

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2014 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mrs Joanne Leeman(JL) -Deputy Chair, Mr Stephen Jones(SJ)
Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K), Mr Roland Stretch(RS)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

In the absence of the Chairman the meeting was chaired by Cllr J Leeman -Deputy Chair

2102 To receive apologies for absence Cllr S Scothern

The meeting was adjourned for the Open Forum -Standing Orders were suspended.

Open Forum

Present for the Open Forum: City Cllr M Thomas

Neighbourhood Planning was discussed particularly in the light of possible development along the new bypass corridor and the potential for the use of greenfield sites for housing and industry with possible the erosion of the Green Belt. It was felt that although it would involve a lot of work, the development of a Neighbourhood Plan is probably the way forward as assurances have been given that a Plan would hold legal weight.

Also there were concerns about Lancaster City Council's planning strategy and perceived lack of foresight in protecting heritage assets. This is pertinent locally because of the current planning applications for the proposed demolition of the Mawson Bungalow on the foreshore. Cllr Thomas offered to stress the Council's concerns with the Planning Officers and Lancaster City Council Planning Committee.

The Council's response to the planning applications is also to be brought to the attention of Mr David Morris MP.

The visitor left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

2103 To record Declarations of Interest none

2104 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17 November 2014 as a true record. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2105 Progress Reports (for information only)

- The memorial oak tree planted on the recreation field has been sawn down. The incident has been reported to the Police.
- The people who recently requested permission to put a memorial bench on the foreshore have now decided not to go ahead with it.
- A plan for the Burial Ground has been drawn up but returned to the surveyor for some minor amendments.

2106 Administration

Neighbourhood Planning; information about Neighbourhood Plans from LALC is being circulated. It was agreed that a closer look should be taken at developing a plan and the involvement of local organisations and individuals considered. It was felt that it would probably be necessary to buy in some expert support and this may need to be reflected in the budget.

Resolution: to express an interest to Lancaster City Council in developing a Neighbourhood Plan.

2107 Financial matters

Resolution: to accept the monthly receipts and payments report presented by the clerk.

Current Account £5085.50 Savings Account £49,588.76

Consider of the payment of the withheld cheque- T Cowperthwaite; enquiries had been made and explanation and assurance given of the prices charged for the work carried out.

Resolution: to pay the cheque

Report on the internal audit and on the Independent Internal Audit; the internal audit was carried out on 4th December by Cllr Scothern and the Independent Internal Audit carried out by a member of the Audit Group. Everything was found to be satisfactory and no issues were raised.

Resolution: to accept the reports.

Consideration of the payment of the subscription for the clerk's membership of The Society of Local Council Clerk; the annual fee is £149. The clerk regularly attends meetings and the Society is a useful source of advice.

Resolution: to pay the membership fee for 2015.

2108 Open Spaces

Recreation field -pond and wetland area; Cllr Jones and Stretch and the clerk have met Mr Hammond from Barton Grange Landscapes to discuss how the area could be developed. While it was agreed that due to the nature of the area it will always remain wet with possible related problems, it was felt that the area could be improved. An estimate for upgrading has been received. This includes proper excavation of a pond, the creation of banking and raising of the lower areas, spreading of top soil and seeding all at a cost of £16,319 + VAT. An overflow pipe to the existing drainage would be an additional £1,100, + VAT. Consideration is to be given to this at the budget meeting.

Football pitch -work required to bring the surface to a safe standard; Lancaster City Council has been asked for an opinion on the state of the pitch. LALC has also been consulted and the Council has been advised to put together a report on the work carried out by the contractors and the landscape architect, as overseer of the project, which can then be submitted to NALC for a legal opinion. Discussion of any further action against the contractors or architect was deferred to the next meeting.

An estimate to fully reinstate the pitch has been received from Barton Grange Landscapes and the cost is £5,720 + VAT. This was deferred for further discussion at the budget meeting and next council meeting.

Railings for the play area; -consideration of purchase of posts, gates and more panels -deferred from the November meeting- further estimates have been obtained and a comparison of prices from 4 suppliers was presented to Council. It was decided that railings are not needed along the boundary between the play area and the farmer's field and the field boundary will suffice. Any savings should be spent on having trees and vegetation cut back and the field boundary improved. Prices are to be sought for the railings required along the front and two sides of the area along with three gates. Deferred to next meeting.

Litter bin to replace the damaged one at the Manor Lane (north) bus stop; a number of options were presented to Council

Resolution: to purchase an open top circular slatted bin with wooden slats, light oak from Wybone at £142.27 + delivery + VAT.

Memorial Hall field -consideration of the inspection of trees and whether to make a request for a Tree Protection Order (TPO) on them. A letter had been received from a resident of Prospect Drive raising concerns about the safety of a poplar tree. The services of a qualified arboriculturist are to be employed to make an inspection and report his findings to the Council. A decision on making a request for a TPO on the trees was left in abeyance.

A further concern about training dogs on the field is to be investigated but this would seem not to be contrary to the Council's byelaws or Dog Control Orders provided that the dogs are fully controlled and any fouling is removed.

Consideration of planting trees on the foreshore and along various roads in the village; suggestion put forward by Cllr Jones. Many trees along the roads have been lost over the years. Planting of trees on the highways would require the guidance of Lancashire County Council and this is to be requested. A costing for tree planting on the foreshore would need to be included in budget discussions. While this was considered to be a laudable project it was felt that priorities in spending need to be taken into account and it was suggested that perhaps tree planting and replacement could be tackled as a 5 year project.

2109 Planning Applications

Application No.

14/01220/FUL 34 Prospect Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6HZ

14/01281/FUL Hillcroft Nursing Home, Throstle Grove, Slyne. LA2 6AX

No issues were raised on the above applications

14/01195/FUL Seaways, The Shore, Hest Bank, LA2 6EQ

14/01196/FUL Islay, The Shore, Hest Bank, LA2 6EQ

The Council raised strong concerns about the proposed demolition of the above properties on the grounds that they were formerly the 'Bungalow' built and lived in by Thomas H Mawson, the renowned Edwardian architect and as such form part of the heritage of the village. Also the Council has concerns that the building of two modern, two storey houses in this position on the Hest Bank foreshore would seem to be contrary to the aspirations of policies E3, E4 and E5 and H8 of the adopted Lancaster and District Local Plan and various other local and government policies relating to the development of the coastline. Work is being done to try to have the properties listed by English Heritage.

Notification of permission granted

14/00258/OUT West Sheen, 4 The Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6DQ

2110 Payment of Accounts

Resolution: to authorise the transfer of £1,000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account.

Resolution: to pay the other accounts as listed

	DD	Eon	8.26	electricity bill -burial ground
	DD	BT	151.57	phone bill
Cheque	101757	T Cowperthwaite	2555.18	work on foreshore
	101764	Acorn Oak	475.00	supply & fix board for recreation field
	101765	Mr R McGuire	115.20	groundsman's pay
	101766	Mrs D Brookes	831.72	clerk's salary & expenses
	101767	Petty cash	56.45	sundry items
	101768	SLCC	149.00	renewal of clerk's membership

2111 Matters raised by members for future consideration

None

2112 Date of next meeting Monday 19 January 2015 at 7.30pm.

Date of budget meeting Monday 12 January 2015 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.19pm