

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF BICKERSTAFFE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 12TH MAY 2008

Parish Councillors present :-

Hilary Rosbotham (Chairman), Jennifer Currie, Kathleen Fairhurst, Gladys Gardiner, Margaret Sumner, Philippa Tubb and Linda Webster.

Also present:-

Paul Andrews (representing Bickerstaffe Football Club), John Mercer (representing Bickerstaffe School), Bryan Marshall (Public Rights of Way Co-Ordinator), Paul Draper (Bickerstock Music Festival) and one member of the public.

1. Election of Chairman and Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Resolved that Hilary Rosbotham be elected as Chairman and she then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. Election of Vice Chairman

Resolved that Albert Webster be elected as Vice Chairman.

3. Apologies

An apology was received and accepted from Albert Webster.

4. Declaration of Interests

- (i) No Cllr. reported a change to their respective Register of Interests.
- (ii) No Cllr. reported any personal interest in respect of agenda items and their nature.
- (iii) No Cllr. reported any prejudicial interests in any items on the agenda.

5. Parish Council Designated Representatives

- (i) Resolved that Cllrs. Currie and Sumner be the designated representatives to the Lancashire Association of Local Council's Area Committee.
- (ii) Resolved that Cllrs. Rosbotham and Albert Webster be the designated representatives to the Lancashire Local West Lancashire Committee.

6. Timetable of Meetings and Surgeries for 2008/2009

- (i) Resolved to hold Meetings on 14th July 08, 8th September 08, 10th November 08, 12th January 09 and 9th March 09.
- (ii) Resolved to hold the Annual Assembly and Annual Meeting on 11th May 09.
- (iii) Resolved to hold surgeries on 9th June 08, 11th August 08, 13th October 08, 1st December 08, 11th February 09 and 14th April 09.

7. Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on 10th March 2008 were approved as correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8. Public Participation

Cllrs. resolved an adjournment of the meeting. A member of the public raised a traffic related issue which was noted for follow up action by the clerk. Prior to agenda item 9 the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

9. Clerk's Progress Report for Information

The Clerk commented on the report which had been circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting.

10. Quality Parish Council Status

- (i) The Clerk reported that the portfolio of evidence would be completed and ready for submission by 30th June 2008.
- (ii) It was resolved that Cllrs would assist with the circulation of the 2007/2008 Annual Report, which was a Mandatory element of the quality status portfolio.

11. Planning

- Robys Farm, New Way, Bickerstaffe for the erection of an agricultural storage building. It was resolved not to make any comments to WLDC.

12. Parish Field

- (iii) Resolved for the parish field to be used for the Annual Treat Day on 14th June 2008 and the Summer Fair on 12th July 2008.
- (iv) Resolved for the parish field to be used for Bickerstaffe Football Club's annual five-a-side football competition on 5th July 2008.
- (v) Following a presentation by Mr Paul Draper, a member of the Music Festival Organising Committee, it was resolved that the parish field could be used as the venue for the music festival on 2nd and 3rd August 2008. It was also resolved that a more detailed programme of events should be submitted prior to the event taking place and that the programme should also be scheduled between 12 noon and 12 midnight on 2nd August 08 and 12 noon and 8.00pm on 3rd August 08.

13. Finance

- (i) Resolved to approve the statement of accounts for the financial year 2007/2008 and for the Clerk to arrange for an internal audit.
- (ii) Resolved to approve the bank reconciliation report dated 31st March 2008.
- (iii) The report concerning the insurance cover was presented by the Clerk and it was resolved not continue the insurance cover in respect of two of the longseats. It was also resolved for the Clerk to seek a revised premium and to arrange for the necessary revised payment to be made.
- (iv) Resolved to process the payment of invoices to :-
 - Lancashire Association of Local Councils Subscription Fee - £173.36p.
 - Administrative and Book-keeping Services Internal Audit Fee - £30.
 - Four Lane Ends Mission Management Committee Hire of Mission for Meetings - £80
- (v) Cllrs. noted the award of £1375 from West Lancashire District Council's Capital Grant Scheme.

14. War Memorial

- (i) Resolved to appoint Stone Central (NW) Ltd as the contractor to undertake the cleaning and refurbishment of the War Memorial at a cost of £4,723.50p.
- (ii) Resolved that before the commencement of the project the scheme of work to be appraised by the Heritage and Environment Manager at West Lancashire District Council.

15. Capital Expenditure Plan

Following consideration of the paper circulated prior to the meeting by the Clerk it was resolved to seek the views of parishioners with regard to a range of community related capital projects. It was also resolved that the consultation should be taken forward by the inclusion of a feature in the May 08 Newsletter and for comments to be submitted to the Clerk by 30th June 2008.

16. Lathom Road Traffic and Road Safety Issues

Following reports to Cllrs. concerning the significant increase in the heavy goods vehicles using Lathom Road and consequently the hazards both to other users and pedestrians, it was resolved to convey the concerns to the Highways and Environment Department at Lancashire County Council. It was also resolved for the heavy goods vehicle issues in relation to their usage in the vicinity of Barrow Nook to again be raised with Lancashire County Council.

17. Correspondence for Information

The Clerk made reference to the circulated list of items of correspondence which were available for inspection at the meeting.

18. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

The Chairman invited Cllrs. to comment and the Clerk noted matters in relation to dog fouling and the behaviour of a cycling group. It was resolved that a memorial for the late Alan Wood and 'White Lining' of the parish field car park should be included as agenda items for the next meeting.

19. Date of the Next Meeting

The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 14th July 2008.