



Minutes of Meeting 20th July 2010

Present: Cllr. Mr. B. Ingham, Cllr. Mr. D. Forrest, Cllr. Mrs. P. Watson, Cllr. Mr. M. Tetley, Cllr. Mrs. C. Lomax, Cllr. Mr. D. Ellis.
Boro' Cllr. Mr. J. Starkie, PCSO. James Owen
Mrs. P. McBurney (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllr. Mr. L. Townsend. Cllr. Mr. R. Gadd, Co. Cllr. Mrs. S. Derwent.

Members of public in attendance: Three

2933: Police Report and Public Questions

- PCSO. James Owen reported that a car had been broken into at the top of Guide Lane. Several burglaries have taken place in Fence and he expressed concern that Higham may be targeted.
- Mrs. Knight expressed the dissatisfaction of several residents on the colour used for the top of the chapel railings when they were repainted recently. She requested that the tops were re-painted and that the white used on the Village Hall railings could be replaced. Cllr. Ingham responded by saying that the Village Hall railings are the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee. However, the chapel railings had been discussed before at a Parish Council meeting and opinion was divided.
- Mrs. Knight also asked that a litter bin half way up Higham Hall Road be replaced. Cllr. Ellis suggested that the Borough Council should check before removing such items. Boro' Cllr. Starkie will find out why it was removed.
- Mrs. Knight pointed out that the form at the bottom of Higham Hall Road is in need of repair. Cllr. Forrest said the repair was imminent.
- Mrs. Hargreaves asked for an area on Higham Hall Rd to be cleaned up and said that the grass verge behind houses on Barrowford Road needed cutting. Mr. Birkett pointed out the difficulties of cutting the long grass. Cllr. Ingham said that this would be discussed later in the meeting.
- Mr. Birkett outlined an event that he wished to hold in September. This is to be a "Proms in the Park" occasion held on 19th September.

2934: Declaration of Councillors Interests/Code of Conduct

Cllr. Tetley declared an interest in item 14. Sabden Rd Car Park.

2935: Minutes of the last meeting

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

2936: Matters arising (for information only).

- The hole in the road at the bottom of Higham Hall Rd has now been repaired.
- The post box has been replaced.
- The England flag was flown over the Church for several days. The vicar will allow its use for future significant events.

2937: Higham Wind Farm

- Cllr. Ingham read out a letter received from SHAFT (Stop Higham and Fence Turbines) with details of a meeting on Friday 23rd July. A Public Meeting will be held in Fence on 30th – 31st July. Some Parish Councillors expressed their intention to attend this meeting. The Wind Turbines will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting in August.

2938: Finance

- Cllr. Ingham itemised the cheques and these were signed.
- Cllr. Ingham has received an email from the Council's Solicitor regarding registration of ownership of the playground. The value of the land needs to be established before this can be done. Cllr. Ellis asked who held the deeds. Cllr. Ingham will check this and the registration will be discussed in the next meeting of the Parish Council.

2939: Planning Applications and Decisions

- The Farm Shop: Alteration of the building plans was discussed and commented upon. Cllr. Ingham has sent a letter expressing concern about access.
- Clover Croft Development: Variation of Condition 13. Discussion of this has been deferred to the next meeting of Barrowford & Western Parishes Committee in order to ascertain whether Lancashire County Council will adopt the footpath with block paving, or if not, whether tarmac will be approved.
- Clover Croft Development: No objection to relocation of 7 dwellings.
- Bank House Barn: Plans approved.

2940: Clover Croft Development

- No further discussion.

2941: Clerk's Report

- The clerk's report was distributed before the meeting.

2942: County Councillor's Report

- There was no County Councillor's report.

2943: Borough Councillor's Report

- There was a request for a street sign for Foxendole Lane.
- Boro' Cllr. Starkie thanked the members of the Parish Council who had expressed condolences on the death of his mother.

- Boro' Cllr. Starkie has taken over responsibilities for refuse collection and recycling in Pendle. There is to be a charge for replacement bins.
- Costs to the County are being examined as losses average one and a half million pounds. Thirty five cost centres are being examined and savings identified could be around a million pounds. Grants may be halved.

2944: Committee/ Working Group Reports

- Barrowford and Western Parishes: A member of the public queried the ground level in the Clover Croft development. Planning Officers will investigate.

2945: Sabden Rd Car Park

- Cllr. Tetley left the room at the start of this item.
- The grant for the work to the car park has been held up owing to a dispute over the deeds which has now been resolved.
- Cllr. Tetley's quote was discussed and it was proposed by Cllr. Ingham that this be accepted. Cllr. Lomax seconded the proposal and all were in favour.

2946: Land between 106 Higham Hall Road and the Village Hall

- There has been no further progress about the land. The clerk will write again to Liberata.

2947: Kiln Hill Project

- This is now complete and can be removed from the next agenda.

2948: Boundary signs

- The Boundary sign between Higham and Fence has now been installed.
- Boro' Cllr. Starkie asked if the sign on Sabden Rd could be re-positioned and two other signs be erected.
- Cllr. Tetley reported positive comments about the state of the footpath between Higham and Fence.

Cllr Ellis left the meeting at this point.

2949: The Playground – Report on Monthly Inspection

- Cllr. Gadd has inspected the playground and reported that the condition was acceptable apart from a piece of equipment which was broken during the recent Village Fete. This will be repaired before the Annual Inspection which is due in August.
- The clerk has received confirmation from RoSPA of the Annual Inspection.

2950: Parish Matters

- The most recent edition of “The Spout” is ready for distribution.
- The SPID is now in Fence.
- Grass mowing was discussed. Following representations from the Council to the Contractor, the standard has improved and is now satisfactory. Invoices for work completed have now been received.
- The Rockery is completed and looks well.
- The work of PCSOs was discussed and Parish Council members responded positively. The clerk is to pass comments to the Scrutiny Review Panel.
- Permission was given for ‘Proms in the Park’ to be held on the bottom Playing Field. It was decided that it would not be necessary to support this financially.

2951: Parish Lengthsman Scheme

- Wall opposite the Parsonage. Ongoing.
- The gutter on Higham Hall Road needs clearing. Cllr. Ingham will contact the Lengthsman.
- The wall behind The Wallet. To be monitored.

2952: Correspondence

- No extra correspondence

2953: Items for Future Discussion

- Higham and Fence Wind Turbines.
- Playground. Registration of Land.

2954: Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 17th August 2010 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9 49 pm.