

GULDEN SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Guilden Sutton Parish Council held at Guilden Sutton Village Hall at 7:30PM on Wednesday 12th July 2023

Chairman: Cllr D Hughes

Present: Cllr A Davis, Cllr M Littlewood, Cllr P M Paterson, Cllr D Walters, Cllr R Whelan

Clerks: R Ringstead*, M Roberts

In attendance: 4 members of the public, Borough Cllr D Heatley

1. Procedural Matters

(a) Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Ringstead.

Apologies were received and noted from Borough Cllr Parker.

(b) To consider the Code of Conduct and Members' interests

Cllrs Hughes and Littlewood as members of Guilden Sutton Green Space.

Cllr Hughes as a member of Guilden Sutton Community Association.

Cllr Ringstead as a member of her household is a member of Men in Sheds.

Cllr Ringstead as a representative of the Village Green Group.

Cllr Paterson, Cllr Littlewood and Cllr Ringstead as members of the Wildflower Garden project group.

(c) Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 7th June 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr Littlewood, seconded by Cllr Paterson and agreed that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 7th June 2023 be agreed as a true record of the meeting.

(d) Dates of future meetings.

6th September

4th October

1st November

6th December

(e) Co-Option to fill one vacancies

No further applications to join the Parish council have been made and one vacancy remains.

2. Community Engagement/Communications

(a) Visiting Members

Borough Cllr Heatley provided an update from the Borough Council, outlining that new members are receiving onboarding training and flagging the ongoing challenges for departments including Highways and the backlog on gully cleaning and planning applications. Cllr Paterson highlighted the recent rise in requests for gully cleaning that have been required and expressed concern that the response received back that these would be handled as part of the next routine maintenance would not be adequate. Cllr Heatley encouraged any issues to be reported on the CWAC reporting app and suggested

that any holdups following this could be reported to himself and Cllr Parker, who would do their best to help.

(b) Visiting Officers

Cllr Hughes flagged that Mr. Lewin had mentioned a tree had fallen down obstructing a path on a right of way. While emergency work was undertaken by a local farmer, this will need addressing.

(c) Public Speaking

Mr Peacock asked if the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting will be published and if so when.

(d) Correspondence

Noise in the village originating from commercial premises.
A vehicle collision with a HGV on the A56 crossroads junction

It was agreed that the vehicle collision would be referred to Highways Department, to explore whether third party vehicles are permitted to use the Station Lane access route to visit local businesses, and Cllr Heatley recommended sharing this also with planning departments to explore permitted transport schedules. The matter will also be referred to Mickle Trafford Parish Council where the incident took place.

(e) Surgery

Cllr Paterson and Ringstead presided at the surgery on 1st July where the provision of the local bus service was discussed, requesting additional weekend services.

It was agreed that Cllrs Davis and Waters will preside at the next surgery on 2 September.

(f) Communications

It was confirmed by Cllr Littlewood that the next meeting of the communications working group will take place in September, and the newsletter will be developed over the summer.

(g) Support Group

Cllr Littlewood reported that the support group continues to be helpful, with many volunteers having helped with the fete and delivering leaflets, as well as in terms of supporting with a local flood. Cllr Littlewood updated that this flood had been referred to the CWAC Highways team and an officer inspected and recommended continuing to monitor and notify on any recurring issues.

(h) Sustainability

Cllr Whelan expressed interest in leading on the creation of a sustainability working group, with Cllr Walters expressing interest in being involved. Cllr Whelan suggested the remit of this could include items such as exploring opportunities to improve sustainability of community buildings, renewable energy efficiency, EV charging, encouraging pedestrian access and community recycling schemes. Cllr Littlewood suggested this could potentially also include community conservation items as part of a broader green agenda.

(i) To consider the renewal of Cheshire Community Action membership at a cost of £50.

It was Proposed by Cllr D Hughes and seconded by Cllr Paterson that the membership of Cheshire Community Action membership should be renewed and retained, at a cost of £50.

3. Open Spaces

(a) Guilden Sutton Greenspace

Nothing further

(b) Wildflower Garden

It was agreed that the clerk will find out more details about the recent quote for additional grounds maintenance at the Wildflower Garden and update further.

(c) Old School Field

It was noted that the maintenance of the border hedges at Old School Field Farm is still outstanding, but the contractor plans to commence this work shortly, pending no further rainfall.

Cllr Littlewood offered to chase up sourcing new goal nets.

(d) Section 106 monies

Cllr Whelan updated that a meeting to progress plans for the 106 monies is in development. It was proposed by Cllr Paterson and seconded by Cllr Walters that Cllr Whelan will purchase drainage plan records for Hilltop Road site to ascertain suitability, at a cost of £60.

(f) Dog fouling

Cllr Littlewood updated that herself and Cllr Davis are in the process of placing anti dog fouling signs around the village to raise awareness with dog walkers.

It was proposed by Cllr Littlewood and seconded by Cllr Paterson that anti dog fouling stickers on bins can be purchased for placing on local bins, for an approx. cost of £3.

(e) Graveyard Grant

It was noted that this has been paid and that an answer regarding the shortfall was still awaited from CWAC.

4. Transport and Highways

(a) Public Transport

Cllr Paterson updated on the number of complaints about the local bus service, particularly the lack of weekend service.

In her absence, it was noted that Cllr Ringstead had met with community transport officials and hosted a meeting at Summerfield House to discuss this issue, where the negative impact on residents and their sense of isolation was reported. It was also reported that Cllr Ringstead has commenced plans to run a survey to gather feedback from local residents on the bus service, with a view to sharing the findings with StageCoach to support conversations about boosting further service provision options. Contact details for this survey were gathered at the village fete and a form to gather more contact details is now available at the local post office.

Cllr Paterson said that the community transport team would be happy to come to the next meeting to present on options.

Cllrs Whelan suggested this activity could link in with the work of the sustainability worksteam, and suggested a call to action to sign up for the survey consultation could be gathered via the local school newsletter. Cllr Littlewood suggested putting the item in the local Facebook group and in the September newsletter.

(b) Footpath Station Lane

Cllr Littlewood updated that progress has been made on identifying landowners to approach for a potential permissive footpath, although one field's owner remains unknown. Cllr Davis offered to support in identifying this. It was discussed that the alternative route of exploring a pathway via CWaC was also discussed, as well as discussing the possibility of enquiring about chicanes.

It was suggested that an Open Forum on Highways and Transport is held before the next parish council meeting, with a member of the CWaC Highways team and Community Transport team to be invited to attend.

(c) Community Speedwatch

Cllr Littlewood updated that further sessions have been held, but the local PCSO has now asked that the community speedwatch is suspended until further notice. Cllr Littlewood to update on status.

(d) Purchase of a TruCam

On hold – as above

(d) Grit Box

Cllr Littlewood will approach the Community Association with regards to contributing to the cost and siting the box on Village Hall land.

e) To consider overgrown trees and hedges at the A55

Clerk updated that there could be scope to maintain unadopted land via a volunteer. Enquiries are being made.

5. Planning

(a) New applications:

23/01730/FUL	Land At Belle Vue Lane Erection of detached bungalow with associated landscaping works	10 July 2023 EXTENSION AGREED to 24/07
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The Parish Council's policy to oppose building on the greenbelt was discussed and confirmed.

(b) Awaiting Decision:

23/00017/ENF	Tile Farm, Wicker Lane Without planning permission a material change of use of the Land from agricultural use to a mixed use of agriculture and MX Motorcross/Quad bike use and Clay Pigeon Shooting use ["the Unauthorised Development"].	OBJECTION
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The Parish Council will stay in touch with CWaC on any further updates for residents regarding this and the above planning application throughout the summer, and encourage residents to also share views with CWaC.

(c) Decision Notices:

22/02039/FUL	Land At Belle Vue Lane A new farm access track and a drainage/conservation pond	REFUSED
22/04685/FUL	The Lodge School Lane Two storey rear extension	APPROVED
23/00203/FUL	Foot of The Hill Church Lane Single storey porch extension and reinstatement of garage	APPROVED
23/01514/FUL	63 Oaklands +First floor side and rear wrap around extension	APPROVED

Members discussed the continuation of its policy to undertake planning visits, with Cllr Hughes noting that individuals are not obliged to undertake these if they would prefer not.

(d) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Paterson will arrange a further update meeting on the Neighbourhood plan.

6. Village Green

Cllr Littlewood updated that books available for loan in the letter box have been refreshed following donations made at the village fete.

7. Finance

(a) Income:

(b) Payments:

M Roberts (Website)	£8.40	(inc. £1.40 VAT)
M Roberts (Phone Bill)	£14.00	(inc. £2.33 VAT)
Cheshire Community Action (Membership)	£50.00	(no VAT)
M Roberts (Book Tokens)	£316.95	(inc. £1.15 VAT)
M Roberts (Salary)	At agreed rate	(no VAT)
R Ringstead (Salary)	At agreed rate	(no VAT)
HMRC (Payroll)	£488.00	(no VAT)
Botanica Landscapes Ltd (Grounds Maint)	£240.00	(inc. £40.00 VAT)
Autela Payroll Services (Payroll)	£54.58	(inc. £9.10 VAT)
M Roberts (Zoom)	£15.59	(inc. £2.60 VAT)
Playing Field Owner 1 (Playing Field Rent)	£80.00	(no VAT)
Playing Field Owner 2 (Playing Field Rent)	£80.00	(no VAT)
ChALC (Training)	£50.00	(no VAT)
M Roberts (July Salary*)	At agreed rate	(no VAT)
R Ringstead (July Salary*)	At agreed rate	(no VAT)

* to be post-dated to 28th July

(c) Balances:

Co-Operative Current Account	£21,457.09
Co-Operative Deposit Account	£70,431.74
Scottish Widows Business Fund 1	£19,511.91
Scottish Widows Business Fund 2	£4,245.12

It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr Littlewood and agreed that the above payments be made and the financial information as above be agreed. The Clerk would process payments and Cllr Hughes would authorise.

8. Grounds Maintenance

(a) Hilltop Road Area

Nothing further

(b) Hare Lane Village Green

Clerk updated that revised plans for Hare Lane Village Green have been sent to CWaC's Highways team and an update is awaited.

9. Primary School

Cllr Hughes updated that the school's end of year celebration was successful and the Parish council has purchased book tokens to give to year 6 pupils, which have been shared with the school for presentation.

10. Members Information

It was noted that former ward member Stuart Parker received an MBE.

It was flagged that a correction to the profile picture of a member on the community association website is needed. The Assistant Clerk noted that she will gather further suggestions for amends to the website to be discussed at next communication working group.

11. Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was proposed by Cllr Littlewood, seconded by Cllr Paterson and agreed that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting, in order that the Council discuss urgent exempt items under Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Part 1 closed 2049

13. PART 2 (for publication)

A. Planning Control

The number of public enquiries and complaints in relation to a planning matter was noted.

Cllr Littlewood updated that correspondence has been received from CWaC with regards to next steps, and updated new members with regards to the current situation.

It was agreed that members would await the outcome of the planning application and undertake a further review at the next meeting.

B. Parish Asset

It was noted that professional advice had been requested with regards to damage to a Parish Asset.

Meeting closed at 2107