Bank of Scotland

interest (November) £ 31.04

(ii) payments.

Gresty

grounds maintenance 1998 £ 700.00

(stage payment)

Clerk's photocopies

(November) 384@ 5p £ 19.20

Clerk's mileage

20 @ 20p £ 4.00

Clerk's stationery

Toner £ 18.10 (VAT £2.70)

A4 paper £ 9.94 (VAT £1.48)

Proposed by Councillor Gartland

seconded by Councillor Whitehouse

and agreed. 98/99 093

(iii) balances

Bank of Scotland £ 8602.33

(iv) Audit.

(a) Internal. The accounts for the period 1.10.98 - 31.12.98 would be passed by the Clerk to Councillor Hughes in due course.

(b) External. The Clerk reported the receipt of draft income and expenditure accounts and balance sheet for 1997/98 from the auditor. This reconciled satisfactorily with the Council's accounts as the Clerk understood and with the agreement of the Council, the documents were signed by the Chairman.

The view expressed by Councillor Hughes at the annual meeting of the Cheshire Association of Town and Parish Councils as to the balance to be achieved by auditors and to the need for Parishes to be able to go to the market for their audit had been raised

with Christine Russell MP and a response was awaited.

(v) Budget 1999/00. The Clerk submitted preliminary budget proposals for 1999/2000 which he had circulated and which would be updated to take account of the nine monthly out turn. These would be considered in detail by the Chairman, Vice Chairman Councillor Hughes prior to consideration at the January meeting.

The Clerk reported the receipt from the City Council, by letter dated 17 November, 1998, of an intimation that the tax base for the forthcoming financial year, would be notified after 16 December, 1998 although a report suggested this would be 627.3 Band D equivalent properties. The next comparable parishes were Farndon at 659.7 and Waverton at 675.7

8. Access to school.

Councillor Gartland, as Parish Tree Warden, reported the cherry trees available from the Cheshire Landscape Trust nursery were of insufficient maturity. The availability of cherry trees from the City Council would be pursued by the Clerk. Councillor Gartland would also inquire of other trees which might be suitable and inform Councillor Hughes should this be the case. The Clerk was requesting the City Council to cut the boundary hedging in advance of any planting.

9. Environment services:

(i) amenity cleansing. The Clerk reported he was arranging to purchase seven of the bag holders suggested by Henderson Horticultural Services.

It was noted Mrs J Rivers had expressed her appreciation of the sweeping of the Bird in Hand steps which had recently been undertaken.

(ii) dog fouling. (a) Heath Bank. Nothing further to report. (b) Church Lane. The outcome of the intended inspection by the Dog Warden was awaited. (c) Footpath no 2. A response was awaited as to the need for bins on footpath no 2. An approach was being made to City Councillor B J Bailey seeking advice as to the action taken elsewhere in Chester District where footpaths were heavily and persistently fouled.

(iii) lengthsman. The Clerk reported the grounds maintenance contractor would be prepared to carry out a scavenge of the areas identified on a two weekly rota, save for the play area which would appear on each rota, on the basis of one hour per week. This would be accepted with immediate effect. Visual safety inspections by Members would continue and any hazardous accumulations would be drawn to the contractor's attention.

(iv) sewers. Nothing to report.

(v) Bonfires. Following the suggestion by Councillor Hughes, the position in Chester District was being ascertained from the Environmental Health Service. A note would follow in a future edition of the newsletter.

10. Trees and hedges.

(i) access adjoining Hill Top Road. It was noted that a number of trees believed to be standing on City Council owned land had been felled possibly by the adjoining occupier. The Council would not wish to see any further felling outside the curtilage and an appropriate letter would be sent.

(ii) Cheshire Landscape Trust. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 24 November, 1998, of a request from the Cheshire Landscape Trust, for details of the Parish Tree Warden. This would be dealt with.

11. Cheshire Association of Parish Councils.

(i) Double rating. An approach was being made to the City Council and to the Ward Members seeking a repayment of the 1998/99 rates for the parish car park and 100 per cent relief in future years. The view of NALC would also be sought as to whether such a rating was ultra vires.

(ii) Complaints procedure. Copies of the procedure would be circulated by the Clerk and an appropriate note would appear in the newsletter.

(iii) Chester Area Meeting 9 December, 1998. Councillor Armitage reported.

12. Chester City Council.

(i) Zero Tolerance Campaign. The Clerk reported the receipt of a further poster which he had exhibited.

(ii) Maintenance of churchyards and burial grounds. The Clerk reported the City Council Environmental and Health Services committee had considered a recommendation at their meeting on 23 November, 1998 that a grant of £750 should be made to the Parish Council towards proposed expenditure by the PCC on grounds maintenance equipment which he understood had been approved. This was welcomed.

(iii) Cultural provision. The Clerk was seeking further details of the information requested by the City Council.

(iv) Christmas Gift Parcels. The Clerk reported that due to a change in the arrangements, the Parish had not received an invitation to nominate recipients. The matter had been raised by Mr G Bebbington who had been advised of the position. It was understood there would be a reversion to the original arrangements in 1999.

(v) Rural Chester Guide. The Clerk reported on this guide prepared by the City Council. Although the references to Guilden Sutton were to be welcomed, it was disappointing that the cartographical information relating to the parish was extremely inaccurate. This would be drawn to the attention of the Rural Economic Development Officer.

(vi) Silver Broom Awards. Details of this scheme were received and noted. No nomination would be made.

(vii) Draft Annual Plan. The Clerk had obtained a copy of this draft plan which referred inter alia to the rural area. This would be considered by Councillor Armitage.

(viii) Members Management Arrangements. The Clerk had obtained a copy of this report on the future structure of the City Council which referred inter alia to the rural area and to Area Boards. This would be considered by Councillor Armitage.

(ix) Rates relief. The Clerk reported the minutes of meetings of the Rates Relief Panel of 30 July, 1998 and 16 November, 1998 had disclosed that both hairdressing establishments within the

parish had been granted discretionary relief. This was noted.

(x) Vandaline security. Details of this scheme was received and noted.

(xi) Refuse collection. Details of the refuse collection arrangements for Christmas and New Year were received and noted.

(xii) Agenda 16 November, 1998. Received and referred to Councillor Gartland.

(xiii) Village Greenspace Survey. This survey had been referred by the Clerk to Councillor Hughes who reported on the continuing shortfall in Guilden Sutton and kindly circulated the relevant extract to all Members. Councillor Hughes was thanked.

(xiv) National Lotteries Charities Board. Details of funding arrangements and the availability of grants were received and referred to Councillor Hughes.

13. Cheshire County Council.

(i) 1997/98 statement of accounts. A copy of the accounts was received and noted.

(ii) Chester Matters no 1. A copy of this new bulletin was received and noted.

(iii) Chester Matters no 2. Received and noted.

(iv) Cheshire Environment no 56. A copy of this bulletin was received and noted.

(v) Cheshire Archives and Local Studies newsletter no 13. Copies of this newsletter sufficient for each Member were received and noted.

(vi) Envirolink 23 November 1998. A copy of this bulletin was received and noted.

14. Cheshire Community Council.

(i) Cheshire Best Kept Village Competition. The Clerk had

circulated the detailed marking relating to Guilden Sutton which confirmed that the general impression of the village was pleasing and the parish rated relatively highly but could easily achieve a better score. This would be publicised in the newsletter and those aspects criticised which were outside the Council's control would be referred to the appropriate organisations

(ii) annual report 1997/98. A copy of this report was received and noted.

(iii) briefing no 5 - funding applications. A copy of this briefing was received and noted.

(iv) Community News and Views Autumn 1998. A copy of this bulletin was received and noted.

(v) Cheshire Cauldron November 1998. A copy of this newsletter was received and referred to Councillor Gartland.

15. CPRE.

Correspondence was received and referred to Councillor Whitehouse.

16. Health.

Nothing to report.

17. Policing matters.

(i) Nuisance.

(a) Approach from Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council. A response was awaited from the Divisional Commander as to progress with the proposed joint meeting between Christleton, Littleton, Mickle Trafford and Guilden Sutton to discuss the issue of nuisance youths.

(b) Moorcroft Crescent. The Clerk reported there was nothing further to report at this stage as to the complaints from a resident about the playing of football by younger children and the parking of cars.

(ii) drugs awareness forum. The Clerk reported he had been

asked to make arrangements for the proposed drugs forum to which local parish councillors would be invited to be held in Guilden Sutton. This was welcomed.

(iii) Crime and Disorder Audit 1998, consultation. The Clerk reported the receipt of this extremely interesting audit which was referred to Councillor Hughes.

(iv) Chester Police Forum. It was noted the next meeting, which Members were welcome to attend, would be held on Monday 1 February, 1999 at 7.00pm at Police Headquarters.

(v) Making Safer Communities. The Clerk reported this seminar on the Crime and Disorder Act had been organised by Christine Russell MP on 21 November, 1998. It had not been possible for the Council to be represented due to the short notice. 98/99 096

18. Newsletter.

The Clerk indicated there was nothing to report.

19. Millennium Celebrations.

(i) Parish. The suggestion by the Headteacher that local children should be invited to give their views as to possible changes and developments within the village was being pursued by the Clerk.

(ii) City. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 3 December, 1998 from the City Council, of details of funding opportunities. This would be referred to Councillor Armitage.

20. Memorial Garden.

Councillor Gartland, Parish Tree Warden, reported the Landscape Trust were in a position to supply hawthorn hedging which would be appropriate for the memorial garden. The Clerk had enquired of the City Council DSO to elicit any expression of interest in tendering for the proposed improvement work. A response was awaited.

21. Bulb planting.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

22. Land adjoining 2 Summerfield Road.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

23. Periodic Electoral Review.

There was nothing further to report at this stage as to progress with the proposed meeting between Christleton, Littleton and Guilden Sutton to discuss boundary issues.

24. Web site.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

25. Parishes and IT.

The eligibility of the parish council to apply for funding for the provision of IT equipment was being pursued.

26. Skip, Village Hall car park.

Following the withdrawal of the igloo, a note had appeared in the of the newsletter encouraging residents to use their green bags.

27. Replacement of Christleton High School swimming pool.

It was understood from the Chairman of the Christleton Sports Centre JMC that the lottery bid to enable the replacement of the swimming pool, towards which the Council had agreed a contribution of £100, was nearing completion.

28. Possible withdrawal of lottery terminal.

Councillor Armitage reported he had appeared before the County Council's new Area Committee which had expressed strong support. This was welcomed. The Clerk had obtained a copy of a Member's briefing note prepared by Chester City Council. This was noted.

29. Involvement of youth.

With respect to the suggestion by Councillor Hughes as to possible action to encourage youths or youth organisations to

take an interest in the work of the Council, The Clerk was making approaches to the Vicar and the Scout and Guide leaders.

30. Chevron signs, The Byatts.

Councillor Arditti referred to the benefit of chevron signs being provided at this location. The matter would be raised with the District Engineer.

31. Parking: Arrowcroft Road.

Councillor Arditti referred to difficulties experienced by a resident due to inconsiderate parking by minibuses and parents involved in out of hours activities at the school. The matter would be referred to the Head teacher and the resident concerned informed.

32. Christmas Tree.

The Clerk reported a kind offer by Mrs Alsop of a Christmas Tree for the Village Hall. It had not been possible for this to be taken up as a tree had already been purchased. Councillor Armitage believed the Council would wish to thank Mrs Alsop for her gesture. This was agreed.

MATTERS CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by Councillor Gartland, seconded by Councillor Armitage and agreed that the press and public should be excluded for the discussion of the following items on the grounds of 33, 34 and 35 enforcement action and 36 and 37 details of the financial affairs of a third party.

33. Occupancy of property, School Lane.

Councillor Gartland reported he understood this property was now vacant.

34. Enforcement action - industrial premises.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

35. Enforcement action - Oaklands.

The Clerk reported there had been no further communication from the planning authority as to development on the Oaklands estate for which the Council had not received a planning application.

36. Fencing adjoining Village Hall Car Park.

The Clerk indicated he had not yet been able to visit the planning authority to determine if the original planning permission was of any help in delineating curtilages in that area of the village.

37. Sale of land, Hare Lane, Guilden Sutton.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 3 December, 1998 which he had circulated, of an approach from the City Council seeking the Council's views as to the future use of land upon which an agricultural tenancy had been surrendered. The unanimous view of Members was that the land should remain under agricultural use within the Green Belt. The City Council would be thanked for the consultation and requested to keep the Council informed.