



MINUTES of THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (682)

4th October 2022

PART A – PUBLIC AGENDA

1. ATTENDANCE

Present Councillors Read, Bold, Dobson, Shore, Flannery
Public 4 members of the public
Apologies Councillors Carson and Tarrant; CEC Councillor K Parkinson; Police representatives

2. MINUTES

2.1 Approval of Minutes The minutes of the meeting of 6th September 2022 were AGREED with the addition of the words “from dawn to dusk” to agenda item 9.1 bullet 3.

2.2 Matters arising from minutes

Item 9.6 Possible extension of yellow lines in the village The Clerk reported that there had been an exchange of emails with CEC Highways, and he awaited CEC’s further contact to arrange a meeting.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS Nil

4. PUBLIC FORUM Nil

5. REPORT FROM POLICE OFFICER No police representative was present. The Chair reported that a new PC and a new PCSO had been appointed and would no doubt attend a Council meeting in due course. The Clerk was asked to request that if no police officer was able to attend a Council meeting, could a report be sent in advance of the meeting; in addition the Police were to be asked if they could hold one of their local surgeries at Pickmere.

6. REPORT FROM CLLR K PARKINSON (CEC) Cllr Parkinson was not present but had provided the following information by email:

- CEC will be responding to the Parish Council’s suggestion of the possibility of CEC and the PC jointly preparing some kind of presentation to the HS2B Select Committee, and its request that CEC contribute to any costs incurred by the PC in appearing before the Select Committee.
- KP has asked her officers that Hall Lane be subject to the same type of highway resurfacing as School Lane, and has also requested gully cleansing in the parish before the bad weather of winter.

7. FINANCE

7.1 Current Financial position The report was NOTED.

7.2 New payments The schedule was AGREED/AUTHORISED.

7.3 External Auditor's report on Annual Accounts for 2021-22 The report was NOTED and Council AGREED:

- That the Council's accounts for 2021-22 be formally adopted and the accounts closed;
- That the amended Asset Register be approved.

7.4 Energy provision in the Council's buildings The report was NOTED.

7.5 Waste collection costs at the IROS The report was NOTED. Members also recorded their thanks to those residents who had during the summer assisted in helping tidy rubbish in the vicinity of the large waste bin, and also with the collection of litter.

7.6 Resignation of Council's Internal Auditor The report was NOTED and members AGREED:

- To thank Nicky White for her contributions to the functioning of the Parish Council as internal auditor and otherwise over the last 18 years.
- To authorise payment for a suitable gift for Nicky in recognition of this unpaid and voluntary contribution.
- That the Clerk should seek a suitable replacement candidate and report back to Council in due course.
- That the position be 'advertised' in Pickmere Press and on the Council's website to see if there might be a local candidate.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

8.1 Update on Planning Applications Members NOTED the Planning update that was tabled.

8.2 Neighbourhood Plan Cllr Bold reported that she is still endeavouring to arrange a meeting of the NP Steering Group but without success so far. The report was NOTED.

9. REPORTS FROM CLERK AND FROM COUNCILLORS

9.1 Clover Drive Play Area – Annual Inspection The report was NOTED. The Chair commented that some more painting of equipment etc had been carried out, and he wished to record the Council's thanks to the volunteers who had helped with this.

9.2 NALC Civility and Respect Programme The report was NOTED, members noting that involvement in the project would require some significant input of time and resource; members RESOLVED to see how the programme developed before considering whether to become involved. The Clerk was asked to ask CHALC if there might be any relevant course that would be available.

9.3 Erection of Village boundary signs Cllr Bold presented several material samples to the Council, together with an idea of potential costs for the provision of 3 signs. It was noted that the signs would have to incorporate either the CEC Sheaf motif, or perhaps the Cheshire County coat of arms. Members expressed a preference for the Cheshire County emblem, for the wording of the potential signs, and for sample no. 4 of those presented. Cllr Bold is still awaiting feedback

from CEC as to various aspects of the matter, and the Clerk was asked to send Cllr Bold's queries to the CEC Highways contact that the Clerk holds, to try to secure progress. Cllr K Parkinson was to be asked whether CEC could provide the artwork for Cheshire's coat of arms.

9.4 Asset Maintenance Programme The report was NOTED.

9.5 Resolution to exclude the public Council RESOLVED that members of the public should be asked to leave the meeting at this point to enable discussion of confidential matters.

PART B – PRIVATE AGENDA

10 Parish Council Insurance The Clerk was AUTHORISED to discuss with the Council's insurers the various matters considered.

11 Issues arising from recent FOI request The report was NOTED, and the thrust of comments suggested was AGREED. Council also AGREED that a charge of 15p per A4 sheet be levied for printing and copying any documents relating to this or any similar requests.

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.