

Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 17th June 2008

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

- **Apologies:** PC. M. Hartup

- **Members of public in attendance:** 3

- **2502 Public Questions and Police Report:**

A member of the public requested information about Clover Croft building site. Cllr Ingham replied that there had been no progress since the previous meeting.

PC. Hartup had emailed Cllr. Ingham with his report. In it he referred to calls regarding vehicles acting suspiciously on Guide Lane and the By-Pass. These were found to be in order. In addition, males were seen apparently stealing metal on the Clover Croft site. This information was passed to the land owner after police had attended and taken details. PC Hartup had spoken with the Head Teacher at the village Primary School regarding the Summer Fete and reported her concerns regarding the alcohol tent and other issues connected with the siting of the Fete on school grounds. He had also spoken with Mr Birkett, the organiser, and he gave a list of precautionary measures which would be in place during the event.

PC. Hartup had spoken with Pendle Borough Council about debris left on the By-Pass. This had been mentioned in the last meeting

- **2503: Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising.**

Cllr. Ingham proposed the minutes of the last meeting for approval. Cllr. Gadd seconded and this was agreed.

Matters arising from the minutes included an enquiry which had been made by Cllr. Ingham about the new house being built opposite the Clover Croft site. A response to his enquiry was an email which said that a visit to the owner had been made by the Planning Department and he had been reminded that that permission for two dwellings would be needed.

Co. Cllr. Derwent referred to the concerns voiced in section 2489 of last month's meeting about the heavy traffic using Sabden Road. She has mentioned this at County Hall. Enquiries are being made but so far there has been no response. A response to the Holiday Lets mentioned in the same section should be received within the next six weeks.

With reference to the caravan at the Fisheries, Planning permission is needed for this. Mr Vernon had been due to see the Landlord at the Four Alls regarding the structure outside the front doors within the last week, although the results of this discussion are not yet known.

Cllr Forrest has spoken to the driver of the tractor which caused damage to the grass verge near Ashleigh House. (2493 – May)

With reference to the request for access to the minutes of past Parish Council meetings made last month, contact should be made by the clerk to County Hall to check if these are available.

A notice should be displayed inviting applications for the Parish Council Vacancy. Boro. Cllr. Starkie will email a standard notice for adapting

- **2504: Finance**

Cheques as per the Agenda were authorised and signed. A letter of thanks to Mr Burrows for his painting of the playground equipment has been included with his remittance.

A donation of £250 was agreed towards the Village Fete (see Parish Matters)

Cllr Watson reported a VAT receipt for £661.65, being the VAT for April 2007-2008

There was an IT grant of £963

It was agreed that all invoices should be passed to Cllr. Ingham.

- **2505: Ongoing projects**

The spout outside the Four Alls is now complete with the exception of the plaque, which has yet to be added

The new bus shelter in the centre of the village is under construction. Permission will be needed to re-site the existing shelter.

The sign painting is continuing. A wooden finger post design with metal letters has been decided upon.

£250 will be donated from the Parish Council towards the Village Fete. This is in addition to a grant of £250 which will be given by the County Council.

Boro. Cllr. Starkie suggested that an additional SPID may be available as there are some in store. Cllr. Watson pointed out that traffic speeds on Sabden Rd were often unacceptable and that some traffic signs on this road might encourage motorists to reduce their speed. Members of the Parish Council will investigate a possible site for a SPID on Sabden Rd, though the absence of a footpath may make this difficult

- **2506: Development at Clover Croft Mill site:**

There is still no progress on this site. Cllr. Forrest suggested that a more substantial fence around the site would improve its appearance whilst the development was at a standstill.

- **2507: Clerk's Report**

A copy of the clerk's report is attached

- **2508: County Councillor's Report**

Co. Cllr. Derwent is now the Chairperson of Lancashire Locals. There is new guidance on referrals and these should be done through the area committee.

- **2509: Borough Councillor's Report**

Boro. Cllr. Starkie said that that money is available from Highways, (£8,100) and referred to the lower entrance to Higham Hall Rd and to Sabden Road (near Little Owls) where there is continuous running water.

Cllr Starkie pointed out the benefits of attending the LALC meeting. Cllr Townsend will attend the next meeting

- **2510: Planning Applications and Decisions**

No planning applications this month. Permission has been sought to erect a fence at 10 Higham Hall Rd. Investigations are to be made on a new building at Lower White Lee Farm.

- **2511: Committee/Working Group Reports**

None this month

- **2512: Health and Safety proposals – update**

A consultation document is awaited.

- **2513: Parish Matters**

Co Cllr Derwent has complained about the hedge-cutting and Cllr. Forrest commented on the irregular appearance of the grass cutting on the by-pass. There are ongoing consultations about the grass cutting, and Cllr. Forrest suggested a sponsorship scheme for this. It was agreed to investigate further. Boro. Cllr. Starkie suggested a volunteer scheme to maintain the flower beds.

Boro. Cllr. Starkie reminded the committee of the outstanding vacancy for another councillor. It was agreed to produce notices for display in the village advertising this vacancy. Cllr. Starkie is to email a standard advertisement to the clerk for adaptation. In view of the Headteacher's concerns about using the school grounds for the Village Fete, it was decided that this should now take place on the village playing field. Some part of the field would need to be used for car parking and portable toilets would be required, incurring costs. Insurance, funding and access were also discussed. Co. Cllr. Derwent suggested a grant through the 'Village Hall' committee which would help funds. It was agreed that a donation of £250 would be made made towards the Fete and a further £250 from a county grant. (see 2504)

- **2514: Parish Lengthsman Scheme.**

All jobs so far have been completed except the hedge at the old Police House and some weeds that need removing. Boro. Cllr. Starkie suggested regular contact with the Lengthsman.

- **2515: Correspondence:**

Correspondence itemised in the Clerk's Report. In addition, since the meeting Letters re the Accounts and Audit Committee, a planning application and a planning application appeal have been received and passed to Cllr Ingham for immediate attention

- **2516: Items for future discussion:**

This should include the vacancy for another Parish Councillor

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- **2517: Date of the next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on the 15th July at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.17pm