

Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 19th January 2010

Present: Cllr. Mr. B. Ingham, Cllr. Mr. D. Forrest, Cllr. Mrs. P. Watson, Cllr. Mr. L. Townsend, Cllr. Mr. M. Tetley, Cllr. Mr. R. Gadd, Cllr. Mr. D. Ellis, Cllr. Mrs. C. Lomax, Boro' Cllr. Mr. J. Starkie, Co. Cllr. Mrs. S. Derwent. Mrs. P. McBurney (Clerk).

Apologies: None

Members of public in attendance: One

2804: Police Report and Public Questions

There was no police report.

Mr. Birkett submitted a tender for the grass cutting. Mr. Birkett mentioned that the site of the bonfire needs attention.

2805: Declaration of Councillors Interests/Code of Conduct

Cllr. Tetley declared an interest in item 2815

2806: Minutes of the last meeting

Cllr. Ingham proposed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct. This was seconded by Cllr. Watson and agreed.

2807: Matters arising (for information only).

- There was no comment on the matters arising from the last meeting.

2808: Clover Croft Development

- Work is progressing well despite the recent bad weather.
- Boro' Cllr. Starkie requested that the progress on sales of the properties could be reported at future meetings.

2809: Planning Applications and Decisions

- There are no planning applications at present.
- The appeal for the Holiday Cottage at 9 Sabden Rd has been refused.

2810: Finance

- The Precept for 2010 - 2011: Figures were discussed. Cllr. Gadd enquired how the precept for Higham compared with that of other villages. Boro' Cllr. Starkie replied that it was higher owing to spending commitments, but lower per head of the village population. It was explained that the grant from Pendle Borough Council will be less than in previous years. Cllr. Ingham proposed an increase of £190 for next year. This was seconded by Cllr. Gadd and all agreed with one abstention.
- Cllr Ingham itemised the cheques to be sent and these were signed.

2811: Clerk's Report

- The clerk's report was sent as an attachment before the meeting. Information about the proposed wind turbines was discussed.

2812: County Councillor's Report

- Co. Cllr. Derwent informed the council of staff reductions at County Hall.
- Lancashire Locals: There is some attempt to dispense with this and there is to be a meeting on 20th January to discuss the service.
- Gritting. The major roads were all gritted continuously over a period of 24 days in the last month. Grit prices have been inflated and there have been a number of complaints about school closures because of the bad weather.

2813: Borough Councillor's Report

- There has been one complain about the grit bins.
- The next edition of "The Spout" will be distributed within the next two months. Mid February is the deadline for contributions.
- Boro' Cllr. Starkie asked about the council's IT provision. The laptop was tested at the end of the meeting.
- Boro' Cllr Starkie reported that 6 Anderton Rd and The Fisheries had been instructed to comply to instructions about their properties by the 26th March.

2814: Committee/ Working Group Reports

- Finance Committee: The precept was discussed and a figure agreed to recommend to the next Parish Council meeting. A decision to adjust the grass cutting was made, and it was decided to discuss ways of making the Pensioners Christmas Party more cost effective.

2815: Sabden Rd Car Park

- Cllr. Tetley left the room during this discussion. Cllr. Forrest reported that the car park and the roadway leading to it has been assessed and the costs placed at £7220. There will be a grant from Pendle Borough Council of £4000, leaving £3220 to be paid by the council. The work should be started in March
- Cllr. Gadd suggested that the spending of the money being received by the Parish Council from the Clovercroft Development should be outlined in "The Spout" magazine.
- Cllr. Ellis queried the money spent on the car park and suggested that it should be spent on recreation facilities. Cllr. Ingham explained that the money for this was from a different fund.
- Cllr. Ingham proposed that the costs should be accepted. Cllr Townsend seconded this and all were in favour.

2816: LCC Street Scene Delegated Services

- Co. Cllr. Derwent told the council that there would be a meeting in the summer which would delegate services to districts.

2817 Boundary Signs:

- There was a discussion about the position of Boundary Signs for Higham. Boro' Cllr. Starkie suggested two signs at the Eastern end of the area as there are at the Western end. A site meeting needs to be held to decide this. It was decided that the sign on Sabden Rd should be moved a short distance to the T junction. Co. Cllr. Derwent pointed out that permission may be needed from Highways if signs are to be moved.

2818: The Playground – Report on Monthly Inspection

- Cllr Gadd reported that the playground was in good general condition

2819 Land between 106 Higham Hall Road and the Village Hall

- A letter regarding the transfer of this land has been sent to Ms. Calderbank (Legal Practice Manager – Pendle Borough Council) and a response received. A further response is awaited after it is referred to the Council's Property Services Manager.

2820:

- Lighting on Hollinghurst View: An email has been sent to Housing and a response received. All emails regarding this matter will be forwarded to Co. Cllr. Derwent .
- Footpath from Higham to Fence: No further progress.
- The railings around the Methodist graveyard will be painted early next year.
- The Fir Trees bus shelter may not be painted until next year.
- The trees in the village centre and Churchyard. Cllr Forrest to obtain a further quote.
- The SPID: The Council at Old Laund Booth have agreed to pay half the cost of repair. Cllr. Ingham will send a copy of the bill to them. The clerk will write to the clerk at Old Laund Booth formalising the arrangements for rotation which will include Roughlee. Cllr. Townsend will investigate ways of insuring the SPID
- Reforestation: Cllr Ellis suggested that Higham had its own woodland area and made two suggestions as to the location, both of which are owned by Huntroyde Estate. A suggestion was made that this could be a mark of the Diamond Jubilee and that grants may be sought.
- The Village Notice board. Cllr. Ingham read out a letter from Transport regarding moving the bus timetable into the new bus shelter. He has replied agreeing with this move. The village notice board will also be sited inside the bus shelter.
- Kiln Hill Development. Some progress has been made towards moving the development.

2821: Parish Lengthsman Scheme

- The planter on the by-pass: Ongoing.
- Croft Lane: Cllr Townsend is to contact the Lengthsman.
- The weeds near the Speed Camera also need removing.

2822: Correspondence

- A letter has been received from a member of public regarding perceived problems with the Clovercroft Development. After a brief discussion it was decided that there were no such problems. A reply will be sent in due course stating this.
- A letter has been received regarding Hackney Carriage by-laws.

2802: Items for Future Discussion

- The proposed wind turbines.

2803: Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 16th February 2010 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm.