

Penketh Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Penketh Parish Council

Held in the Pool & Community Centre on Wednesday 9th December 2020 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr R McKay (Chair)
Cllr L Ashton
Cllr L Dirir
Cllr G Fellows
Cllr A Heaven
Cllr D Simm
Cllr C Lenihan
Cllr D Keane
Cllr T Keane
Cllr C Wych
Also in attendance: Lois Burey (Clerk)

The meeting was opened by Chairman McKay at 7.30pm

C9218 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Solan-Cooper

C9219 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest that they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when the item was reached.

Cllr Fellows raised a declaration of interest as a customer of Penketh Pool and Community Centre. (Via private chat to the Clerk)

C9220 Minutes of the previous meeting

A Cllr asked that the minutes for a meeting be sent out in draft form 5 days after the meeting. A discussion took place regarding the minutes as a Cllr stated that motion 2 "Penketh Parish Council resolves that all elected members will have a DBS check to be held by the Clerk" was voted on as a voluntary basis, this was not agreed by another Cllr. The Chairman was asked to defer the minutes until January so the Clerk could establish whether an amendment was agreed and passed.

Resolved

Clerk to check the zoom recording to clarify. The motion was passed unamended, but a discussion did take place where a Councillor challenged the legality of an enhanced DBS check.

C9221 Motion 1: That Penketh Parish Council brings back full Council meetings by reinstating the sections: Questions from the public; Matters arising; Police report; Clerks report; Correspondence; Planning. The motion was amended to include the Management report.

Proposed by Cllr Heaver and Seconded by Cllr Fellows.

The Cllr who proposed the motion read out their motion.

The Cllr who seconded the motion spoke about the importance of having items like planning and public questions added to the agenda. It was also mentioned that other councils are welcoming the public into meetings.

The Cllr who proposed the motion advised they had not done their speech; they were proposing their resolution. The Cllr then read out their opening speech which explained why they would like full council meetings to return.

A discussion then took place as to why Cllrs did and did not agree with the proposed motion, it was said that the “majority of Parish Councils are not running full agenda meetings” another Cllr advised that full meetings are needed to answer the people of Penketh. Another Cllr advised there were health implications of being sat in front of a screen for a long period of time.

The Proposer then read out their closing speech.

Resolved

A vote took place, and the motion was lost, 4 for 6 against.

C9222 Motion 2: That Penketh Parish Council apply to become a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation; and also recognise that abuse can affect anyone, at any age, in any place and pledge to promote the Cheshire wide campaign openthedoorcheshire.org

Proposed by Cllr D Keane Seconded by Cllr Dirir

Cllr D Keane started by declaring that he is a supporter and an ambassador on a volunteer basis for the White Ribbon charity but, he did not feel this was a personal or prejudicial interest in taking part and proposing this motion as no employment was involved.

The proposer then read out their opening speech which stated the facts around domestic abuse and explained why they wanted the Parish Council to support the openthedoorcheshire.org as a resource for people to look for support. They also explained the steps that the Council would need to take to be a White Ribbon support organisation.

The Secunder reserved the right to speak later.

A Cllr added they wanted to amend the motion to add the Mankind initiative. The proposer advised they did not wish to amend the original motion as openthedoorcheshire.org is inclusive of any age and gender.

Cllr Lenihan proposed motion 2 be amended, Cllr Wych seconded this.

C9223: Motion 2a: That Penketh Parish Council apply to become a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation AND of mankind initiative; and also recognise that abuse can affect anyone, at any age, in any place and pledge to promote the Cheshire wide campaign

openthedoorcheshire.org.

A discussion took place about the amendment and it was advised that the proposer do this in writing to the Clerk which was done.

Resolution for motion 2a:

A vote took place, and the motion was lost, 5 for 5 against with the Chairman's casting vote being against.

The seconder of motion 2 gave their speech on the original motion echoing what the proposer had said regarding domestic violence and what the White Ribbon promise is about and emphasised that openthedoorcheshire.org covers all ages and genders.

The proposer gave their closing speech.

Resolution for the original motion 2:

A vote took place, and the motion was passed 8 for and 2 abstentions.

Actions:

Clerk to contact the White Ribbon charity and openthedoorcheshire.org.

The Chairman then read out a statement regarding the importance of confidentiality in part 2 of the Parish Council Meetings. The Chairman stated that part 2 confidentiality had been breached on several occasions.

CLlr David Simm was removed from the meeting.