

**MINUTES of THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (625)
in PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL**

6th June 2017

- 1. Present:** AS, CT, PG, AB, IK, DH, SR
- Absent:** Nil
- Apologies:** SF
- CE Council:** Cllr O Hunter
- Police:** Nil
- Public:** Nil

PART A

2. Minutes

2.1 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 2nd May 2017 were approved and signed by the Chair.

2.2 Matters arising from Minutes

Clover Drive Play Area fence : PG had contacted David Platt to enquire about replacement fencing. David Platt advised that secure stock fencing was already in place on the other side of the damaged wooden fence and that this, together with action to thicken the existing hedging would be sufficient to secure the perimeter of the playground. It was agreed that the hedge would be cut back to promote thicker growth lower down and that the damaged wooden fencing would be left in situ until the autumn time when further inspection could be carried out.

Cheshire Showground: recent events at the showground were discussed in the context of concerns about potential for noise/nuisance to local residents and livestock. It was noted that only 1 of the planned 3 days of the Spring 3 in 1 event was held and that there had been no issues relating to the earlier motorbike event. A meeting had already been planned between members of the Council and the leader of the Cheshire Showground and it was suggested that PG should canvass local residents for their views both positive and negative in order to inform that meeting. It was agreed that it would be best to wait until all the summer events had been held before doing this.

3. Declaration of Interests - Nil

4. Open Forum (Including PCSO) - Nil

No report had been received from the PCSO and there was no representation at the meeting. Councillors noted the Community Speed Watch training scheduled to take place with the PCSO on Wednesday 7th June 2017. Councillors also noted that villagers had expressed concerns about the misuse of land to the side and rear of the empty premises at the Elms. CT had contacted Enterprise Inns to advise them but it is now understood that the

premises have been sold and are no longer their responsibility. The Council advise residents to call 101 if they are concerned about activity at those premises.

5. Report from CE Councillor O Hunter

Cllr. Hunter advised that there was nothing of note to report to the Council. The Chair advised Cllr. Hunter that through the Clerk a number of previously notified issues to CE Council Enforcement Officer had been followed up with a view to achieving clarity or effecting action. The response received to date from a representative of the Council had been unsatisfactory and the Council asked Cllr. Hunter to express the strength of the Councils concerns over their stance. In particular Cllr. Hunter was informed that several attempts had been made to arrange the promised meeting in July with Council members to get assurance around the proposed next steps in enforcement of existing orders relating to Spinks Lane as they come due in August this year. Cllr Hunter agreed to follow this up with Enforcement to expedite a timely meeting. Discussion followed about the potential for the Council to take legal advice about CE Councils apparent lack of action. It was agreed that this would be kept under review.

6. Finance

6.1 Approval of Annual Accounting Statement

PG confirmed that the Annual Governance Statement had been signed off. The Accounting Statement was now due for submission to Auditors. PG summarised the key features of the statement noting in particular that there were no reportable variances in excess of 10% and that the £34K balance held was for identifiable purposes relating to contingency planning, specific imminent projects and provisions for legal costs all as identified in the Budget Statement.

PG presented the Fixed Asset Register and a discussion ensued about some of the holding values and the accounting treatment. Consideration was to be given to write down policy and PG would take advice from the Auditor on how this could be best applied to represent a realistic asset value in the books.

PG recommended the Annual Accounting Statement for approval by the Council. AB proposed and IK seconded the approval of the statement and following a unanimous vote it was signed by the Chair of the Council.

The Council wished to express its thanks to Cllr. Gough for his role in achieving another successful year-end accounting outcome.

6.2 Current Financial Position

It was noted that there had been very little movement since the last report. There was nothing to bring to the attention of the Council.

6.3 Payments

The Council approved payments as per the payment schedule.

7. **Report from Planning Committee** – No new applications had been received.
8. **Report from Asset Working Groups**
 - 8.1 **Funding Sub-Group** – Awaiting outcome of outline planning application.
 - 8.2 **Planning Sub-Group** – AS confirmed that the pre-planning application had now been submitted and contact from a planning officer was awaited.
 - 8.3 **Asset Register Working Group** – Nil.
9. **Reports from Councillors**
 - 9.1 **Annual Parish Meeting** – Plans were progressing with a number of target groups identified for contact. It was agreed that a date, probably in late September, would be proposed for agreement at the next meeting.
 - 9.2 **Volunteer Working Parties** – Work had commenced on the painting of railings at the top of Clover Drive and is now a WIP subject to weather conditions.
 - 9.3 **Water Heater** – The Chair advised that the water heater at the IROS had broken and being 10 years old was beyond economic repair. It was agreed that the heater was an essential asset for the effective use of the IROS building and was used to support a number of village and community activities. A replacement heater was in the region of £360. SR proposed and PG seconded the purchase of a new heater and the Council unanimously approved the proposal.
 - 9.4 **IROS Issues**

Concerns were raised about incidences of overnight camping and parking at the lake. Consideration was given to the clarity of signage prohibiting overnight parking on Council owned land at the IROS building. It was agreed that this would be considered at the next meeting.

Cllr: Diane Halsey