

618  
**MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
in PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL**

**4th October 2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

**PART A - PUBLIC AGENDA**

1.     **Present:**       AS (Chair), CT (Vice-Chair), PG, AB, IK, SR  
      **Apologies:**   DH (Holiday), SF (Work abroad), Cllr O Hunter  
      **Police:** PCSO Gary Fulton  
      **Public:** Ms Rosie Bennett - North West Leonburger Club of GB

2.     **Minutes**

2.1    **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for the meeting of 6th September 2016 (617) were approved and signed by the Chair, after the addition of Cllr O Hunter to the list of apologies made for that meeting.

2.2    **Matters arising**

The Clerk confirmed that the agreement with Sale Moor Angling Club did not permit overnight fishing at Pickmere. He had reminded the Club by letter.

3.     **Declaration of Interests**

None

4.     **Open Forum**

4.1    None

4.2    **Report from PCSO** - PCSO Gary Fulton introduced himself to the Council as the new PCSO for the Pickmere area, working alongside PC Mike Dawber. Jim Day is in the process of relocating. GF made reference to one crime report, of a person possessing a small amount of cannabis on Park Lane. IK asked about the Speedwatch programme - GF reported that the officer concerned had been on sick leave; GF will check and contact IK direct.

GF asked what the Council wanted from him, and AS stated that it was primarily his presence in the area, particularly at times when the area around the lake was busiest. The PCSO's presence would help demonstrate the Police's commitment to the locality. GF said he had walked the area a number of times and would continue to do so.

IK reported that the 7.5 tonne weight limit on Pickmere Lane was being ignored by some HGV drivers. GF will refer the issue to PC Dawber.

SR entered the meeting at this point.

The Council agreed to bring forward item 7 on the Agenda.

## **7. Presentation from NW Leonburger Water Training Group re use of Pickmere Lake.**

A proposal for the use of the lake for training of these dogs had been circulated to Council before the meeting. Ms Bennett explained that this breed was a working breed of dog and in this programme they were trained to carry out water rescue of persons having difficulty in water situations. The Group was looking for a suitable lake to carry out such training and Pickmere was ideal. The Group did not however form part of any team or organisation helping carry out such rescues - the Group simply aimed to extend the capabilities of the dogs for their own satisfaction. The details of the proposed training were explained.

In response, the Chair noted that this proposal would require the Council to make an exception to its stance as to the use of Council land to access the lake. It was also pointed out that the Council had no direct control over the use of the lake - it could only control access to the lake from its own land. The lake was obviously used at certain time by water skiers, and the Council has no legal means to cordon off temporarily a part of the lake to prevent access by other lake-users and to safeguard such a dog-training activity. The potential relationship between boat users and water skiers and persons training dogs in this way would obviously be potentially hazardous.

The Council concluded that the proposal did not bring any broader justification than other past proposals to use the lake, and it resolved with regret, that it could not allow the proposal.

## **5. Finance**

### **5.1 Current financial position**

No specific comments were made on the quarterly accounts summary. PG has started to consider next year's budget, and projects that by the end of the financial year, the Council may have spent £700-1000 less than was budgeted, albeit that such expenditure would still exceed the Council's annual income. The balance of expenditure would be funded from reserves, a substantial proportion of which arises from historic 'commuted sums' paid by developers as a consequence of development proposals, and intended for maintenance of the IROS and Clover Drive play area. CT's initial thoughts on asset maintenance (see item 8.3.1) would potentially mean additional expenditure of c. £4.5k. Further consideration will be carried out and the Budget for 2017/18 will be included on the agenda for the November meeting.

### **5.2 To approve new payments.**

Council authorised the payments listed on the attached report

### **5.3 To approve payments not previously expressly authorised.**

The attached report was submitted following clarification of the need for express authorisation for individual payments and contains details of payments made since April 2016. Council resolved that the schedule of payments was now expressly authorised.

## **6. Report from Planning Committee**

### **6.1 Draft Minutes of Planning Committee meeting held on 13 September 2016.**

Specific reference was made to application no. 16/4350M (Nywen, Pickmere Lane) - CE have been reminded of the previous planning history of this site and the need to take that into account in determining this application.

Reference was also made to the formation of driveways at 114 and 118 Pickmere Lane, without authorisation. One such has been remediated, but that at 144 remains an issue.

## **6.2 PA No. 16/3519 - Front extension - Goldstone, Pickmere Lane**

Grant of planning permission noted.

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

### **8.1 Funding Sub-Group - no report**

### **8.2 Planning Sub-Group - no report**

### **8.3 Asset Register Sub-Group**

**8.3.1 Assets Register** - CT introduced his initial draft of budget figures set against asset maintenance/repair costs. The overall conclusion is that a maintenance budget would be larger than at present - largely reflecting the fact that much current maintenance work is carried out by volunteers, which cannot be guaranteed into the future. These issues will be discussed at the next Council meeting in the context of the Budget for 2017/8.

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

**9.1 Transparency Fund** - Clerk was authorised to submit an application for grant to purchase a laptop computer and associated equipment and software and for reimbursement of the purchase of an all-in-one printer.

**9.2 Membership of Society of Local Council Clerks** - Clerk was authorised to apply for membership of the SLCC and Association of Local Council Clerks, such membership to be funded by the Council.

**9.3 Manchester Airport Development Programme** - CT reported on his recent attendance at a Manchester Airport presentation. The topics covered included redevelopment proposals for Terminal 1, proposed changes to the aircraft circulation system adjoining the runways, the further development of Airport City, and some of the implications of HS2 and HS3 proposals, the Airport considering that HS3 is a potentially more valuable project than HS2.

**9.4 Eric Jackson (Artist)** - CT reported that he had met EJ, who tours the region designing , in an Art Deco style, posters, greetings cards etc based on regional features and character. He is preparing something based on Pickmere. A mock-up may be available for the November Council meeting.

**9.5 Cheshire Railings** - CT reported that the Cheshire railings at Clover Drive were repaired and ready for painting. He proposed using a self-priming paint. It was hoped to secure volunteers - CT to contact Pickmere Press. The Clerk was authorised to purchase the paint and other equipment for this.

## **10. Report from C.E. Cllr Olivia Hunter - nil**

## **PART B - PRIVATE AGENDA**

1. **Permissive path** - Clerk authorised to enter into discussions with Cheshire East Council with a view to making a Permissive Path Agreement in respect of the informal footpath referred to in this report.
2. **Renewal of external lights** - Clerk authorised to instruct Ranger Electrical Services (NW) Ltd to replace the two external PIR lights at the Village Hall in accordance with their quotation.

**Next meeting: 1st November 2016**

**Clerk: Jack Steel**