

Number 574

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY MAY 1ST 2012 AT 7.30PM AT PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL

Chairperson's report for 2011-2012

Joan Webb welcomed everyone to the AGM. She related back to 1947 to the setting up of the first Parish Council meeting 64 years ago. Joan has been on the Council for 38 years and Chairperson for 15 years.

Early on in 2011 discussions took place on the future storage of equipment for events held by the Community Group and with a view to expanding the Pavilion. In May fliers were sent to all residents. The response was inconclusive. Later in the year a Public Meeting was held, being chaired by Councillors Andrew Shore and Phil Gough to glean what interest there was from the public to extend the Pavilion. This was followed by several residents attended the February meeting with objections to the idea. Various ideas are being considered by the Council at the present time. Recently a new planning application has been received by the Council for Spinks Lane Development.

Joan completed her report by thanking all the Councillors and Clerk, for their support during the last year, and their individual input, particularly Virginia Brown for the contribution she has done in relation to Clover Drive Playground and the Open Spaces, and CT for setting up the new website.

The Clerk asked the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to vacate their seats. This was followed by nominations (on cards) for Chair, Vice Chair, Finance Officer and Planning Committee. The results of the nominations were seconded, and the new officers were as follows:

Chairperson	Andrew Shore
Vice Chairperson:	Chris Tarrant
Finance Officer:	Phil Gough
Planning Committee:	Andrew Shore, Chris Tarrant, V Brown, Phil Gough

Steve Wilkinson gave a vote of thanks to Joan Webb, for her long service to the Council, both as a Councillor and as Chairperson. Joan will be staying on as a Councillor and SW stressed the importance of her staying because of the wealth of her experience and knowledge of Pickmere. The Clerk thanked Joan her for the help and support she had given to her since she had been Clerk. PG requested that a Councillor be appointed to assess and be responsible for repairs to assets: Action: Agenda for next meeting.

The meeting continued as per agenda; led by Andrew Shore.

- 1. Present:** Councillors J Webb, A Shore, V Brown, S Wilkinson, C Tarrant, P Gough.
R. Pepall (arrived at 7.50pm), R Fogerty (clerk), PCSO C Shepherd.

Apologies: Nil

Public: Nil

2. Minutes:

2.1 The Minutes of the last meeting, April 3rd, Re Item 6.5 ‘Decision reached not to act’ and then they were approved and signed by Chair, Andrew Shore.

2.2 Matters arising from those Minutes: Chris Tarrant had communicated with Highways and road signs have been ordered.

Item 4.3 Rabbit proof fencing not applicable to Parish Council.

CT had checked new web-site, to see how many ‘hits’. He has also added more photos. Also residents can now put Planning Application replies on the CE Website. Jubilee information and poster is now on web-site.

Clerk to do letter of thanks to Dave Harris re. ‘old website’.

3. Declaration of Interests

Nil

4. Open Forum

Nil

5. Police Community Support Officer *Clare Shepherd*

5.1 No ASB’s reported during last month.. Suspicious males had been reported on Frog Lane, incident reported to Police but no trace when they arrived on scene. Clare had been out on Speedwatch. Some cases of speeding were recorded. Clare’s Inspector wishes her to set up a questionnaire re. speeding, ASB, and this will be delivered to all residents, along with the Pickmere Press. Councillors suggested that request for Speedwatch volunteers be on the questionnaire, headed with the Police Logo.

5.2 During the month the clerk had received an email from a resident in Wincham, reporting graffiti on a jetty at the lakeside. Clare had checked and this had not been reported as an incident either in Wincham or Pickmere. PG felt that as this is not directly on our land. However, it must be stressed that everyone must report incidents to the Police. It is hoped that in time the graffiti will be ‘washed’ off by the water.

5.3 Knutsford police are looking into a new speedgun and all PCSO’s will be trained in the use of it. A donation from the Council may be required.

5.4 The clerk has been in communication with CE re traffic control for the Jubilee procession. Police will not actually attend the event, but will provide ‘Road Closed’ signs, these being originally used for control of traffic for the ‘Olympic torch bearing’ event in Knutsford. These will be in place for the time the procession takes place from Wellfield Close to Mere Lane. Clare will help ‘police’ the procession, along with some volunteers who will be at the back of it, wearing yellow jackets. Clare also will place cones on the morning of Jubilee in the vicinity of Mere Lane, to prevent parking, except for the disabled.

6. Finance

6.1 PG reported on the current financial position:

General account balance: £6662.91

Lakeside Account : Balance £13367.23 made up of £3.8778.23 + £9489.00, latter being Grant received specifically for Clover Drive Play Ground Area.

- 6.2 To approve the payments for this month. These were for the Clerk's expenses, gardener, and gas check at Village Hall (smell of gas having been reported)
- 6.3 Payments received during last month: £268.00 received from Village Hall letting.
- 6.4 The audit has now been completed by internal auditor, Nicky White. The notice is displayed on the board for the residents' information. The Audit Return was signed, by the Chairperson and the Clerk. The accounts will accompany the audit, which will shortly be sent off. PAYE information needs to be submitted to Inland Revenue. VAT return will be also be sent.
- 6.5 Update on assets: Agenda next time.
- 6.6 Repair of Notice Board from Village Hall is now taking place; Clerk to check on cost of materials. Maximum of £150 and report back to council if more.

7. Correspondence and reports

- 7.1 Planning Committee Councillors had attended a meeting with Caroline Simpson and Peter Hooley (CE) to request an update on 'Spinks Lane Development'. The latter are involved with engagement of other members of CE Council to take the matter forward to an enforcement. A request for an appointment with Michael Jones, Leader of the Conservative Group has not yet taken place. AS and CT have an appointment with George Osborne at his Knutsford Surgery on May 25th.
- 7.2 CT had contacted Richard Platt, re Fishing Licence. Action: delay until later in year to review next year's Licence Fee.

8. Planning

- 8.1 No decisions last month from Cheshire East.
- 8.2 Plans received: Application No: 12/1113M. Proposal Use of Land as a Private Gipsy and Traveller site for 3 Mobiles, 3 touring Caravans and Associated Hardstanding. Location: Spinks Lane Pickmere. This plan had been received by the Council on 23rd March. AS, PG and CT along with other members of PARG, held a meeting at the Pavilion during the week; AS and CT felt it prudent to involve all members with the new application. SW was also in attendance at the meeting. The 'new' application is extremely similar to the 2008 Application, and then the 2010 application was not determined. The advice from CE is to treat this as a 'new application'. Action taken by PARG to act in a similar way as in 2008. Fliers has been sent out with Pickmere Press, to encourage residents to respond by sending in their comments as before, and Councillors will be in attendance on 9th May 6-8pm at the Village Hall to discuss the application in detail and answer questions from the residents.
AS will reply to CE on behalf of the Council re the Application and stating this is a unanimous opinion of the council members

9. Report from CE Councillor Steve Wilkinson re: Cheshire East Borough Council

- 8.1 SW reported to the Council that the Consultation has been launched on the Revised Interim Planning Policy on the Release of Housing Land. This is a 4 week consultation period. It applies to no more than 30 houses as a development.
- 8.2 Public Transport Consultation: the Consultation time for this ends 22nd June.

10. Issues raised by Councillors/Parishioners

- 10.1 **Neighbourhood Planning:** AS stated that the Planning Committee had discussed and considered a number of documents relating to neighbourhood planning. Following a discussion they would not recommend a Local Plan for

Pickmere, but would recommend building on the CE Rural Local Development Framework Document. Specifically relating to Pickmere the Planning Committee believes:

- a) The current scope of the Green Belt must remain.
- b) Any proven necessary development must take place within the Parish inset boundary.
- c) Changes to existing buildings must not require substantial reconstruction.
- d) All developments must pass the test of sustainability in the context of a rural village.
- e) Brown field sites within a 5 mile radius must be considered and prioritised if a proven need for affordable or other housing is identified.

AS proposed that he and another Councillor take these points forward to a meeting with Adrian Fisher (CE), Head of Planning and Housing. Seconded by PG. Action: Clerk to arrange an appointment.

10.2 New date for next Village Hall Committee Meeting: AS. Date: Wednesday 16th May 2pm at the Pavilion.

10.3 Clover Drive: VB reported that she had communicated with the Council's Solicitor and also Persimmon's manager, who reported that the transfer of the Play Area and Open Spaces plans should be completed by the end of this week. Richard Platt has cut the grass at the open spaces and Peter Jackson (gardener) has reported that the play area needs cutting again. PG seconded; VB to go ahead and ask him to do again, cost: £35.

10.4 The Clerk stated that the Jubilee Committee, who are organising the Jubilee Event, wish to mark the event by planting a tree near Wellfield Close. They have suggested a fruit tree, and planting would take place just after the Celebrations at the IROS on our Jubilee Event Day, June 2nd. Councillor Joan Webb offered to pay for the tree and a plaque to name the event. Joan was thanked for this 'gift'. She was keen to have a damson tree. The Council would prefer to plant the tree on Council land, on corner of Clover Drive near the sundial. Unanimous decision on this. Clerk will inform Simon Read.

11. Items for next meeting's agenda on June 12th.

11.1 Finance: Register of Assets: PG

11.2 Finance: PG: Requests that a Councillor be appointed to assess and be responsible for repairs to assets.

11.3 PCSO contract: AS

11.4 Clerk's PC: AS

11.5 Public Transport Consultation: CT

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON:

TUESDAY 12th JUNE

