

REPORT TO PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL

1st December 2020

AGENDA ITEM 8.4 – DIGITAL MAPPING SERVICE

1. Report

- 1.1 Your Clerk has had some difficulty in the past in trying to assemble a plan of the parish, or of a part of the Council's ownership, for one reason or another, and to provide appropriate copies for others. Part of the problem has been the unwieldy nature of paper plans, and their excessive cost if they have to be purchased, together with the ease of obtaining them, especially at short notice, and in addition there is the issue of copyright in copying plans.
- 1.2 A digital mapping package is now available as a tool to help councils, including parish councils, to store and manage property assets, produce neighbourhood plans, produce and use all sorts of maps for other functions, and to communicate better both with members and other agencies with which councils interact, and with the public.
- 1.3 In parallel, Government has recently changed the rules relating to the use of Ordnance Survey maps such that councils, including parish councils, can acquire an OS licence which enables them to access, use and copy OS maps of all normal scales free of charge.
- 1.4 Your Clerk has registered Pickmere Parish Council with the Ordnance Survey and has obtained such a licence, but in parallel has begun a short trial period with the digital mapping service *parish-online*. This demonstrates that the package would be extremely useful in day to day work, for instance in mapping all of the Council's property assets on one map, in providing plans for contractors, in using maps on the new Council website, etc., and also it will be essential for the neighbourhood planning process.
- 1.5 The annual cost for this Council, based on its population, is £70 (excluding VAT).
- 1.6 Your Clerk therefore requests that members agree to the purchase and continuing subscription for the supply of this package.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That authorisation be given for the acquisition of and continuing subscription to the digital mapping package 'PARISH-ONLINE' at a cost of £70 (excl. VAT) per annum.

J Steel

Clerk to the Parish Council