

**650**  
**MINUTES of THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**in PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL**

**3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019**

- 1.1 Present** AS (Chair), AB, PD, SR, HS, CT; CEC Cllr K Parkinson (KP)  
**Apologies** SF (apology received prior to meeting but not read until after it), PCSO Darroch  
**Public** 2 members of the public

**2. Minutes**

- 2.1 Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were agreed.

**2.2 Matters arising from Minutes –**

**2.2 Blocked gully, Wayfarers Court/Park Lane** - the Clerk confirmed that he had written and sent photos further to CEC about this problem, as had at least one other resident. CT mentioned to KP at this point two other highway problems – the Flittogate Lane bend where a bad pothole had been repaired but badly and it had now re-opened, and another just outside the parish boundary on Pickmere Lane. KP said that she had already reported this one.

**9.3 Risk Assessment** – the Clerk had reported that the working group had met as requested and had agreed various actions in respect of the Assessment. It will be brought back to council for approval in due course.

**9.8 Litter issues** – the Clerk reported that he had written to CEC and to McDonald's as requested but had received no response to either communication as yet.

- 3. Declaration of Interests** – AB declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in item 9.8. CT declared a similar interest in item 9.6 as a former member of the Pickmere Photographic and Heritage Society.

**4. Open Forum and PCSO**

- 4.1 Open Forum** One member of the public said that 'we', though without defining the identity of 'we', would like the Parish Council to approach the owners of the land adjoining the Village Hall with a view to purchasing one acre at the side of the hall and a half-acre at the rear. Another member of the public asked about progress in repairing the two benches mentioned in previous meetings. He was informed that both were in progress but would not be completed imminently.

- 4.2 Report from PCSO** The PCSO was not present but her report of no crime events in Pickmere in the past month was noted. Comment was made about the recent absence of attendance by police representatives.

5. **Report from Cheshire East Councillor Parkinson** – KP reported that she had met with senior representatives of the Cheshire Showground (in the light of recent event problems and the recent event licence issue) and had discussed the residents' concern about such events and the lack of consultation. She reported that the SG representatives had indicated that they would do more to liaise with the local community in considering future events.

## 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**

- 8.1 **Planning application update** – the schedule of planning matters was noted. In relation to **Appn. No. 19/5201M** (proposed amenity pond at Pickmere Caravan Park) the Council had no comments. It may be that private landowners whose property might be affected by the drainage outflow from the proposed pond may wish to comment separately and privately to CEC about that aspect.

Members raised no objection to **19/5512M – proposed single storey extension to 15 Merehaven Close** – but commented on the absence of dimensions on the plan and added that CEC should take account of any comments made by neighbours.

- 7.2 **Cheshire Showground – Application for temporary Premises Licence for an event in July 2020** – there remains no current licence application and it was rumoured that this proposed event will now not proceed. The Chair reminded the meeting that he had requested a meeting with senior Showground representatives; this request had been accepted but he awaited contact from that body with a suggested date. He will pursue this further if no contact is received shortly. Members added that both Tabley and Wincham Parish Councils had resolved to support Pickmere PC's objections to the licence application.

- N.B.** Due to a typographic error on the Agenda papers the following items are numbered 9... rather than 8....

## 9. **Reports from Clerk and from Councillors**

- 9.1 **Revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations** – the Chair noted that these documents were long and complex and he suggested that they required more detailed consideration than was possible in a normal parish council meeting. He therefore proposed that a separate meeting be arranged so that they and in particular the proposed changes from the existing document can be explored and discussed in more detail. Members concurred with this view and agreed this course of action.

- 9.2 **Parish Council Website** – the working group had met to discuss this topic and the way forward. The Clerk had requested broad proposals, including fees, from several website providers, and

most had been received. CT asked whether the content of the existing website (e.g. historical photographs of Pickmere) could be easily transferred to the new website and the Clerk confirmed that this will hopefully be possible. The Clerk suggested that the next step would be a further meeting of the working group to consider the various proposals received which should lead to a report back to Council with a recommendation of how to proceed. This was noted and agreed.

**9.3 CEC Town and Parish Council Conference** – the Chair and Clerk had attended this meeting at Middlewich. The report was noted.

**9.4 CEC Community Governance Review** – report noted. (A councillor raised the relocation by persons unknown of the Parish boundary sign to a site not on the parish boundary on Pickmere Lane, and the Clerk was requested to write to CEC to point this out and request its proper relocation.)

**9.5 CEC Pre-Budget Consultation 2020-2024** – report noted.

**9.6 Offer by Pickmere Photographic and Heritage Society** – members acknowledged the kind offer from the Society in memory of J Robinson but felt that the erection of the replacement interpretation board on the external wall of the Pavilion was perhaps not the correct approach. It was suggested that a more comprehensive approach to the 3 existing signs was desirable. Members agreed that they would (individually) inspect the existing boards before the next meeting and consider what might be desirable. The matter would be included on the next Council agenda.

**9.7 Consideration of Neighbourhood Plan** – members agreed to take the next steps in relation to the possible preparation of such a plan. Initially the Clerk would ask CEC whether they were aware of any plans in the district (or elsewhere) that might be somewhat similar to the type of plan that might be appropriate for Pickmere, for instance in that the parish does not contain significant potential development sites which might require particular consideration in such a plan, or particular areas, sites or properties that are in need of site specific policy controls. This was agreed.

**9.8 Community Group Update – Father Christmas** – AB reported on the proposals for this year – Father Christmas will be arriving in Pickmere on Wednesday 18 December, starting from the Village Hall at 6.00 pm, collecting donations for Guide Dogs for the Blind, culminating in carols, mulled wine and mince pies at about 8.00 pm at Park Lane /Wellfield Close. Donations of red wine and mince pies will be accepted before the event, at Pickmere Country Guest House.

AB reported that the CG wished to thank those residents who voluntarily give their time to this and other community events (including the Village Hall external clean-up – which took place with significant effect last Sunday) and also the support of the Parish Council, as well as the Red Lion/Broad oak Group, who were running the annual Gifting Tree project collecting gifts for distribution via Age UK [see Parish Council website].

## **AGENDA PART B – CONFIDENTIAL**

The Council resolved that members of the public should be asked to leave the meeting at this point to enable discussion of confidential matters.

- 10. Quotation for renewal of posts for new sign – Play Area** – quotation agreed. The Clerk noted that replacement of this sign is likely to await the proposed renewal of the Council's website because of the need to include a contact email address on the sign.

**Clerk: Jack Steel**

**Next meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020**