

Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 21st April 2009

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

Apologies: Cllr. Mr. D. Ellis

Members of public in attendance: None

2652: Public Questions and Police Report

- There was no police presence at the meeting. No report was submitted

2653: Declaration of Councillors Interests/Code of Conduct

- Cllrs Forrest and Lomax declared a personal interest in an application in item 8 on the agenda (see 2658)

2654: 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.

2655: Matters arising

- The cheques for the Village Hall have now been submitted
- The village clean up day was confirmed as 9th May
- The flyers from the Dog Warden have not yet arrived. They may be delivered with "The Spout" magazine
- The Village Hall rota. Cllr Lomax has attended on two Friday afternoons. Cllr Ingham hopes to attend the next Friday session.

2656: Finance

- Cllr Ingham read out a list of the cheques to be authorised as listed on the agenda and these were signed.
- An invoice has been received from C Walton for work completed. Cllr Forrest is to discuss details of the work before payment
- The accounts 2008-2009 were distributed by Cllr Ingham and discussed
- Audit of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement. It was proposed by Cllr Ingham seconded by Cllr Townsend and agreed to approve the Statement of Accounts and receive the Internal Auditor, Mr. G. Fitton's report. This report raised no matters of concern. The Annual Governance Statement was executed wholly in the affirmative.

2657: Risk Assessment

- The Risk Assessment document was distributed for consideration After discussion Cllr. Ingham proposed its adoption. This was seconded by Cllr Townsend and unanimously agreed. It was decided that this should be reviewed in 12 months time

2658: Planning Applications and Decision

- The Four Alls. An appeal has been submitted against the instruction to remove the structure at the front of the building, based on the lack of time allowed to comply. Cllr Ingham has drafted a reply which was approved by the council.
- 104 Higham Hall Rd. Cllrs Forrest and Lomax left the meeting during the discussion. Concerns were raised over the alteration of plans for a double garage at the rear of this property. The concerns were based on the building materials to be used which differed from those previously accepted for the proposal in the Conservation Area. Cllr Ingham proposed sending a letter objecting to these changes on the basis that a precedent could be set for future building work. Co Cllr Derwent suggested that the concern should be called in to the Barrowford and Western Parishes meeting by Boro' Cllr Starkie.

2659: Ongoing Projects

- The Bus Shelter. It is hoped that a start will be made on the bus shelter at the lower entrance to the village soon
- The "Laneside Avenue" sign has not yet been replaced and the posts need replacing. A letter has been received from a resident about this. Co Cllr Derwent will investigate.
- The bus shelter at the entrance to Fir Trees Lane is to be repainted.
- The Clean Up Day. It was suggested that pupils from the school and their parents be invited to participate.

2660: Clerk's Report

- The clerk's report was submitted before the meeting as an attachment to the agenda. There were some late additions itemised below
 1. Agenda and notes for LALC meeting – passed to Cllr Townsend
 2. Information via email re Development funding.
 3. Article from SELRAP requesting support for the re-opening of the Colne – Skipton rail link.
 4. Letter and brochure from the Equality and Human Rights Commission- Passed to Cllr Ingham.
 5. Notification of Training Courses for Clerks and New Councillors – course to be applied for.

2661: County Councillor's Report

- Co Cllr Derwent asked if dropped kerbs were needed in any area of the village.
- The Young People's Services Rural Scheme. Co Cllr Derwent asked about the possibility of a Youth Club or Activities for young people
- Footpath 39 is currently blocked by garden waste. It was proposed that this footpath be closed permanently because of lack of use. Cllr Gadd suggested referring to the inhabitants of the adjacent properties
- Stump Cross Farm. Good progress is being made on the detour

2662 Borough Councillor's Report

- Boro Cllr Starkie pointed out the large bus timetables positioned on the chapel railings instead of the A4 sized ones which should have been placed inside the bus shelter. Co Cllr Derwent will speak to the people concerned
- Information from the Review Panel re Parish and Town Council grants. Boro' Cllr Starkie suggested discussion as to whether this should be applied for and recommended an immediate response. Cllr Ingham suggested it continue at least at the present level, but Co Cllr Derwent suggested a request for an increase.
- "The Spout." A response from the school is still awaited. Boro Cllr Starkie asked for pictures of the Rose Queen.

2663: Committee/ Working Group Reports

Cllr Forrest reported from the Safety Committee. The Police have promised speed signs on Acresbrook Rd

2664: Parish Matters

- The Playing Fields. The installation of the land drains seems to have been successful. Letters will be written to Mr Birkett and Mr Barnes thanking them for their work
- Cllr Tetley has been approached by a resident of the village to ask if the tree in the village square could be trimmed. An email will be sent to the appropriate council department.
- Cllr Tetley also suggested that the footpath on the By-Pass between Higham and Fence be trimmed
- The remedial work at the bottom of Guide Lane is not yet complete.

2665: Parish Lengthsman Scheme – update and forward planning

- The garden planter at the lower entrance to the village is in the wrong place and needs re-siting or advice on planting with plants resistant to dry sunless conditions. Cllr Townsend will consult the Lengthsman.
- Cllr Forrest reported that a tree in Fir Trees Lane has been felled and the wall is now down. Cllr Townsend will refer to the Lengthsman

2666: Correspondence

Correspondence was discussed in 2660 "Clerk's Report". The clerk will write to Mr Birkett and Mr Barnes, and email Mr Binney (see 2664)

2667: Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 19th May at 7.30 pm. And will be preceded by the AGM at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.35pm