

632
MINUTES of THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
in PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL

6th March 2018
AGENDA

1. **Present** AS (Chair), CT, AB, SF, PG, DH, IK, SR
Apologies None
Public 3 members of the public
Police None

2. **Minutes**

2.1 **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the meeting on 13th February 2018 were approved.

2.2 **Matters arising from Minutes**

7.1 A member asked if there was any progress with regard to Spinks Lane. AS replied that we had had no further communication from any party.

3. **Declaration of Interests** – none

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

4.1 **Open Forum** None of the public present wished to raise any matters.

4.2 **Report from PCSO** The PCSO was not present.

5. **Report from Cllr O Hunter**

OH was not present. AS reported back from the Town and Parish Council Conference held by CEC.

6. **Finance**

6.1 **Current financial position** – the monthly financial summaries were noted. The Clerk was asked to chase up the annual bill from the company who cuts the Clover Drive grass.

6.2 **New payments** - the schedule of payments was approved with the addition of a payment to CHALC of £75 for a full day training course for the Clerk on Finance procedures and VAT.

7. Report from Planning Committee

The Clerk reported that PA 17/4264M (Erection of housing - The Elms PH site) had been approved with numerous conditions. The PA 17/5078M (Erection of 1 dwelling etc on land at Frog Lane) and 17/6399 (Erection of 2 dwellings on land at Mere Lane) had not yet been determined.

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 – The Clerk reported that around 48 objections had been submitted to CEC in relation to the PC's outline planning application, and 4 emails of objection had been sent direct to the Clerk. There were no officer comments logged on CEC's planning application website as yet. The application was therefore under consideration by CEC and contact with the planning officer would be sought in due course.

8.3 Asset Register Sub-Group – nothing to report

8.4 Report from Community Group – AB reported that the Sunday Teas rota for 2018 was in preparation, and that the CG's AGM was due to be held on Thursday 8th March.

9. Reports from Clerk and from Councillors

9.1 Pickmere and Plastics – there was some discussion as to how the PC could make a contribution to the wish to reduce the use of plastics. Members agreed to support the general aim of such a campaign and agreed on the formation of an informal sub-group to consider the topic further. SR agreed to lead such a group, in conjunction with the local resident who had first raised the issue. Information regarding the initiative will be displayed at the Parish Meeting due to be held on Saturday 10th March. In addition, it was suggested that use could be made of the PC website and Pickmere Press etc to help communicate with the local community.

9.2 Annual Parish Meeting – the event is to be held on Saturday 10th March at Pickmere Methodist Church and SR reported on its proposed organisation. IK/AB were thanked for producing at short notice the roadside banner advertising the event.

9.3 Damage to Village Hall grounds – AS reported on the damage that had been caused by uncontrolled horses on the VH site some weeks ago. A quotation had been received for the necessary repair work to the boundary fence and dwarf walls. It was agreed that the Clerk should send this for the attention of the person responsible for the control of the horses.

9.4 Best Kept Village Competition 2018 – It appeared that this was a bi-annual event. In view of the impending painting of the Cheshire railings at Clover Drive and of the Play area equipment, and the need to address other small environmental issues in the village to deal with previous comments, it was agreed not to enter the competition this year but to seek to enter in a future year. The help of the Community Group would be sought with the enhancement works.

9.5 'BigThings' TV Series – This is a further competition, with the aim to secure a major sculpture in the village. Members felt that they did not wish to pursue such an initiative at this time but asked the Clerk to display the competition poster on the village noticeboards, and pass details to Pickmere Press in case any individual residents wished to pursue the initiative.

9.6 Draft Memorial Policy – following discussion the draft policy was agreed unanimously, including the principle (consistent with Nantwich Town Council's approach) that prospective donors of such items be required to donate the finance to enable the Council to acquire and install such items, to ensure a consistency of approach. It was agreed that the Council should seek benches of very good quality construction, to ensure that they are durable, and accordingly that the sums specified in the draft application form be broadly adopted. It was agreed that any benches provided under this policy would fall within the category of Council assets and should be recorded as such, falling under the auspices of the Asset Register Sub-Group.

9.7 Request for Memorial Bench – the request was agreed subject to compliance with the policy just agreed. The Clerk is to liaise with the applicant.

9.8 7.5 tonne weight limit on Pickmere Lane – Concern was re-expressed about the inadequacy of this policy and in particular the clarity of the signage. Members suggested that the Council might be willing to contribute to the provision of additional or larger signs if this would help achieve a better solution. The Clerk was asked to liaise with CEC Highways to explore what possibilities exist for improving signage and the enforcement of this limit.

9.9 Liaison with Wincham Parish Council – It was agreed that there were some topics where we might have a common interest with Wincham PC, e.g. vehicle weight limits, HS2, and the proposed waste incinerator at Northwich. It was agreed that Wincham PC should be circulated with this Council's monthly agenda, and that Wincham be asked to circulate their agenda to us, and thus individual councillors could make a personal decision as to whether to attend each other's meetings. The Clerk will circulate this resolution to Wincham PC in the first instance.

9.10 Consultation by CEC – Sustainable Modes of Travel to Schools Strategy – the consultation was noted; it was agreed that members would respond individually to the consultation if minded to do so.

Additional note: Tree on IROS – IK raised an issue discussed last year in relation to a resident's concern about the safety of a tree near the Lake. AS stated that the situation would be re-visited, and the resident informed of the conclusion.

Clerk: Jack Steel
Next meeting: 10th April 2018