

# Number 560

## MINUTES OF THE PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2010 AT PICKMERE VILLAGE HALL

**PRESENT:** J Webb, V Brown, P Gough, D Harris, R Pepall, A Shore, R Fogerty (Clerk), N White (Auditor), PCSO C Shepherd S Wilkinson and Cheshire East Councillor George Walton arrived 9pm (following attending LAP's Meeting).

**APOLOGIES:** P.Mather

### MEMBERS OF PUBLIC- 1

#### 1. MINUTES

Minutes of the last meeting accepted and signed by Chairperson, Joan Webb.

#### 2. MATTERS ARISING

Clerk reported receiving email from James Robinson, (see last month's Minutes on Community Resilience Plan). Clerk to reply saying we will deal with this ourselves in the village, using Village Hall as meeting place for Councillors should the need arise.  
Re: Local Service Delivery - CE inappropriate to attend one of our meetings at the moment, - further planning on this to be done, and the next stage is that we will receive an information pack.in near future.

#### 3. FINANCE

Nicky White reported on recent finances. The General Account shows a balance of £4695 and the Lakeside Account shows £6,250. Nicky had prepared a budget sheet for 2011/12, in preparation for setting the precept for the next financial year. Discussion took place on incoming and outgoing expenses. It was decided to increase Village Hall letting fee by £1 per hour, and the Fishing Licence to be increased by £25. PG proposed that the precept requirement be £13,000.00, seconded by AS. JW thanked Nicky, for her internal auditor work for the Council.

The Clerk explained that her husband had assisted her in attempting to keep the Village Hall heating system going effectively during this extremely cold weather. For the time being the boiler is set to come on for short periods twice daily, and a longer period in the evening, to cover hire events. The council thanked Alan Fogerty for his support in carrying out this care of the Hall. During milder spells time can be reduced. Meters read at beginning of month. There is a credit balance on the gas and electric accounts at the present time.

Account	Cheque Number	Signed by 2	To whom/for	Date	Amount £
General	101483	JW.VB	R Fogerty salary	7.12.10	240.00
"	101484	JW.VB	R Fogerty expenses	7.12.10	50.45
"	101485	JW.VB	N White (ex gratia)	7.12.10	150.00
"	101486	SW.VB	J Webb (stationery)	7.12.10	18.00
"	101491	JW.VB	M Barlow (cleaner VH)	7.12.10	183.17

#### **4. OPEN FORUM**

A member of the public referred to the incident at Cob Lodge, Pickmere Lane, in September, where the police were called to, and due to problem finding the property there had been a delay in arriving there. He enquired from PCSO Shepherd what system the police had for finding areas and properties. She informed him that they used the PDA SAT NAV, but not everyone in the force has one, and she herself does not have one. Council discussed other ways that can be used eg. Maps, - particularly to find farms.

The same member of the public reported that he had gained the information that Cheshire West and Chester Council are reducing the speed limit from 40 to 30 mph, from The Black Greyhound at Wincham to Park Lane/Pickmere Lane junction. He commented that Cheshire East had a request on several occasions to do this. As this overlaps onto Cheshire East boundary on Pickmere Lane, it was thought we should have received information on this.

JW stated she had seen news of this in the recent Northwich Guardian. It is thought that this is being carried out due to Wincham Primary School being along that route.

#### **5. PCSO**

Clare reported on it being a quiet month, with no major incidences.

She and VB had met at Clover Drive Playground area, with 2 members of 'Persimmon' to discuss state and future of the area. Persimmon do not want the ongoing care of the area, which includes the Playground, track and grassed open space. Cheshire East are not interested in taking this over either. Next stage is to get 3 quotes for covering a 5 year period. Richard Platt would look after grass cutting on the open space and track area. VB will get quote from him. The playground area will require ROSPA inspection. Clerk to enquire from Council's Insurance Company of the implications and costs to cover playground area. PG thanked VB for the effort she has put in on Clover Drive area. VB praised PCSO Shepherd saying she had been extremely helpful and interested in trying to sort this problem area out, for the children in Pickmere.

#### **6. PLANNING**

No applications last month, and no decisions reported on website.

Debbie Kirk had emailed in reply to our letter, re Spinks Lane, explaining that it is a state of 'wait and see' how things proceed and then react appropriately.

#### **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

Many items already emailed to Councillors. Remaining information/letters were read out, passed round and considered where appropriate.

Clerk to reply to email from J.Brown (surveyor) who visited Pickmere enquiring re. Land to purchase.

VB and AS will attend the Chalc Seminar on devolution on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>. Clerk to arrange.

#### **8. IROS**

SW reported on 3 quotes he had obtained in order to fell the dead elms in this area.

Discussion re quotes and SW proposed lowest, seconded by VB. SW will go ahead and arrange this work. Timber will be stacked on site. This will be funded from the Lakeside Account.

Clerk to contact Debbie Kirk re. update on use of boats on the mere.

VB reported that Richard Platt would like the use of the square of Parish Council land at the top of the IROS field near the kissing gate. Agreed this can be done by lease, and VB will investigate drawing this up. Richard to be responsible for public liability and upkeep.

Cheshire Wildlife had offered to do environmental work free of charge and SW organised cutting down of alders at bottom of IROS near the reed beds, in order to allow reeds to spread, and also cut willow back. Logs piled up in IROS area.

#### **9. VILLAGE HALL (inc. update for ? new village hall.**

A further flyer re proposal for new village hall will be delivered to all houses, along with the Pickmere Press, within the next few days asking for residents' views. Discuss in February meeting.

VB made a suggestion that some of the dead elm be used for a wooden sculpture, to be done by Angela Sidwell (local wood sculpturer) and be placed on the IROS area. DH proposed and PG seconded. It was agreed this would be in the form of a barn owl. VB informed council of the approximate cost and that it would be funded from the Lakeside Account.

#### **10. WEB-SITE**

DH reported that this is up to date. AS requested that a statement be put on the web-site stating that there is no indication for planning in the Parish of Pickmere for housing, and therefore curtail the notion of land-banking. AS to attend to this and email councillors for agreement of statement.

#### **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

RP informed us that a resident had asked him to inform council that there an opportunity to have free trees, from the Woodland Trust. Council need to apply, and decision made to put some down by mere to replace dead elms. RP will arrange and have delivered to SW.

It was agreed at an earlier meeting not to hold a meeting in January.

**NEXT MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**AT 7.30PM**