

**MINUTES OF PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (713)**  
**held at 7.45 pm on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025**  
**at Pickmere Village Hall, Pickmere Lane, Pickmere**

**Present**

Cllr E Campbell	Cllr N Greenwood	Cllr J Henderson	Cllr C Hart
Cllr A Knights	Cllr P Knights	Cllr L Marshall	Cllr S Reed

**Also in attendance:** Lucy Merry – Clerk

**Public** 1 member of the public was in attendance.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Cllr N Greenwood arrived at the meeting at 20:05. K Hague sent her apologies

**2. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**2.1 To approve and authorise the signing of the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025.**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

**2.2 Update on action list from the Chairman.**

The Chair and Vice Chair met with the Chair of the Warm Welcome at the request of the Council on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June. A report will be brought to the next meeting.

CEH has prepared draft feedback to the 2nd informal feedback from Pickmere Residents on yellow lines and once approved internally, will be available to share. There will be no response required to this feedback and the process will move to the formal consultation.

Cheshire East Police support has been extremely robust in the month of June. This has resulted in several vehicles towed and many fines being issued for Anti-Social behaviour, including parking. We continue to receive support from the Police and Crime Commissioner and our MP Esther McVey.

CEC enforcement has also been out in force. Residents are encouraged to continue to report ASB to Cheshire Police via 101 or online as these data contribute to our evidence for a PSPO. Cheshire Fire and Rescue had to attend the lake on Monday to deal with fires lit on the IROS despite clear signs that fires and BBQs are not permitted. There is a national petition to ban sale of BBQs and this has been posted on the PPC FB page and residents are encouraged to sign.

The Chair notes that there seems to be confusion surrounding the Police and Crime Commissioners' hotspot policing pilot and would like to clarify that to date, all support from Cheshire Police has been paid for out of their budget and the support is currently expected to continue until the end of this Summer without contribution from the precept.

The delegated representatives have continued to liaise with the relevant stakeholders on behalf of the residents, including Ali Gabbott, Commissioning Officer at the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, Andrew Southcott, Head of Partnerships and Commissioning at the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, Chief Inspector Zoe Bowden, Inspector Nick Rogers and Sgt Helen Percival & Sgt Dan Clarke

The Chair notes that the Cheshire Country Show went well despite worries over the road closure.

**3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None**

**4. PUBLIC FORUM**

One resident addressed agenda item 9.1 and hopes that the Council will approve opening the pavilion for the community. The resident noted that the Party by the Lake on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June had a good attendance with good weather and no competing football events!! The profits for the

event will go towards the purchase and installation of the Village Hall external defibrillator cabinet and any extra funds would like to be spent on remembrance silhouettes.  
The Police were contacted prior to the event and 6 officers attended. No incidents occurred.  
The Chair thanked the resident for the organisation of the event.

## 5. REPORT FROM CE CLLR K HAGUE

### Tabley Brook Bridge-project

Cllr K Hague has a meeting with the structural engineers so that both Tabley and Pickmere Parish Councils can gain a better understanding of the ongoing project. The date and time will be shared as soon as it has been confirmed.

### Bus service.

Cllr K Hague has sent an email to Highways to ask for their support in reinstalling a temporary bus service for Pickmere until the new bridge is built. The current state confirms that the village is left with no service, Cllr K Hague has repeatedly pressed the matter of providing a service in accordance with their Flexilink transport policy. An update will be shared once a response has been received.

## 6. FINANCE

### 6.1 To note the current financial position as on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

Balance Forward 31.05.25	53,790.74
Income	£104.00
Expenditure	-£2,430.24
Carry Forward 26.06.25	51,464.50
Current Account 26.06.25	10,383.38
Instant Access 26.06.25	41,081.12
Balance	51,464.50

Please see **Appendix Table 1** for detailed Income and Expenditure.

The bank reconciliation and monthly income and expenditure was **NOTED** by the council.

### 6.2 To authorise new payments.

The following payments were **AGREED**.

Payee	Description	Cost
Clerk salary	June pay	£651.60
Northwich Heating	Annual boiler service	£96.00 retrospective

## 7. PLANNING MATTERS

### 7.1 To consider planning applications received and other planning matters

**25/2276/PIP** - Land Adjacent To Mulberry House Frog Lane, WA16 0LJ - Permission in principle for the construction of up to 2 dwellings. **PPC OBJECTS on the grounds of inappropriate development of habitat of distinctiveness in Green Belt, with disruption to wildlife corridors.**

### 7.2 To note updates on planning applications received – none

**25/1752/NMA** - Land Off Spink Lane, WA16 0JU - Non-material amendment to approved application 24/0821M - Conversion / change of use of the existing Barn off Spink Lane into a single dwelling for the owners to run their market gardening business whilst being on the site and being able to be hands on at all times and maintaining the security of the site. – **Cheshire East APPROVED 30.05.25**

[24/5097/HOUS](#) - High Garth, Park Lane, WA16 0LH- Construction of standalone 3 car garage  
– Cheshire East REFUSED 05.06.25 – **Appeal in Progress**

[25/1444/FUL](#) - Pickmere Lake Country & Leisure Park, Mereview Farm Park Lane, WA16 0LG  
- New access, service road and landscaping. **Cheshire East PENDING CONSIDERATION.**  
**Consultation pending at Cheshire West and Chester Planning Authority**

**8. Update on actions from previous meeting (Please see Appendix Table 3)**

United Utilities have replied that works will be conducted on the 10<sup>th</sup> July that hold a small risk of siltation into the lake. This will be shared on the gates at the IROS and on social media.

**9. REPORTS FROM CLERK AND COUNCILLORS (Please see the website for full details)**

**9.1 To consider weekly use of Pavilion for Village Hub**

Following the discussion at the June 2025 Parish Council Meeting, Cllr L Marshall resubmitted her request for the use of Turton Pavilion once a week as a community "Village Hub". The aim is to provide a welcoming and inclusive space for residents to gather informally over refreshments and conversation. The proposal is to open the Pavilion every Tuesday for 2 hours for community tea/coffee and socialising.

The Council discussions covered safety, insurance, parking, and public access.

After a vote of 3 Against, 3 For, and 1 Abstain, the Chairman's vote carried the For vote. It was **RESOLVED** that there would be a trial, ending 30<sup>th</sup> September. A review of the event will be held at the October Council Meeting, to decide whether the weekly use will continue.

**9.2 To review the implications of the Fire Safety Report**

After reviewing the Fire safety report recommendations Cllr A Knights estimates a cost of £3000. It was decided that all Councillors will submit their top 5 recommendations from the report to be completed to Cllr A Knights. Cllr A Knights will collate all submissions to determine the top 5 most impactful and cost-effective recommendations to carry out and bring to the September meeting.

Fire and safety measures are to be added to hall hire forms.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk has a budget of up to £200 to purchase safety signage/equipment before the September meeting.

**9.3 Neighbourhood Plan report & web site data review**

Cllr A Knights informed the Council that because of the spending review, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government cannot proceed with commissioning new neighbourhood planning support services for 2025 onwards. Unfortunately, this means that there will be no funding for 12 months. Cheshire East would be prepared to give assistance and advice when the plan is in draft form but until the National Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Authority plans are in place there is little point in continuing. It is expected the local Parish Councils will allocate any funding required. The Council agreed that the plan is still worth progressing until there is an update.

**9.4 To consider the Environmental Visual Audit from Cheshire Constabulary**

An Environmental Visual Audit was performed by Colin Marples, Designing our Crime Officer, Cheshire Constabulary in June 2024. There are several recommendations in the report, some of which relate to land not owned by PPC.

The CCTV at the Pavilion was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr L Marshall would explore funding opportunities for upgrading.

Moving the footpath to the back of the IROS was discussed. It was decided that Cllr N Greenwood and Cllr J Henderson would work together to contact the Public Right Of Way officer to discuss the feasibility of the plan.

The Ash Waste bin contract was discussed. It was decided that this will be reviewed at the November budget meeting. The Clerk will contact to get access to the locked bin, and Cllr J Henderson will pull out for collection when needed.

Installing a bin bag dispenser on the wall to encourage visitors to take clean up their rubbish and take away with them was proposed. After a vote of 5 For and 3 against it was **RESOLVED** that a dispenser would be purchased and installed.

Cllr E Campbell will raise the reports that residents are getting the same incident number for separate occurrences/anti-social behaviours with Cheshire Police again.

It was agreed that feedback via a FB poll on each of the items would be conducted via the PPC FB page to obtain an indication of feeling amongst residents on each proposal put forward by Cheshire East Crime prevention.

#### **9.5 To Consider Quote for works on the IROS**

Due to the ongoing troubles caused by the large numbers of visitors to the lake, Cllr J Henderson has proposed that the Council plough the field at the IROS. It was decided that more legal and environmental information would be required for the Council to make an informed decision, and would be used in conjunction with a poll that would be circulated through Social Media and the website to gather opinions from residents.

#### **10 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7:45pm in the Village Hall.**

The date of the next Meeting was confirmed as 4<sup>th</sup> September at 7.45pm at the Annual Parish Council meeting.

**The meeting closed at 10:00pm**

## Appendix

**Table 1 Current Account Income and Expenditure May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup> 2025.**

31-May-25	Bank charge	-£6.00	£12,703.62
02-Jun-25	Regular Hall hire	£72.00	£12,775.62
02-Jun-25	Wifi and phone	-£47.21	£12,728.41
02-Jun-25	Accounting software	-£34.56	£12,693.85
02-Jun-25	Chehire East rates	-£66.00	£12,627.85
03-Jun-25	Playground annual inspection	-£113.94	£12,513.91
03-Jun-25	Internal audit fee	-£306.00	£12,207.91
13-Jun-25	Electrical Installation Condition report	-£632.65	£11,575.26
13-Jun-25	Clerk Pay May	-£651.60	£10,923.66
23-Jun-25	VH electrics	-£57.35	£10,866.31
23-Jun-25	VH Gas	-£13.93	£10,852.38
24-Jun-25	Regular Hall Hire	£24.00	£10,876.38
25-Jun-25	Regular Hall hire	£8.00	£10,884.38
26-Jun-25	Annual boiler service	-£96.00	£10,788.38
26-Jun-25	DEFIB CABINET	-£405.00	£10,383.38

**Table 2 Savings Account Income and Expenditure May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup> 2025.**

26-June-25	No transactions since last month	-	-	£41,081.12
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**Table 3 Actions List**

Item	Action	Date set	Status
Asset maintenance	VH outside lights still to be adjusted. Window damage in VH repair – date TBC	07/11/24	Ongoing
Defib box	Cabinet to be installed week commencing 7 <sup>th</sup> July	05/12/24	Ongoing
Waterless Brook Bridge	Public meeting with 3 parishes & Highways has been postponed. Date TBC when CEH have developed plan for bridge.	06/02/25	Ongoing
H&S at VH	The top 5 most impactful/cost effective Fire Safety Report recommendations to be assessed and brought to September meeting	06/03/25	Ongoing
Pickmere Lake group	Lake Group had a meeting to discuss ongoing issues – erosion zone plans ongoing United Utilities update –Works on footpath dates TBC.	06/03/25	Ongoing
Donation	Prices to be collected for the donation ideas	03/04/25	Ongoing