

## **REPORT TO PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL**

**4 October 2016**

### **9.2 MEMBERSHIP OF SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS**

#### **1 Background**

1.1 The Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) is the professional body for local council clerks. Its membership is steadily growing and now represents clerks to over 4500 councils in England and Wales. Many councils realise the benefits of having a clerk who is properly trained, fully briefed on the issues of the day and can get fast accurate advice to problems that they may face. In fact, over 90% of members' councils willingly pay for their clerks' subscriptions to the Society as encouraged by the Local Government Act.

1.2 The Society promotes 'best practice' in the sector through providing on-line resources, a team of national and regional advisers, the organisation of training events, and through encouraging the dissemination of advice and information through personal contacts among members. Among other benefits it provides its own advice literature without charge to members, and nationally published literature at a discounted price. The Society's webpage is [www.slcc.co.uk](http://www.slcc.co.uk).

1.3 Allied to the SLCC is the Association of Local Council Clerks (ALCC), which is the clerks' trade union. The two organisations were originally one and have separated in recent months in order to allow clarification of roles.

1.4 It is pertinent to point out that the SLCC is an association of clerks, whilst ChALC is an association of parish councils.

#### **2 Report**

2.1 Your Clerk has attended one meeting of the Cheshire branch of the SLCC, and believes that membership of the Society would be beneficial to him, and thence to the Parish Council as a whole, particularly as he does not have a background in the detail of local authority clerking.

2.2 Your clerk would also prefer to become a member of the ALCC as it is impossible to foresee where advice and guidance might be necessary in the future.

2.3 Membership of the SLCC for a Clerk with an annual salary equating to your clerk's costs £77 per annum plus a £5 joining fee. Membership of the ALCC, applied for in conjunction with membership of the SLCC costs nothing in the first year, and subsequently £10 per year.

#### **3 Recommendation**

3.1 That your Clerk apply for membership of the SLCC and ALCC and that such membership be funded by the Council.

**Jack Steel Clerk to Parish Council**