

Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting

16th October 2007

Present: Cllr Mr B Ingham, Cllr Mrs P Watson, Cllr Mr L Townsend, Cllr Mr J Jackson, Cllr Mr R Gadd, Mrs C Carty (Clerk), County Cllr Derwent, Borough Cllr Mr J Starkie.

Apologies: Cllr Mr D Forrest, Cllr Mr D Ellis

2344 Presentation from Mark Chappelhow, Community Futures

Mark Chappelhow advised the meeting that the NWDA are looking at a fund that will provide support for services in rural areas. This could be used for development of village halls. Applications are invited till March 2008 with the money to be spent by December 2008. It was agreed that this might be of interest to the village hall committee and that the Clerk will contact them to discuss the programme further.

2345 Public Questions and Police Report:

- There were no public questions.

Police Report

- It was noted that a new Police Officer is working in the village. There was no other report.

2346 Declarations of Interest / Code of Conduct

- Cllr Ingham stated that Cllr Jackson has a prejudicial interest in the Clover Croft Mill site. Cllr Jackson disputed this and as he stated that he would not leave the room during any discussion it was stated that any comment he made would not be minuted.

2347 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising:

Minutes of August 2007 meeting were asked for approval.

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

Matters arising

Re 2328 – query on whether the blocked drains are now cleared as LCC vans have been in the area.

2348 Development at Clover Croft

The footpath and road should be tarmaced by the end of the week and then the fence and the traffic lights will be removed. The trench for the pipe work has been dug out.

2349 Proposal to extend the new footway in front of Clover Croft Development to the front of the Four Alls car park

Re the footpath from the site to the Four Alls car park this has been discussed with the pub landlord and the borough council. There has been no response from the brewery to date. It was agreed Borough Councillor Starkie will chase up the brewery.

Resolved To obtain quotes for the work to be carried out so that the information is available if the work is to go ahead.

2350 Clerks Report

Written report provided and noted.

2351 County Councillor Report

No report available.

2352 Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Starkie advised that the Risk Assessments currently being developed require a Risk Assessment Officer.

Resolved To appoint Cllr L Townsend as Risk Assessment Officer

Noted Section 106 funds will be paid on habitation of first property at Clover Croft Mill. Cllr Starkie has reviewed the waste collection in the village and it appears to be very good. Cleansing department at the borough council have been speaking with the operators to ensure items are picked up etc.

2353 Co-option of Parish Councillors

One vacancy is still available.

2354 Planning

9 Sabden Road, Higham – convert agricultural building to holiday let.

Resolved - to write with objections on concern for future development and to ask if any conditions were attached to original approval to restrict change of use.

Update

- 13/07/0591P 34 Acresbrook Road, Higham – Convert lounge to garage and erect first floor extension above to form en-suite bedroom
Approved
- 13/07/0572P Little Owls, Sabden Road Higham - Extension to south west elevation at ground and first floor (part); extend curtilage and erect double garage with a stable unit
Application resubmitted but called into Barrowford & Western Parishes.

2355 Easements

Clerk advised that letters relating to the closure of the gates for the one day would be sent out nearer the time.

2356 Finance:

Accounts to Pay

- *Clerk salary / expenses £144.00*
- *Village Hall - £100*
- *AA Services £162.14*
- *Napthens £1271.35*

All payments agreed

2357 Committee Reports:

No meetings held.

2358 Sport England information

Request for information on playing fields. This will be feedback by the Clerk.

2359 IT bid - Consideration of purchased

The Clerk advised figures for the purchase of the IT kit. It was agreed to speak with the Village Hall Committee to determine what they would find useful also.

2360 Parish Charter update

The Clerk read a letter advising of the situation around the Parish Charter.

2361 Parish Matters

- Re village bonfire – request for financial assistance to support the event
Resolved - to offer £200 as a donation towards the event
- Higham Hall Road is in poor condition at both ends with a potentially dangerous surface.
- The footpath at Rake Top Avenue is in poor condition. Numerous residents have complained about moss and weeds growing through the tarmac.

2362 Parish Lengthsman Scheme

Work on the wall is still ongoing.

2363 Correspondence

List of correspondence passed out.

2364 Items for next meeting

Items as noted in the minutes plus Health and Safety, Christmas Party

2343 Date of Next Meetings

20th November 2007 at 7.30pm