

The Parish Council of Lower Peover

Minutes of the meeting held at Les Halman Nurseries on the 21st of January 2013.

Present

Les Halman (chairman), Simon Nuttall (emergency clerk), Ros Kendal, Robert Taylor, George Dutton, Cllr George Walton.

The Chairman said that he had enquired about the clerks health to his brother who said he was still poorly. He was unsure as to when and if he would be able to return to his duties .

1. Apologies for absence. Sally Geeke , Alan Jackson.

2. Minutes from last meeting

These were not available due to the clerks illness.

3. Proposal to exclude members of the public and press whilst discussing item 4

The chairman had spoken to Jackie weaver of CHALC and she had informed him that it was allowable to exclude the press and public from a meeting when discussing a person . Cllr Walton said that his council used such a process and it was called section 2.

The chairman had been advised that the council should remove any papers relating to lower Peover parish council from the clerks house .Also he had been advised that he should approach another clerk for help. He was also advised that even though Graham did not have a contract of employment that the council would still need to pay him 6 months on full pay and 6 months on half pay while he was ill. Cllr Nuttall said he had a possible replacement , Philip Kershaw. He also said and everyone agreed that Graham was the best clerk the council had ever had .Cllr Walton said he was the best in the County ! It was also discussed how much Philip Kershaw should be paid .There were concerns raised about his experience as the clerks role was now more onerous than years ago. Cllr Dutton mentioned Liz McGrath who was clerk to 3 other councils as a possible other candidate .Cllr Walton suggested Sharon Jones of Plumley .The chairman said that the proper way to approach a proposed clerk was to go through the relevant chairman first .Cllr Walton asked about the precept. The chairman asked if Cllr Walton could check if Graham had sent in the precept discussed at the November meeting.

The council was concerned about the money needed to pay the extra clerks salary. Cllr Kendal asked about training .The Chairman said he was not sure that Graham had gone on any training courses.. Philip Kershaw joined the meeting. The chairman explained the clerks duties and said the job may be for say 6 months. Philip Kershaw expressed his concern over Grahams health and his experience and on working with councils .Philip Kershaw asked about duties and salary . He was informed that the pay was on a sliding scale.The Chairman said the council would be taking advice on the pay scale. Philip Kershaw thanked the council and left the meeting .Cllr Kendal asked if there was the possibility of an insurance claim for the salary payments. The chairman doubted it, Cllr Taylor ask CHALC. Cllrs Taylor and Kendal said to ask Liz McGrath if she was interested. Cllr Walton suggested putting an advert for an experienced clerk . The chairman asked

what the council wanted to do and the council proposed that it needed an experienced clerk due to the annual accounts being needed to be done soon.

5. Matters arising.

Letter from PCC asking for grass cutting contribution .Chairman said previous payment about £300.00. . Cllr Kendal suggested delay decision due to clerks illness .

Letter regarding parish precepts. The Chairman said he struggled to understand it , Cllr Taylor said he would try and understand it .

Letter regarding afternoon tea at Buckingham Palace .Cllr Kendal said she would like to go.

The Chairman asked about the Beech tree on Smithy Green. There had been a complaint regarding how low the branches were. He also asked about the tidying up of the Green. It was suggested that a fund be set up for maintenance. He also mentioned the telephone box.

The Chairman said he had had emails from PcsO Kelly Mankee . He said she wished to come to the meetings to discuss rural crime and anti -social behaviour. She also asked about the speed gun use, she said that 6 volunteers were needed to operate it . Cllr Dutton said he knew someone who might be interested.

The Chairman said the gun (which lower Peover council had paid half for) was in a residents house in Plumley, he was reluctant to release it to anyone else.!

6.Planning

Foxwood ,Hulme lane

No objection but concern was expressed about the fact that the conservatory could be built without the building regulation officer being aware.

Bramble cottage, extension over utility room

Refused . 1) over developement of site

2) Conservation area

3) Loss of privacy to church view residents.

7. Any other business

Cllr Walton said that the speed review of the A50 by Cheshire east had suggested a 50mph speed limit from outskirts of Knutsford to the old Drovers arms .He said if this went ahead he would support a 40 mph limit from the top of Middlewich Road to Lower Peover.

Potholes Cllr Walton said the council were looking into them and were spending 10 million pounds a year for two years.

Cllr Dutton expressed concerns about the footpath on Foxcovert Lane and Millbank Bridge.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm