

**The Parish of Guilden Sutton
Annual Parish Meeting
Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7.00PM – at Guilden Sutton Village Hall
MINUTES**

Chairman: Cllr A Davis

Present: Cllrs Hewitt, Hughes, Littlewood, Oxley, Paterson and Ringstead.

Clerk: Mrs E Haspell

In attendance: Mr B Lewin, Mr S Tiplady and several members of the public.

1. Cllr Stuart Parker, MBE

Members were asked to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect to former Borough Cllr Stuart Parker, MBE.

The Chair said a few words about him :-

The Chairman paid tribute to Cllr Stuart Parker (MBE), noting with sadness his passing in April 2026.

He recalled that Cllr Parker served as a Conservative councillor on Cheshire West and Chester Council from its formation in 2008 until his passing, having first been elected to Chester City Council in 2007, and that he represented the Gowy ward, Chester Villages and, most recently, Christleton and Huntington.

The Council noted that Cllr Parker held a number of key roles, including Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet Member responsibilities for culture, leisure, heritage and growth, and that he served as Sheriff of Chester (2018–2019).

The Chairman highlighted Cllr Parker's significant contribution to major cultural and regeneration projects, including the creation of Storyhouse and the Northgate Regeneration Scheme, and noted that his dedication to local government was recognised nationally through the award of an MBE.

He added that Cllr Parker regularly attended Parish Council meetings and was generous with his time, advice and support; his knowledge and guidance were greatly valued.

It was remarked that the well-attended service at Chester Cathedral reflected the high regard in which he was held across the community and beyond.

On behalf of the Parish Council, the Council expressed sincere condolences to Cllr Parker's family and friends and recorded its appreciation for his service to the community.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Roberts and Mr Roberts.

Apologies were received and noted from Borough Cllr M Parker.

3. Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 2nd April 2025

It was proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Ringstead and agreed that the minutes of the 2025 Annual Parish meeting be agreed as a true record of the meeting.

4. Chairman's Report 2025-2026

Cllr Davis provided a report on the Council's activities for 2025-26.

5. Open Session

Speaker 1 requested that additional crossing points be installed throughout the village, noting that increased traffic had resulted in three or four near head-on collisions.

Cllr Hewitt advised that she would report the matter to Highways and, subject to their assessment, mirrors may be installed.

Speaker 1 also reported previous concerns regarding foraging in the village. This had been raised with the Parish Council and no further incidents had been reported.

Speaker 2 requested an update on the proposed crossing on the A41. The Chair confirmed that it had been approved; however, funding is not currently available.

Speaker 3 reported that suspicious individuals had been seen on Green Lane and commended the Piper's Ash WhatsApp group for sharing information promptly.

It was also noted that a sink had been stolen from a resident's garden.

The Chair advised residents to report such incidents to the Police and/or the Parish Council.

Speaker 4 raised concerns regarding vehicle speeding in the village and noted that cyclists and horse riders riding two abreast along Station Lane can make passing difficult.

Cllr Littlewood reported that the Speedwatch initiative is now operational in the village and noted that this was also a factor in the enhancement of Footpath 7.

She also advised that there is a new PCSO, PCSO Hannath covering the village.

Residents were encouraged to complete the Residents' Voice survey in the Marigold newsletter. The survey covers issues including anti-social behaviour, speeding and parking; responses will be used to identify top concerns and inform the allocation of patrols.

Meeting Closed 1930