

635
MINUTES of THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
in PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL

5th June 2018

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

2. Minutes

2.1 Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the meetings of 1st May 2018 were approved.

2.2 Matters arising from Minutes

2.2 of previous meeting - The Clerk reported that no reply had been received to his further letter to the person responsible for the horses and their damage to the Village Hall grounds. The Clerk was asked to instruct the builder who had quoted a sum of £200 plus VAT to repair the walls etc and to submit the bill to the person concerned.

2.2 - The Clerk reported that he had received no further response from Wincham or Tabley PCs about a possible meeting concerning the 7.5 tonne weight limit on Pickmere Lane. PG agreed to contact a member of Tabley PC to discuss the matter.

7.3 – The Clerk noted that he had not received a response from the website provider to his email querying the absence of an annual invoice – he will send a reminder.

8.1 – Demolition of park home on Clover Drive – The Clerk reported that he had communicated with CEC planning who had no record of any planning application or discussions concerning the future of this site.

3. Declaration of Interests – none

4. Open Forum (Including PCSO)

4.1 Open Forum One member of the public wished to speak about the PC's outline planning application for a replacement village hall. She said that the main issue related to the loss of open space, an issue which cannot be resolved. She also referred to the s106 agreement which affects the site which she considered prevented any such development. She requested that PC withdraw the planning application as she considered that it would not be approved by either CEC or, if an appeal was submitted, by the Planning Inspectorate/Secretary of State. She was of the view that the site is not in the centre of the village and that the village could share Wincham's community facilities. The proposal would adversely affect the

residents of 60 houses which took access off Mere Lane. A second resident fully supported the request to withdraw the application. He considered that the decision on this point be put to the full council, that the PC should cease expenditure on this project, and that finance should be concentrated on maintaining the PC's two existing buildings, and that perhaps the local community could be requested to help provide financial support to help any refurbishment works.

Cllr Hunter stated that she has requested CEC to place the planning application before members for decision but has not had confirmation as to whether this would be the case.

The Parish Council noted these comments.

4.2 Report from PCSO The PCSO was not present. No information had been received from the Police apart from one or two individual reports of minor crimes in surrounding settlements.

- 5. Report from Cllr O Hunter** Cllr Hunter asked if the CEC officer had responded to the PC in reference to the 7.5 tonne limit. AS said not, but that he had commented at the M6 J19 consultation that it would be helpful if the redesign of the Pickmere Lane/Chester Road junction could do something to discourage HGVs from entering Pickmere Lane.

OH said that she had received a feasibility document concerning options to create parking areas at 100-118 Pickmere Lane. However it does not include the option suggested by AS. OH will pursue consideration of this option with officers.

AS referred to Spinks Lane and the continued lack of CEC response following our meeting with CEC in 2017. AS proposed that the PC write to the Acting Chief Executive of CEC expressing its dismay at the continued lack of communication and action. He asked if OH could take up this matter again with the Portfolio Holder. OH suggested that any such meeting should involve the Leader of CEC. She asked that our letter to CEC should be copied to the Leader. AS suggested in response to a question from SR that the PC might at an appropriate point consider whether to seek separate legal advice as to what further action the PC might be able to take.

6. Finance

6.1 Approval of Annual Governance Provisions and procedures for audit– PG reported that by virtue of recent legislation, the Council does not require an external audit. Members discussed the Accounting Statement of 2017-8 – reference was made to the large VAT refund that had boosted our accounts, together with reductions in utility bills in 2017-8 resulting from previous over-charging. PG also referred to his note on variances in the accounts. Members noted and agreed these comments and reports.

6.2 Current financial position – the monthly financial summaries were noted. The Clerk was asked if, perhaps on a quarterly basis, a balance sheet of the Council's finances could be produced making reference to the split between the General and the Land Asset accounts.

6.3 New payments - the schedule of payments was approved.

7. Report from Planning Committee

7.1 Planning application update – the Clerk reported that planning applications had been received and commented upon by Planning Committee as follows:

18/2278M – Proposed extensions – The Brambles, Pickmere Lane – proposed extensions considered acceptable; however further attention of CEC to be drawn to the two large shipping containers in the curtilage of this dwelling, and CEC requested to withhold consideration of any planning permission for the extensions until the question of any unauthorised development is dealt with.

18/2620M – Proposed extensions – Nywen, Pickmere Lane – proposals would substantially increase the footprint, volume and massing of this dwelling, and would create a very dominant relationship with the adjoining bungalow; it was considered that the proposal should be judged against CEC's usual criteria for the consideration of dwelling extensions in Green Belt.

7.1.1 Location of caravan on land at Frog Lane, Pickmere – it was agreed that this unauthorised development be again referred to CEC for investigation.

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 Planning Sub-Group had agreed to send further information to CEC in clarification of issues raised and in response to objections submitted by others.

8.3 Asset Register Sub-Group – members welcomed the painting of the Cheshire railings at Clover Drive and agreed to consider similar treatment for other sets of railings in the parish in the context of budget discussions for 2019-20.

8.4 Report from Community Group – AB reported that the Community Group had met yesterday, primarily to discuss details of the Party by the Lake and Fun Day events. AS asked that particular care be taken with regard to insurance and installation arrangements for any bouncy castle or similar item at Fun Day in the light of recent incidents elsewhere. AB will report this concern back to the CG. It was noted that Pickmere Methodist Church will be organising afternoon teas at the lake this coming Sunday.

9. Reports from Clerk and from Councillors

9.1 Review of Asset Register – this had been circulated and was accepted with the amendment by SR of the entry for the two defibrillators owned by the PC.

9.2 Review of PC Insurance policy – PG reported that the current 3 year contract expires in September; he will seek quotes for a replacement policy for discussion at the July meeting.

9.3 Armed Forces Grant Scheme – Silhouette Installations – such a project would require the use of a building, and PG will ask the Methodist Church whether they might wish to be involved in the project.

9.4 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 matterⁱ.* there was some concern that part of this problem related to persons using the car park as a storage area for persons using Manchester Airport. AS suggested the installation of new signs establishing the parking rules more clearly, and also that the PC seeks to appoint a company with an appropriate licence to enforce those rules. Such a company would take any fines received as income; the PC would pay an annual fee for the service. These suggestions were agreed – in particular the Clerk will seek a quote for a sign and will report back to PC in July with a suggested wording, and will also seek to discuss with a parking control company the possibility and costs etc of employing such a company to manage the car park.

9.5 Cheshire East Local Transport Plan Consultation – noted.

9.6 Final Draft LEP Transport Strategy – noted.

Note: The Clerk was asked to convey the sincere condolences for the recent death of Joe Robinson to his family.

Clerk: Jack Steel

Next meeting: 3rd July 2018

ⁱ This was added to the draft minutes at Council 3rd July 2018