



## PARISH POLL 21 FEBRUARY 2023

### PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT FENCE AND GATES AT PICKMERE LAKE AND CONSEQUENT PARISH POLL

The Parish Council would like as many residents of Pickmere as possible to vote in the poll to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> February at Pickmere Village Hall between 4.00 pm and 9.00 pm. To help residents, the following facts are provided about the fence proposal and the Poll.

#### FENCE PROPOSAL

The aim of the fence was to attempt to reduce the numbers of visitors to Pickmere on warm days in summer, along with all the problems that that causes, by closing the IROS on a regular basis. The Parish Council cannot prevent parking on village roads and footpaths – it has to rely on Cheshire East Council and the Police to help deal with that aspect – and has tried its best to maintain continued liaison with those bodies to ask them to help deal with these problems.

The fence would comprise a typical rural stock-proof fence with several large gates incorporated, located around the Parish Council's IROS land. For most of the year the gates would be left open. The current intention is to close the land at weekends including bank holidays during the forthcoming summer so that visitors receive the consistent information that the land is unavailable, and would hopefully then find alternative places to go (however even if the fence / gates were closed, the public footpath would remain open). The Council would review the success of its policy after a period of operation.

This is the only power that the Parish Council has which might influence the number of visitors who arrive in the village in summer and the amount of anti-social on-street parking that results.

#### THE PARISH POLL

The Parish Council agreed to run the poll in the wish to avoid the Council, and thereby Pickmere residents, having to pay for a similar but more formal Poll which would have been run by Cheshire East Council, as was initially requested by some residents of the village in the recent Parish Meeting. That Poll would have been likely to cost villagers upward of £1500 through the Parish Council precept.

Only registered electors of Pickmere Parish will be eligible to vote in the Poll (on production of valid ID), since it is those people who suffer from the problems mentioned and, through the Parish Council, pay for the continued maintenance of the land.