

MINUTES OF BICKERSTAFFE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH NOVEMBER 2008

Parish Councillors Present:-

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

Also present:-

Paul Andrews (representing Bickerstaffe Football Club) and two members of the public.

1. Apologies

An apology was received and accepted from Cllr. Kathleen Fairhurst.

2. Declaration of Interest

- (i) No Cllr declared a change to their respective Register of Interests
- (ii) No Cllr declared a personal interest in any items on the agenda
- (iii) Cllrs. Hilary Rosbotham, Philippa Tubb and Linda Webster declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 7 (ii)

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 8th September 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation

Cllrs. resolved an adjournment of the meeting. Paul Andrews, representing Bickerstaffe Football Club, reported that there had been some vandalism to their pavilion roller shutters. Prior to agenda item 5 the Chairman reconvened the meeting. At that point it was resolved to report the reported vandalism to the Rural Beat Manager.

5. Clerk's Progress Report for Information

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

6. Quality Parish Council Status

- (i) The Chairman reported on the presentation of the Quality Parish Council Status certificate at the Annual General Meeting of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils.
- (ii) It was resolved to extend the publicity of the award by including a feature on the parish council's website, in the parish council's newsletter, a press release to the Advertiser and Champion and a request to West Lancashire District Council for inclusion in their publicity forums as appropriate.

7. Planning

- (i) The Chairman reported on the following delegated decision:-
 - Holly Cottage, Lathom Road, Bickerstaffe for the erection of a chimney to the front elevation and a single storey extension to the rear; no comments submitted to WLDC.
 - Bickerstaffe C of E junior School for a single storey extension to the staff room. At this point Cllrs. Hilary Rosbotham, Philippa Tubb and Linda Webster excluded themselves from the meeting. It was resolved to support the application.

8. Freedom of Information Act

Following consideration of a paper circulated prior to the meeting it was resolved that the clerk should prepare a paper in respect of a model scheme for consideration at the next meeting. It was also resolved that a bold reference should be included on the parish council's website regarding who is the designated contact for information about the parish council.

9. Finance

- (i) Resolved to approve the bank reconciliation report for the period ending 31st October 2008.
- (ii) The external auditors report in respect of the 2007/2008 accounts was noted.
- (iii) Following consideration of a paper which was circulated prior to the meeting concerning an increase in the fidelity guarantee cover, it was resolved not to increase the existing cover.

10. Parish Field

Following consideration of a paper which was circulated prior to the meeting it was resolved to note the outcomes of the ROSPA report and to allocate £300 in the 2009/2010 financial year for the maintenance of the children's play area.

11. Capital Expenditure Project

- Following consideration of a paper, circulated before the meeting, it was resolved:-
- to acknowledge the enhancements proposed by Lancashire County Council in respect of signs and road markings in relation to Liverpool Road (approaching Heyescroft) and Hall Lane (approaching Bickerstaffe C of E Junior School);
- to pursue further with Lancashire County Council the siting of interactive speed deterrent signs along Liverpool Road and Hall Lane;
- to submit a capital grant application to WLDC for a contribution towards the cost of an extension to the parish field car park;
- to endeavour to secure matched funding for the extension to the parish field car park project.

12. Peter Lathom's Charity Local Representative for Bickerstaffe

It was resolved to support the continued representation of Owen Taylor as a local representative for Bickerstaffe.

13. Code of Conduct Annual Seminar/Workshop

Details of the workshop/seminar were circulated prior to the meeting and it was resolved that Cllrs. should respond on an individual basis to the invitation.

14. Correspondence for Information

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

15. Cllrs. report and items for future agenda

The Chairman invited Cllrs. to comment and the Clerk noted matters in relation to the damage to the green at Heyescroft caused by the refuse collection vehicle, that the concrete bollard at Heyescroft still had to be replaced and the postponement of any activity on the parish field at the time of the annual remembrance service at the Holy Trinity Church.

16. Date of the Next Meeting

The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 12th January 2009.