

## **GULDEN SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 14 October 2002 in Guilden Sutton Village Hall.

Chairman: Councillor R M Armitage

1 Apologies: Councillor Arditti, County Councillor J E Burke.

Present: Councillors Armitage, Astbury, Fisher, Hughes, Paterson, Proudlove, Whitehouse.

In attendance: City Councillor J R Boughton, PC Richard Tack.

Public speaking time.

PC Tack referred to Project Rural Matters and to the progress of enquiries as to the vandalism which had taken place in the children's play area resulting in damage to the slide. He indicated the incident could not be progressed without further information. PC Tack responded to questions from Members and was thanked by the Chairman for his attendance. The Chairman referred to PC Tack's forthcoming retirement and the Council expressed its appreciation for his support and his interest in the parish.

2 Procedural matters.

(i) Minutes. The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 9 September 2002 were proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Astbury and agreed as a correct record. Councillor Hughes welcomed the earlier production of the minutes, which would be maintained and referred to the value of the information items listed in the agenda.

(ii) Co-option. Induction material had been obtained by the Chairman from the County Office. Guidance on planning matters was being produced by the Clerk.

(iii) Declarations of interest. There were no declarations of interest.

3 Planning.

(i) New applications.

02/01043/FUL (amended) two storey side extension at 26 Oaklands CH3 7HE for Mr and Mrs Dalgano. Amended plans had been received and had been referred to Councillor Fisher who would make further enquiries. Subject to the outcome of these enquiries, the Planning Officer would be informed it was noted the applicant had moved some way to mitigate the effect of the extension following the concerns raised by objectors.

(ii) Decision notices.

02/01320/FUL extension to front of dwelling and side windows at Firdale, 1 School Lane, CH3 7ET for Mr and Mrs Stairmand. It was noted the application had been approved subject to a condition requiring that the accommodation should not be used as a separate unit as this would give rise to an over intensive use of the site and lead to an unsatisfactory relationship between independent dwellings. An informative had been added that the applicant should ensure that all of the works associated with the approved scheme including the foundations and guttering were contained on land wholly in the applicant's ownership.

(iii) Appeal.

02/00093/OUT erection of 1 No two storey detached dwelling on adjacent land at Holly Cottage, Guilden Sutton Lane CH3 7EX for TNJ Developments. The decision of the Inspector was awaited with respect to the appeal to the Secretary of State.

(iv) current applications.

00/00541/FUL two storey side extension at 11 Fox Cover for Mr. D Hancock.

00/00577/FUL, (amended) two storey extension at Heathfield, Guilden Sutton Lane for Mr. P. White.

00/00932/FUL, rear extension and extension/modification to front study at 5 Guilden Green for Mr. I Armstrong. Cllr Arditti.

00/01110/FUL, two storey rear extension and conservatory at Fieldway, Hare Lane for Mr R Bellamy.

01/00133/FUL, two story extension and rear conservatory at 3 Heath Bank for Mrs M Higginson.

01/00454/FUL single storey side extension at 12 Fox Cover for Mr K Mohring. **Cllr Fisher.**

01/00551/FUL, use of roof space as habitable accommodation and insertion of new roof lights at The Paddock, Church Lane CH3 7EW.

01/00738/FUL, raise workshop roof on part of unit 3, Guilden Sutton Yard, Guilden Sutton Lane for A Wilding (Chester) Ltd.

01/00781/FUL, utility room extension at 8 Porters Croft for Mr and Mrs D Provan.

01/00920/FUL, extension to roof of proposed loft conversion at 54 Guilden Sutton Lane, CH3 7EY for Mr Palmer.

01/00940/FUL, two storey extension and addition of pitched roof to garage at 9 Fox Cover, CH3 7HH for Mrs

E Johnson.

01/01302/FUL replace flat roof with pitched at Highfield, Wicker Lane, CH3 7EL for Mr D Matthews. **Cllr Whitehouse.**

02/00194/FUL, alterations and extensions, Halfways, Hare Lane, Pipers Ash for Mr S McEwan. **Cllr Armitage.**

02/00243/FUL, amended details, kitchen extension, pitched roof and new front entrance canopy at 43 Oaklands for Mr M Davies. **Cllr Arditti.**

02/01111/FUL (amended) installation of 20 metre tower, antennas, dishes and equipment cabin, Dee Valley reservoir, Guilden Sutton Lane. **Cllr Fisher.**

4 Parish Car Park.

The agreed works had been carried out by the contractor.

5 Leisure Services.

(i) Parish Playing Field. Councillor Arditti had informed the Clerk the remedials agreed with the contractor at the site meeting held on Wednesday 25 September 2002 had been completed. The Clerk understood that four tonnes of soil had been imported to rectify the damage to the surface. Estimates were being sought for the proposed sign.

(ii) Play Area. Councillor Arditti had informed the Clerk the remedials agreed at the site meeting held on Wednesday 25 September 2002 had been completed. Councillor Fisher indicated that Members attending the site meeting had reached a consensus that the height of the boundary hedge should be reduced to that of the perimeter fencing. Councillor Hughes expressed reserve as to the value of this work being carried out if corresponding work was not carried out to the adjoining hedge in the ownership of the primary school.

Action: Estimate to be sought from the grounds maintenance contractor to reduce the height of the Beech hedge to that of the perimeter fencing and to remove the arisings.

Estimates for the provision of wooden bench seating to the front boundary of the play area had been sought by Councillor Fisher. It was noted the intention was these would be placed within the perimeter fencing with the verge either side of the fencing being replaced with flexible surfacing material. The estimates presented by Councillor Fisher were noted. Action: estimate to be sought from the grounds maintenance contractor for the relocation of the existing seat within the play area to the opposite verge.

Damage to slide. The Council noted the advice of PC Tack that the approach considered at the September meeting might not be appropriate. The Clerk reported that similar advice had been tendered by the County Secretary. A possible draft, which in amended form could appear in the newsletter, was considered. Action: draft to be referred to the County Secretary for advice from legal officers at the National Association as agreed at the September meeting.

Councillor Proudlove indicated she had contacted a supplier in Australia who would be able to provide a replacement slide at a cost of £4100 inclusive of shipping and insurance. Councillor Hughes indicated the grounds maintenance contractor had offered to carry out temporary repairs to the slide at a cost of

£100 which would not be raised if the repair proved to be unsuccessful. The Council expressed its appreciation of this offer.

Action: further estimates to be sought by Councillor Proudlove, insurers to be advised of the present position and requested to authorise the temporary repair. In the event of progress on this basis, the City Council would be requested to carry out a safety inspection before the slide was returned to use.

Councillor Proudlove reported further on the outcome of her enquiries into a suitable multi purpose item for toddler age children. Following a report, Councillor Fisher was authorised to remove the damaged balls from the existing play house.

(iii) Public Footpaths. (a) Parish Paths Group. There had been no further progress in recruiting a Parish Paths Warden. Councillor Hughes reported that in the absence of a Warden, the Parish Paths Group had not met. (b) Gowy Footpaths. The Clerk had ascertained from the Public Rights of Way Unit that the Gowy paths had been reinstated and a replacement bridge installed. This was welcomed. (c) Footpath Number 2. The Clerk was identifying adjoining properties to which the proposed request for occupiers to inspect their boundaries to enable sweeping to be carried out would be sent. He reported the receipt of a letter from Mr T Tyson to the Chairman rehearsing in extensive detail arguments against the need for any work being carried out to the path. It was reported that hay bales from the adjoining field had been deposited in the dingle. Concern had been expressed at the possible fire risk. Action: landowner to be informed, letter to be copied to Councillor Hughes.

(iv) Grounds Maintenance. A progress meeting with the contractor had been held on Saturday 5 October 2002 attended by Councillor Hughes and Councillor Whitehouse. It was noted that in any future contract, litter picking on Guilden Sutton Lane would be carried out on an as and when required basis. Both the contractor and the Council had been satisfied at the performance of the 2002 contract.

(v) Public seats. There was nothing further to report additional to the discussion minuted above.

(vi) Landscaping, Fox Cover. There was nothing further to report at this stage. A further approach would be made to the City Council Parks and Open Spaces Manager. The City Council would

be requested to sweep the steps onto which mulch had migrated from the planting when the steps to Cinder Lane were swept following the Autumn fall.

6. Public Transport. (i) Rural Transport Information Point. The continuing unacceptable condition of the Rural Public Transport Information Point had been raised by the Chairman at a meeting of the Chester District Public Transport Liaison Committee. It was understood that action was to be taken. (ii) Timetable Information. Further to the difficulty reported by Councillor Fisher, enquiries by the Clerk of the Transport Co-Ordination Service had revealed that detailed timetable information was not available on the internet although there were references to the frequency of individual services. Cheshire Community Council had been contacted as to progress with the proposed promotional leaflets and a response was awaited. (iii) Bus Shelters. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 10 October 2002, of a letter from Mr G Bebbington requesting the provision of seats in the two bus shelters in School Lane for use by elderly people. Action: details to be sought from the Transport Co-Ordination Service, note to appear in newsletter.

## 7. Highways.

(i) Major schemes. (a) Chester Deeside Transport System, extension of cycleway to Park Farm. City Councillor Boughton reported that a final decision on the scheme was due to be taken by the County Council later in the Autumn following which he believed that action should again be taken to secure the extension of the cycleway to Park Farm. (b) A 51 maintenance, Summer 2003. Councillor Armitage had chaired the briefing held at Backford Hall on Thursday 26 September 2002 which had discussed the scheme which would affect the road between the A54 roundabout at Tarvin and the A55 roundabout at Littleton. Action: questionnaire to be completed by those Members attending, the Chairman and Clerk. Highway Authority to be requested to impose a temporary 30mph speed limit on Wicker Lane during the duration of the work and to improve the surfacing on Wicker Lane from the junction with School Lane to Cinder Lane in advance.

(ii) Local matters. (a) direction signs to Village Hall and shops. The Highway authority had been instructed to proceed with the proposed scheme. (b) footway and verges Guilden Sutton Lane. The proposed site meeting would be progressed by the Clerk. (c) local safety scheme, junction A41 and Guilden Sutton Lane. The

Highway Authority had been informed the Council wished the proposed hatching in the gap in the central reservation to be revised to follow the centre line of the outbound lanes from Guilden Sutton Lane and for the position of the proposed road markings to be adjusted to enable the 'Keep Clear' markings, which benefited drivers travelling to and from Pipers Ash, to be retained. The Clerk had been informed by County Councillor J E Burke that representations had been made by County Councillor S R Proctor and there was a possibility the scheme would be called in to the Local Joint Committee for Highways and Transportation, resulting in delay. In the event of it not being possible to provide both the 'Keep Clear' markings and the proposed direction signs, the Council believed the proposed direction signs should take preference. It was noted the previous 'Slow' markings on the A41 were to be reinstated. This was welcomed. (d) Request for pedestrian crossing, Hoole Lane/ Guilden Sutton Lane. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) road markings, approach to parish playing field. Details of the proposals put forward by the Highway Authority had been circulated. These were accepted, subject to the proposed 'Slow' marking in the outbound carriageway opposite the parish playing field being replicated in the adjoining carriageway adjoining Guilden Sutton in lieu of the reinstatement of a previous marking. Action: Highway Authority to be informed.

(f) speed of traffic, Guilden Sutton Lane/School Lane. The request raised by Councillor Hughes for police speed checks to be carried out would be referred to the Traffic Management Unit.

(iii) Lighting. There were no faults to report.

8. Finance:

(i) Income:

Bank of Scotland:

Interest (Sept) £ 26.76

(ii) Payments

Play and Leisure Limited.

Playground/Playing Field £6,668.02 (includes VAT £993.12).

The Clerk reported that following advice from Councillor Arditti that the requested remedials had been satisfactorily completed, the cheque had been released to the contractor. It was proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Astbury, that this action should be confirmed.

Mrs R Mort

Playing field rent

Oct – Dec £ 137.50

Gresty

Car park £ 270.00

Bulbs £ 79.00

VAT £ 61.07

£ 410.07

CATPCs

Publication £ 11.50

Clerk:

Salary

July – Sept £ 675.00

photocopies (Sept) 195 @5p £ 9.90

Proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Astbury, and agreed.

(iii) Balances:

(Sept) £17,029.73

(iv) audit. The Clerk reported the accounts and the annual return had been signed by the Chairman prior to submission to the external auditor.

9 Environment services.

(i) amenity cleansing. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) litter bins. Information had been requested from the City Council as to the types of bin available.

10 Trees and hedges. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

11 Cheshire Association of Town and Parish Councils/NALC. Councillor Armitage reported the County Executive was to consider proposals for a national development fund which in due course would impact upon the subscription.

12 Chester City Council.

There were no action items to report.

13 Cheshire County Council.

There were no action items to report.

14 Cheshire Community Council.

There were no action items to report.

15 CPRE.

There were no action items to report.

16 Health.

There were no action items to report.

17 Policing. There were no action items to report.

18 Newsletter. The Clerk regretted it had not been possible to

produce a newsletter.

19 Memorial Garden. There was nothing further to report.

20 Bulb planting. It was agreed that further bulb planting would be carried out on Saturday 26 October and Saturday 9 November 2002. The Chairman reported that ground conditions were exceptionally difficult.

21 Parish ICT. There was nothing further to report.

22 Primary school. Councillor Fisher reported.

23 Surgery 5 October 2002. It was reported that no members of the public had attended.

24 Information Commissioner. The Clerk reported he had obtained a model scheme and would report further to the December meeting.

25 Members information items.

Councillor Proudlove hoped that Members of the Council would support a fundraising event in aid of the play area to be held on Wednesday 27 November 2002.

The Clerk reported that Mrs Christine Russell MP was to hold a surgery in the village for

constituents and requested confirmation that it would be appropriate for the date to be advertised in the newsletter. The request was agreed.

Matters discussed in the absence of the press and public.

26 Enforcement matters. Councillor Fisher referred to the lack of a response from the City Council in relation to the use of land in the parish, previously reported. Action: matter to be pursued by the Clerk. Complaint to be made if response not received within 14 days.