

Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting

17th July 2007

Present: Cllr Mrs V Skinner, Cllr Mrs P Watson, Cllr Mr D Forrest, Cllr Mr B Ingham, Cllr Mr L Townsend, Cllr Mr J Jackson, Mrs C Carty (Clerk), County Cllr Derwent.

Apologies:

Members of the Public in attendance: - Three - also Cllr Starkie from Pendle Borough Council

2282 Public Questions and Police Report:

- Penny, who had previously requested the Council to consider her application to change her garage, attended the meeting. She again requested that consideration be given for her to install a stone garage on the site she currently occupies. The Council agreed to review this again. After discussion it was agreed that a timber garage was still the first preference of the Council.

Police Report

- There was no police report available.

2282 Declarations of Interest / Code of Conduct

The new Code of Conduct was discussed.

Proposed – that this Council accept the new Code of Conduct including paragraph 12(2) – proposed Cllr Ingham, seconded by Cllr Jackson agreed by the full Council.

- Councillor Ingham declared an interest in the Parish Plan. Cllr Forrest declared an interest in the Village Hall. There were no further declarations of interest mentioned by the Councillors
- The additional training dates of 20th August and 5th September at Nelson Town Hall 7.00pm were advised
- Copies of the Register of Interests were handed to all Councillors for completion

A discussion was held on whether Cllr Watson was equidistant from the Dalesmoor site as was Cllr Jackson. It was advised that as Cllr Watson was not consulted under neighbour consultation this did not apply. It was also noted that Philip Mousedale indicated that Cllr Jackson did have an interest.

2283 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising:

Minutes of June 2007 meeting were asked for approval.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Skinner seconded by Cllr Watson and agreed.

Matters arising

Re 2274 – It was agreed to include the tender amounts in these minutes J Birkett quote was for cutting both meadows and strimming play area 12 times per year £1450 and mowing graveyard 12 times through the year £475. Walton's quoted £1222.20 and £712.92 for equivalent work. All prices are VAT exclusive. Walton's were successful in the bid.

Re 2277 – The Higham Hall Road signs will be replaced.

Re 2277 – Cllr Ingham advised that following discussion with Huntroyde it was probably acceptable to go ahead with tarmac. This is to be investigated further.

Re 2277 – Grass cutting at the edge of the village should be done by the County. Cllr Derwent agreed to check the schedule for when work was allocated.

All other items discussed have been included under relevant headings within minutes.

2284 Co-option of Councillors

Two candidates were put forward David Ellis and Richard Gadd. Both were eligible to stand for office.

Proposed – to accept both applicants into office as Councillors for Higham Parish Council – proposed Cllr Ingham, seconded by Cllr Skinner and agreed by the Council.

Cllr Jackson expressed concern that the meeting was still not technically valid due to the activity at the AGM. He stated that the 3 Councillors appointed should have then appointed a Chair and Vice Chair from their number and then co-opted the applicants at the AGM. Cllr Skinner stated that this may be correct but the action had been taken and it was moved forward in the best interests of the village. Cllr Jackson then stated that he wanted clarification / confirmation as to whether a formal vote was taken on the co-option of the applicants at the AGM.

2285 Clerks Report

Written report provided and noted.

2286 County Councillor Report

The brackets for the SPID should be in next week. Crime is lower generally in Higham Parish but it was noted that the Police are not attending the Council meetings. Quotes are being requested for upgrading the bridleway between Higham and Ightenhill. A discussion was held as to whether a crossing or better access could be obtained for the school. This would need to be negotiated with the school who have a travel plan. A preliminary meeting with the school Governors would need to be held to discuss this further.

2287 Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Starkie advised that the NW Ambulance Service have been in contact stating that new staff are in place and that there are sufficient ambulances.

Concern was expressed over the moving of the intensive care service from Burnley to Blackburn.

2288 Dalesmoor

No discussion was held on this item.

2289 Planning

No applications received although notification was on PBC site

43 Higham Hall Road – erection of garage – no objections

33 Higham Hall Road – this is a retrospective application. Generally felt that the building is not in keeping with the area. To be called in.

Update

No notification on the appeal from Dalesmoor over the adoption of the roads on site.

2290 Easements

- An additional payment had been received.

2291 Finance:

Accounts to Pay

- *Clerk salary / expenses*
- *Village Hall*

2292 Committee Reports:

- No reports available

2293 Safe Lanes Project

- Cllr Starkie advised that a letter is to be forthcoming explaining more about the scheme

2294 Parish Plan

A copy of the document was handed out to the meeting. A bound copy will be provided for villagers.

2295 Parish Newsletter

A discussion was held about the best way of letting residents / interested parties know what is happening in the village. A newsletter used to be produced but this can be time consuming. A website was requested by residents consulted on the Parish Plan.

Resolved – to get a domain name for Higham Parish Council and look to develop a website.

Resolved – look at inclusion in the newsletter produced in Read for the local villages.

2296 Parish Matters

- A tree had blown down but it had been given the ok by Chris Binnie previously. It has now been cleared up. Estimate received for work from Broadleaf Trees Services for £320. Needs to be sent to Chris Binnie confirming that this is the work required and for him to do this.
- A bus shelter has been requested at the bottom of Higham Hall Road. Noted that the shelter by Fir Trees Lane has the glass broken regularly. Would need to check if any space available to site this. If possible look for grant funding to replace / site three shelters.
- Re Sabden Road car park – quote for £350 from Broadleaf to undertake work. Agreed to carry out the work.
- Cllr Forrest has met with Walton's to review the work in the graveyard. Walton's will contact Chris Binnie to check which trees might be able to be removed. To undertake the work it would cost £750 – proposed by Cllr Skinner, seconded by Cllr Townsend and agreed to go ahead with this work.
- Re Sabden Road car park this had been on a rolling contract and may need a new lease. Might even be common land. Agreed to hold off any further action for the moment.
- Re Christmas party – agreed to ask Diane Earle to co-ordinate.
- Quotes for mowing grass at edge of village received – AA quote £260 for first cut then £69 per cut / Walton's quote £210 for first cut then £108 per cut. Resolved to do with AA for this year and then review again in the next financial year.

2297 Parish Lengthsman Scheme

Need to obtain a list of the breakdown of the hours. The work for the wall should not be included in the hours as it had originally been a separate arrangement with David Oyston.

2298 Correspondence

Nothing presented to the meeting. Items were either on the agenda or had been included in the Clerk's Report.

2299 Items for next meeting

Car park on Sabden Road / co-option of Councillors

2281 Date of Next Meetings

21st August 2007 at 7.30pm

Cllr Skinner then tendered her resignation as a Councillor which was accepted. Thanks were given for her support not just in the last couple of months but also previously.