

## **Number 537**

# **MINUTES OF THE PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY AUGUST 5TH AT PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL**

### **PRESENT:**

J Webb, V Brown, P Gough, D Harris, R Fogerty (Clerk), N White (Auditor)

### **APOLOGIES:**

R.Pepall, C. Wilcox-Baker, S. Wilkinson, P.Mather

### **MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:** None

PC C Body was expected to attend the meeting, but did not do so.

## **1. MINUTES**

In Item '14. AOB' it was reported that the Post Office, in Spar Store in Wincham, was under threat of closure, but this was actually related to the 'Pensioner's Card' at the Post Office, not the actual Post Office. Minutes of the last meeting accepted and signed by Chairperson, Joan Webb.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING**

PG raised the topic of PCSO's and felt unclear and asked for an update. At the May Meeting it was a majority vote by the P.C to have a PCSO. The follow-on from this at the June meeting was that some PC's who were not at the May meeting expressing unsure feelings about the decision. RF updated council that Steve Wilkinson had informed her that there is no progress anyway at the moment, due to Mere not going to be a participating village in the '4' who were going to share the cost of a PCSO.

Drain and footpath now done at the Lakeside area.

VB has made contact with someone re. the Notice Board by the Old Post Office, to have repair/doors. Discussion in hand. RF reported board now in poor condition. Also, recent Notices re Meetings, seem to have been wilfully removed and dropped into garden behind board.

PG asked if any more information re. party down Pickmere Lane in August, (seen on Website), See Item 3 in AOB of June minutes. No more information on this.

## **3. FINANCE**

NW reported on the Accounts. Little movement this year on either.

Lakeside: earned £63 interest. General: earned interest of £47, the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the precept was received, and the biggest outlay so far has been the Insurance of £1300. The VAT reclaimed has been banked and this belongs to the General Account. The balance on the General Account is £7389, £1,127 being in the current account, and the balance on the Lakeside Account is £10,855 with £3,005.00 in the current account. (The latter amount is allowing for money about to be transferred to cover expenses about to be incurred).

No audit report has been received yet.

VB had expressed concern at last meeting re British Gas bills and RF has looked at past accounts with NW. Some previous readings have been estimated, and the Gas Meter was changed last November. Present meter reading does not seem to tie in with recent invoice. Withhold payment and RF to do letter with readings etc. to British Gas.

VB stated that the invoice for work on the lakeside path area should have been paid upon it being received, (it being 2 ½ weeks to the Council Meeting). RF had told VB that money would need to be transferred from deposit to current, and would also involve signing a cheque out of the Meeting. It is policy to only sign utility bills out of meetings. RF had rung the company concerned and explained the cheque would be delivered after the next meeting and this was acceptable by them.

RF asked for 2 letters to be signed to transfer £1000 from General Deposit to Current and £2000 from Lakeside Deposit to Current. It was discussed that the latter should be £3000.00 – new letter to be done, and can be signed by JW and VB asap, out of Council. Potential expenditure to be reviewed at each meeting, and check current accounts will cover this for the next couple of months. DH proposed and PG seconded.

Account	Cheque Number	Signed by 2	To whom/for	Date	Amount £
General	101331	JW/SW	*PO for U.U. VH	18.7.08	17.51
“	101332	JW/SW	*PO for U.U. Pavilion	18.7.08	15.61
“	101333	JW/VB	Philip Clarke (Gardener)	5.8.08	125.00
“	101334	JW/VB	PO for Electric VH	5.8.08	35.23
“	101335	JW/VB	Cheque for B Gas, then cancelled – to check meter		
“	101336	JW/VB	R Fogerty Clerk salary and expenses (2 months)	5.8.08	489.47
Lakeside	100065	JW/VB	WAP Lawton	5.8.08	1,903.50

\*Cheques above signed out of council were utility (water) bills.

#### 4. OPEN FORUM

Nil

#### 5. PLANNING

The following applications were received during July

**Application No: 08/1488P**

**Proposal: 2 Storey Side extension, Balcony to front and single storey side and rear extensions**

**Location: 19 Mere Pickmere WA16 0JR**

Concern about the balcony, whether this could set a precedent, and please take neighbours comments into consideration.

**Application No: 08/1204P**

**Proposal: Alterations to Detached Garage**

**Location: Smithy House Frog Lane Pickmere WA16 0LJ**

No objection raised.

#### **Granted to:**

**Mrs D Wood 3 Mere Close Pickmere WA16 0JR** Certificate of Lawful Use of Land as Domestic Garden

**Covered Smoking shelter to rear of Public House The Elms Park Lane**

**Withdrawn: Alterations to existing outbuilding to form Leisure Room at Dove Cottage Pickmere Lane**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

RF reported on receiving telephone call from a resident in Wincham re Spink Lane and whether the Parish Council would gate off the access to control re fly-tipping etc. She has recently purchased a couple of the plots down Spinks Lane which have been up for sale. RF advised her to contact Matthew Clayton at MBC, as there is no plan for the Parish Council to gate this. To contact resident again and inform her to contact Cheshire C C. Spinks Lane – hedges have been taken out to make wider – PG has contacted JW read out a report from Pat Mather, re a meeting held at a resident's home in Tabley, attended by CWB and PM and Tabley Council PCSO, and other residents in that area. It was held to discuss traffic problems on Pickmere Lane. PG will contact P C Body and Pickmere Press re traffic problems. All items of correspondence shown to council. RF listed replies necessary.

**7. PCSO's**

See comments in Matters Arising – nil further at the moment to report on. Await an up date from SW who was absent from this meeting.

**8. ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGY CONSULTATION**

DH has looked into this on web-site and reports that this is concerned with individuals rather than community. However, the Parish Plan survey has just been published and delivered to all houses in Pickmere. DH will ask Chairperson, Stephanie Ward, of Parish Plan to give him feedback on information given by residents on this topic, and report back in September meeting.

**9. IROS**

VB reported that Vic Heather is to do repair work on Bird-Hide. Roy Higgins, Tree Surgeon will do Dead Elms in the Autumn. She also reported that Himalayan Balsam is growing in the Lakeside area, and needs attention. Elders are growing at a great pace. The IROS sub-committee to decide on exactly what needs doing.

PG stated that the sandy area to the water's edge no longer exists, as trees have taken over. He feels that they are blocking the lovely view across the lake and this area should be left open, and control the tree growth. VB and DH will report on this at next meeting, after viewing.

**10. VILLAGE HALL**

Nil of note.

**11. WEB-site**

DH to make change of plan re photographs on web-site. Photography Society photos, especially concerning wild-life, now to be displayed.

**12. PARISH PLAN UPDATE**

In the absence of RP, RF reported that the Steering Group are expecting the cheque to fund the plan. This will come to the Parish Clerk. Discussion on Account to open for this. RF to ring Bron Kerrigan and discuss. Preferably the Parish Plan Steering Group to organise their own account. The Parish Plan Survey has recently been distributed to all households in the village, and will be collected towards the end of the month.

### **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor's responsibilities topic deferred until September meeting, due to insufficient PC's present tonight to make decisions.

PG asked why Pickmere Rough Footpath has been closed. He will speak to Steve Wilkinson.

VB reported that Civic Pride inspection team had visited the village and commented on the poor state of the rose bushes on the Millenium Garden. VB said these had been replaced about 3 times, and had not proved to be successful. Decision needed now as to what to do with the patch of ground there - ? large conifer.

**NEXT MEETING SET FOR 2<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**AT 7.30PM**