

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018**

- |    |                  |  |
|----|------------------|--|
| 1. | <b>Present</b>   | <b>AS (Chair), AB, PG, IK, SF (see below), Cllr O Hunter</b> |
|    | <b>Apologies</b> | <b>CT, SR, DH, PCSO E Darroch</b>                            |
|    | <b>Public</b>    | <b>1 member of the public</b>                                |
|    | <b>Police</b>    | <b>None</b>  |

**AGENDA PART A**

**2. Minutes**

**2.1 Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were approved with the amendment at item 9.4 that AB and IK declared a personal interest in that topic due to their close proximity to the site.

**2.2 Matters arising from Minutes**

**2.2 of previous meeting** - 7.5 tonne weight limit - PG reported that he had spoken to one of the Tabley PC councillors who was not aware of that Parish Council having any declared policy in relation to the 7.5 tonne weight limit; that person will check and revert on the matter to PG.

**3. Declaration of Interests** – see below.

**4. Open Forum (Including PCSO)**

**4.1 Open Forum** OH reported that she would not be standing in the forthcoming 2019 Local Elections for this ward and introduced the member of the public, who will be the prospective Conservative Party candidate for this ward and was simply observing this Parish Council meeting.

**4.2 Report from PCSO** The PCSO was not present but she had reported that there were no crimes of note to report to the Council. It was noted that the PCSO had held a local surgery in the parish, but the Clerk had not been notified of this taking place. The Clerk was asked to request the PCSO for notification of future surgery dates and venues.

**5. Report from Cllr O Hunter** On Spinks Lane Cllr Hunter asked if we had heard from the CEC's Portfolio Holder (Cllr A Arnold) who was dealing with the matter; AS said that we had not. Cllr Arnold had apparently reported to OH in answer to her email to him that he has asked officers for an update on the current position and will arrange a meeting with representatives of the PC when they have all the information available. OH had not seen the

letter sent by a CEC senior officer to Esther McVey MP, which seemed to convey that the process of dealing with the Travellers problem was not significantly progressing. AS expressed extreme displeasure to OH with the absolute lack of progress and of communication on the part of CEC. OH concurred with this view and undertook to follow up the matter further.

AS also made reference to the matter of the cyclist who had been injured falling down a collapsed grating on Park Lane, and who was now seeking redress from CEC. CEC was apparently denying knowledge that there had been a problem reported with that grating, which contradicted emails that representatives of the PC had sent to CEC before the accident occurred. OH will investigate the matter.

## **6. Finance**

**6.1 Further approval of Annual Governance Provisions and Asset Register** – PG reported that an adjustment had had to be made to the Annual Accounting Statement as a result of an error of the External Auditor in dealing with the 2016-7 accounts, the error having recently been identified by the Internal Auditor. The error did not affect the overall totals previously reported, but the balance between total receipts and total payments in the sum of approximately £350. The corrected Annual Statement was approved unanimously.

The Asset Register had been amended to reflect the information provided by SR in relation to the value of the defibrillators owned by the PC, and the amended version was approved unanimously.

**6.2 Current financial position** – the monthly financial summaries were noted. The Clerk tabled a summary of expenditure against the Land Asset account and in particular the £10,000 sum which remained from the amount gifted to the Parish Council in conjunction with the Clover Drive play area and open spaces, to provide for a number of years maintenance of those areas. It was noted that this sum will reduce year by year as maintenance expenditure is incurred. The Clerk will seek to update this report to Council on a quarterly basis.

**6.3 New payments** - the schedule of payments was approved.

## **7. Report from Planning Committee**

**7.1 Planning application update** – the Clerk reported the following update:

**18/2278M – Proposed extensions – The Brambles, Pickmere Lane** – planning permission had been refused on the basis of CEC's policy for extensions to dwellings in the Green Belt. The Council report mentioned that the issue of the freight containers was being dealt with by CEC's Enforcement team.

**18/2620M – Proposed extensions – Nywen, Pickmere Lane** – no decision yet made.

**Location of caravan on land at Frog Lane, Pickmere** – this had been reported to CEC with no response as yet.

## **8. Reports from Assets Working Groups**

**8.1 Funding Sub-Group** – nothing to report pending progress in other areas.

### **8.2 Planning Sub-Group**

**8.2.1 Update on Outline Planning Application 18/0544M** – AS reported that a further statement had been submitted by the PC to CEC, in part in response to the objections that had been received. It was understood that CEC have carried out a further public notification exercise on the basis of receipt of this further statement. CEC's planning officer had been asked for an assurance that the PC would be made aware of any further objections submitted as a result of this exercise and would be given the opportunity to respond. AS noted that this process of renotification as a result of the PC simply responding to previous comments was an unusual approach in terms of planning procedure.

**8.2.2 Update on Spinks Lane** – see 5 above.

SF entered the meeting at this point having been delayed on a rail journey.

**8.3 Asset Register Sub-Group** – nil

**8.4 Report from Community Group** – AB reported that the Party by the Lake had been very well attended and very successful. However, sadly, there were to be no Sunday afternoon teas by the lake this coming Sunday or on 15 July, because of the lack of volunteers. AB also reported that the CG was hoping to make a donation shortly toward the recent expenditure incurred by the PC at the IROS and at the play area.

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

**9.1 Manchester Airport Draft Noise Action Plan** – report noted.

**9.2 Review of Council Standing Orders** – the updating amendments proposed in this report were noted; the changes were to be included on the September agenda for approval, together with consideration of whether a wider review of the SOs is warranted. The Clerk was asked to circulate a copy of the NALC Model Standing Orders for information.

**9.3 Review of Council's Risk Assessment Schedule** – members considered the draft Schedule. It was broadly felt that since the Council's policy was not to permit swimming in the lake, and there were signs displayed to this effect, there was no risk assessment required on the part of the Council. PG will query this point with the Council's insurers.

There was discussion of the issues relating to the enforcement of the original rules set by the former Macclesfield Borough Council as to the operation of boats on the lake. It appeared that these rules were not reflected in the licences given by the non-Council landowners around the lake to boat users, and also that CEC make no efforts to enforce the Macclesfield rules. The Clerk was asked to locate the original rules established by MBC, to enable a further discussion of the issue in September.

Finally, the Clerk was asked to include the heading of GDPR in the Risk Schedule.

The schedule will be amended and brought back to Council in September.

**9.4 Parish Council Insurance policy** – PG reported that the current 3 year contract expires on 28th September. That company will provide a further quotation in mid-August, for consideration at the September meeting.

**9.5 Clover Drive Play Area – Annual Survey** – the survey had been completed and had found only a few low risk and very low risk items. SR will attend to some of these shortly, and the matter will be reconsidered at the September meeting.

**9.6 Unauthorised parking at the IROS** – AB and IK declared a personal interest in this topic because of their close proximity to the site and did not vote on the matter. The meeting remained quorate in accordance with Standing Orders. The report as to parking companies was noted, and the principle of using such a company to enforce parking restrictions was broadly agreeable to members. SF and PG will consider the two quotations received and will report back in September. The Clerk was asked to send these councillors the two quotations received.

Members went on to discuss, in view of its urgency and topicality, the issue of parking in and around the IROS during the last few sunny weekends, and particular the opening of the IROS field for parking last Sunday in view of the number of persons visiting. The view was expressed by various members that the opening of the IROS to public parking in this way will only encourage further visitors to come, and raises other potential issues. The Council's general conclusion was that it did not support the opening of the field for general parking in this way, except in association with the provision of Sunday afternoon teas as previously agreed.

OH was asked if she could identify who in CEC might be able to provide/loan say around 50 no parking cones (cf. Cheshire Show). The provision of cones on surrounding roads would seek to demonstrate the Council's wish to try to ameliorate this historic summer problem, without accepting the use of the IROS field as a semi-permanent weekend car park.

PG proposed and SF seconded a motion authorising the Chair and Clerk to expend up to a figure of £500, if required, to provide cones on this basis. The motion was agreed.

## **AGENDA PART B – CONFIDENTIAL**

Members of the public were asked to leave the meeting at this point to enable discussion of confidential matters. AB/IK left the meeting at this point, having declared a personal interest in the issue to be discussed. The meeting remained quorate in accordance with Standing Orders.

**10 Correspondence received** – AS referred to further communications received from the resident who wished to see a tree removed on Council land, and also to a quotation that had been received in relation to the carrying out of a comprehensive tree survey of the PC's trees at the lake. There was discussion of the matter raised and it was agreed that whilst not acknowledging that the tree in question presented any level of unusual risk to users of the IROS, PG would seek an estimate of cost for establishing a fence around the tree in question to prevent public access close to it.

**Clerk: Jack Steel**

**Next meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018**