

## **Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council**

### **Minutes of Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

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

**Apologies:** Cllr. Mr. D. Ellis, Co. Cllr. Mrs. S. Derwent.

**Members of public in attendance:** Four

#### **2731: Public Questions**

- A member of the public asked why there was no dropped kerb at the entrance to the projected road by the new development.
- Questions were asked about the amount of water at the back of Clover Croft building site on Higham Hall Rd. Cllr Forrest said that drains should be in shortly and that this should solve the problem.
- A member of the public asked about the amount of pot holes on Sabden Rd. Boro Cllr Starkie explained in his report that these were unlikely to be filled in the near future owing to the lack of funding.
- The trough outside the Four Alls. A member of the public asked if a pink sandstone block from the building site could be reserved for future use at the water spout as these stones are rare and could be difficult to come by when needed. This is to be considered.
- The width of the public right of way by the building site was queried. Cllr Ingham replied that the road would be twelve feet in width as agreed with the Clover Croft developers..
- A suggestion was made that the smoking shelter recently removed from the front of the Four Alls be used on the playing fields as a sitting area. Cllr Ingham responded that there would be a substantial amount of 106 grant money eventually from the Clover Croft developers for use on the recreation ground. This money had to be used on the Recreation Area, so all ideas would be considered when this money was available.
- A member of the public asked for a contribution to the cost of the insurance for the bonfire. This was agreed at £200. The date of the bonfire is to be October 31<sup>st</sup> unless the weather necessitates a move to a different date.
- Complaints about the re-siting of the bonfire to a lower level of the playing fields were received. These were on the grounds that it would destroy the appearance of the field for many months. It was agreed to hold a site meeting to examine the options and to discuss ways of minimising the impact.

- An update on the Clover Croft Development was requested, along with a concern that soil from the foundations was encroaching onto the playing fields. Cllr Forrest reassured the member of the public asking the question that the soil would be removed and that the development was projected to be complete in eighteen months to two years.

**2732: Declaration of Councillors Interests/Code of Conduct**

- No interests were declared.

**2733: Minutes of the last meeting**

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

**2734: Matters arising (for information only).**

- The A4 timetable for the bus shelter in the middle of the village has still not been received. It was suggested by Cllr Lomax that a copy similar to that at the bus stop at the lower end of the village be placed in the shelter. Cllr Lomax is to undertake this task
- The water spout – see 2725. The new sign will be in place within the next few days

**2735: Finance**

- Cllr. Ingham read out a list of the cheques to be authorised as listed on the agenda and these were signed. A letter will accompany the cheque to Mr Birkett thanking him and his team for their work in re-fencing the children's playground

**2736: Planning Applications and Decisions**

- The appeal for the shelter outside the Four Alls has been dismissed and the shelter has now been removed.
- Boro Cllr Starkie gave an update on the appeal for converting the agricultural building on Sabden Rd into a holiday let. The Planning Inspectorate is to make a visit to the site.
- Bank House Farm Croft Top Lane – construction of a horse ménage – no objections.
- 28 West Close Avenue. There has been a re-submission of previous plans, with alterations. The plans were studied and a site visit planned
- On the issue of Electronic Planning, Cllr Ingham read out a letter from the planning department which highlighted the split in the response of councils towards this. No decision has been made on whether to proceed with this

**2737: Clerk's Report**

- The clerk's report was sent as an attachment before the meeting.

**2738: County Councillor's Report**

- There was no County Councillor's report

**2739: Borough Councillor's Report**

- Boro Cllr Starkie commented that the parking on Higham Hall Rd, particularly around the Clover Croft Development area, had worsened. He suggested that flyers could be printed, recommending that residents in this area could park their cars on the opposite side of the road in order to enable more vehicles to park. No decision was made on this issue.
- The SpID. Boro' Cllr Starkie advised the council that the SpID is broken and has been sent to the County Council for repair, free of charge. He suggested a new rota on its return.
- The brown bins should be delivered by the end of this month. Cllr Ingham asked about the food waste bins. Boro Cllr Starkie replied that these were still under discussion
- Boro' Cllr Starkie mentioned "Local Democracy Month". The logo for this will be added to October's agenda.
- Boro' Cllr Starkie has attended a course on "Cohesion and Equality" and read out a list of people who should be treated equally!
- The recent LALC meeting. Four important issues arising from the meeting were: The brown bins, Electronic Planning; Grants to Parish and Town Councils; Risk Assessments.

**2740: Committee/ Working Group Reports**

- There were no reports

**2741: Clover Croft Development**

- Cllr Forrest reported that the documents regarding right of way, the compound and the water supply needed to be agreed and signed when agreed with the Council's Solicitor.

**2742: Parish Matters**

- Grass verge at the bottom of Guide Lane - to be removed from future agendas.
- Lighting on Hollinghurst View - a letter to be written by the clerk requesting that this issue is added to the agenda of Barrowford and Western Parishes next meeting.
- The footpath between Higham and Fence - still ongoing. The grass has been cut but grass is still encroaching onto the footpath.
- Sabden Rd Car Park - Cllr Forrest reported on the site meeting decision to tidy up the car park and lay crushed stone to bring it up to the correct level. The access road is to be repaired, and further quotes are awaited. This will be a separate item on the next agenda.
- The water spout - see 2734
- The bus timetable - see 2734

- Methodist Church railings. Residents of the village have offered to re-paint these at a reduced price. Cllr Ingham proposed accepting the offer and this was seconded by Cllr Townsend. All were in favour, but it was decided that the painting should commence in the spring of 2010.
- Fir Trees Bus shelter – awaiting repainting.
- The Senior Citizens Christmas Party-this was discussed briefly and a date was set for 14<sup>th</sup> December. A request was made to the clerk to contact Mr Winkley regarding entertainment. The party will be discussed further at the next meeting in October.
- Boro' Cllr Starkie reported that the village had finished about half way in the "Best Kept Village" competition.

#### **2743: Parish Lengthsman Scheme**

- All items still ongoing. Cllr Lomax and Cllr Tetley asked if the stile on Sagar Hill could be made a priority, and suggested that no more items be added until those already on the list have been completed.

#### **2744:Correspondence**

- There was no correspondence to add to that already listed on the clerk's report.

#### **2745: Items for Future Discussion**

- Sabden Road car park and access.
- Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

#### **2746: Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.43 pm.