

Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council

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Chairman's Report May 2009

I reported last year we had a year of gains and losses.

I am happy to report this year we have had a year mainly of gains.

We gained our eighth councillor, Christine Lomax, and now, for the first time in many a year have a full complement of Parish Councillors.

We gained a village newspaper, the Higham Spout, published quarterly, for which we owe immense thanks to its editor, Borough Councillor James Starkie, for a truly brilliant production.

During the year, the Over 60s Christmas Party, the Fete, Bonfire, the Scarecrow Exhibition and Santa at the Four Alls took place, many thanks go to all the organisers which have made these events really successful village institutions.

The Parish Council commissioned and had erected a new fingerpost sign in the village centre, which complements its surroundings in the conservation area.

We have continued the maintenance of the Recreation Ground, Chapel Graveyard, and the mowing of the bypass verges at both entrances to the village. To add to the general tidiness of the village we recently held a second successful Clean-up day.

Following encouragement from Borough Councillor James Starkie, Higham has entered this year's Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition. The whole village, except for the Clover Croft mill site, will be judged at any time during the period 1st June – 12th July. We encourage everybody to help us by making sure their immediate neighbourhood is neat and tidy for that period (and for ever!)

A Parish Meeting is to be held on Friday 5th June. All residents are invited to the Village Hall to meet representatives from the Village Committees and organisations, to discuss any issues they may have.

It is hoped that during the next twelve months, should the general economic situation allow, work will restart on the Clover Croft site, although at the moment there are no encouraging signs.

Finally I would, personally, like to thank our Borough Councillor, County Councillor and fellow Parish Councillors for all the voluntary work they do on behalf of the village, thank you.

Bernard Ingham
Chairman
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