

653
MINUTES of THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
in PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL

3rd March 2020

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present	AS (Chair), AB, PD, SR, HS, CT
Apologies	SF, Cllr K Parkinson (CEC), PCSO Darroch
Police	Nil
Public	4 members of the public

2. MINUTES

2.1 Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the meeting of 14th January 2020 were agreed.

2.2 Matters arising from Minutes – Nil

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Nil

4. OPEN FORUM AND PCSO

4.1 Open Forum – Nil

4.2 Report from PCSO – PCSO Darroch had reported by email that no offences had been reported in Pickmere in the preceding period.

5. REPORT FROM CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR PARKINSON – CT made reference to several highway maintenance issues that require action:

- **Near the Pickmere/Tabley boundary** – a pothole that had been poorly repaired three times in recent months requiring multiple maintenance visits.
- **Pickmere Rough (Park Lane)** – a culvert passes under the road and the carriageway is being damaged by run-off water – CT has reported this as a matter of urgency.

The Clerk was asked to report these issues to CEC and to copy the report to KP.

6. FINANCE

6.1 Current financial position – the monthly financial summary was noted.

6.2 New payments – Council approved the payments on the schedule.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

7.1 Planning application update – the schedule of planning matters was noted, in particular the following:

- 19/2660M - Extensions – Rose Cottage, Park Lane – not yet determined - amended plans submitted
- 19/4261M – Erection of glazed link – Crown Farm, Frog Lane – REFUSED – APPEAL DISMISSED
- /19/5201M – Construction of amenity pond – Pickmere Lake Country and Leisure Park, Clover Drive – APPROVED
- 19/5512M – Single storey side extension – 15 Merehaven Close – APPROVED
- 19/5903M - Crown Farm, Frog Lane – Erection of two dwellinghouses – REFUSED
- 19/5911M - Erection of single and two storey extensions – revised scheme – 102 Pickmere Lane - APPROVED
- 19/5621M; 19/5562M; 19/5563M – Housing proposals at Hall Lane – NO DECISION
- 19/5533M - Appn for Cert of Lawful Use – Springfield, Pickmere Lane – NO DECISION – communication sent to CEC – no response received.

[n.b. A resident mentioned ‘a current application for storage’ on Mere Lane not included on the above list. Research following the meeting revealed that this was not a planning application in a formal sense but an application relating to permitted development for agricultural purposes. The Parish Council had not been notified by CEC of this application nor its predecessor and it was therefore not aware of it. Comments on the proposal have subsequently been sent to CEC on this application.]

8. REPORTS FROM CLERK AND FROM COUNCILLORS

8.1 Cheshire Fire Authority Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2020-2024 consultation – report noted

8.2 Update re Cheshire Showground – report noted. HS noted that DEFRA also have a 28-day period that they apply in the award of agricultural grant, and that the Showground has benefited from such payments in the past. With another resident she has logged the number of days in 2019 that the Showground was in use for the holding of events (including set-up and break-down) and will supply a list to the Clerk.

8.3 Storm Ciara and its effects – report noted. Authority was given for the expenditure on the clearing of the collapsed tree and for the re-erection of the sign to be commissioned at a cost of £75.

8.4 CEC Strategic Planning Update – report noted.

8.5 Parish Council website – the current website provider is to be asked to upgrade the site to achieve compliance with the site accessibility regulations, at no cost to the Council, and the situation is to be reviewed at the July meeting.

8.6 Risk assessment for council properties – report noted. On the question of inspection of council-owned land members noted that the Council was in possession (and had acted upon) an up to

date H&S survey of its trees, that the play area is regularly inspected for H&S purposes and that there has been recent work to remedy an H&S issue with the Village Hall electrical system. It was agreed that through local knowledge and informal use of council sites in general that the current means of monitoring matters was sufficient and no further formal action was required.

- 8.7 HS2** – report noted. The Chair recorded that he has made contact with some members of the ‘Cluster Group’ of local parish councils with a view to establishing a strong local voice in possible future discussions of the HS2/Northern Powerhouse Rail project (now termed High Speed North), and he will seek to move forward with this. He also referred to the move led by the naturalist Chris Packham to challenge HS2 on the basis that the UK government’s decision to approve the project failed to take account of its carbon emissions and climate impact. The Chair added that as well as objections to the loss of ancient woodlands etc as a result of HS2, there was evidence that above a certain speed threshold, railways become less and less efficient. This was a further factor that suggested that the current specification for HS2 conflicts with the climate impact requirements that the UK has established for new infrastructure projects.
- 8.8 Neighbourhood Plan** – the recommendations were agreed – a sub-group will be formed to progress the matter especially in relation to the aspects mentioned in the report. The Clerk will circulate councillors with a view to defining the membership of the sub-group.
- 8.9 Coronavirus** – the Chair permitted discussion of this as an urgent matter. An advisory email had been received from ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) of which the Council is a member suggesting several actions, most of which the Council already complied with. The Clerk was asked to erect hand-washing notices as suggested, and to email the notice to SR for further publication.

Clerk: Jack Steel

Next meeting: 7th April 2020