

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 19 JANUARY 2004 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present:- Mr P Millard-Chairman, Mr S Jones, Mr I Salisbury, Mr M Jackson

Clerk Mrs D Brookes

Also present (part of meeting):- Pc D Lowe, Mr J Stelfox, Mrs P Barker, Mrs J Higham, Mr J Harmer
Mr F Foster, Mrs M Foster, Ms S Patel, Mr C Blugrass, Cllr M Thomas, Mr R Hartley

320 Apologies Cllr Rev R Simper

321 Minutes of the previous meeting

Proposal to accept these as a true record made by S Jones, seconded by I Salisbury and agreed.

322 Matters arising from the minutes

Casual vacancies; Lancaster City Council had been notified and notices regarding the request for an election were on display.

Meeting with Geraldine Smith MP; it was decided to send her a list of Parish Council meeting dates and to request her attendance at one of them.

Stage Coach bus service 555; reply from the Commercial Director explaining that it was not viable to run the service during the winter and there had been publicity about the ending of the summer timetable.

Parish Community Support Officer; Inspector Debicki had offered to attend the next Parish Council meeting to discuss this - it was agreed that he should be invited.

Glass Recycling Bins; following the previous meeting Lancaster City Council had been requested to remove the bins but it had been thought prudent to leave them until after the Christmas and New Year period, they were still in place and further contact is to be made with LCC.

Boundary Committee for England-consultation on Local Government Review, draft recommendations; it was generally felt that the Option 2B for Cumbria, i.e. combining Barrow-in-Furness, South Lakeland and Lancaster was the more attractive.

Memorial for Brian Kingsman; further thought to be given and his family contacted again.

Notice boards; not for commercial notices -councillors to check boards, be responsible for their tidiness and remove any out of date or inappropriate notices.

Standing orders were suspended

Mr Blugrass and Ms Patel, Youth shelter; Arts project still being pursued, Mr P Courtie from Lancaster City Council Arts and Events had been contacted and a meeting with him is to be arranged. It was suggested that funding could possibly be available from the North West Arts Fund, or the Safer Communities Initiative, match funding may be necessary. The question of whether there was a demand for art work and whether it would suffer from graffiti was raised. Robert Hartley representing the young people seemed to think that they would be interested in the project. Robert asked whether a further side could be added to the shelter to give more protection from weather but it was explained that the shelter had been designed to meet safety requirements.

Tennis Club; the representatives were told that they would be receiving notice of termination of the lease; the Council is willing to look at the terms of the lease and negotiate changes; the option of handing over full responsibility of maintenance of the courts and pavilion to the Club would be discussed; it is the Council's intention to grant leases on shorter terms than previously, but probably for not less than seven years; the rent due from the Tennis Club had been waived for a number of years and therefore there is little money in the reserve fund. The question of responsibility for the outside toilets at the pavilion was discussed; it would seem that they belong to and are insured by the Council but for a number of years they have been maintained by the Club; the toilets are open when members are present but the Club does not wish to see them left open permanently because of previous experience of vandalism.

Finance; Mr Stelfox, as a member of the Parish Plan Steering Committee, asked about the sources of Parish Council income; it was explained that there is a small income, for example from the Burial Ground and from rents, and the rest is raised through rates by means of the precept paid by Lancaster City Council.

Pc D Lowe -crime report; there had been five crimes and five instances of juvenile nuisance reported during the previous month.

It was hoped to hold another police surgery in the village on Saturday 21 February, 9.00am-10am. Speeding traffic through the village was still causing concern, although there had not been any reported accidents involving personal injury. It was thought that during the next few months Speed Watch volunteers would be being recruited.

Mast and Vodafone Base Station at VVV Leisure Club- City Cllr M Thomas said that he was consulting with the Planning Office to try to ascertain more details of the proposed mast. (see 328)

Cllr Thomas reported that Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council was becoming concerned about the number of cocklers coming on to the shore. Cllrs Millard and Jones and the clerk have continued to monitor the Hest Bank foreshore and made regular visits; the number of cocklers has increased, resulting in an increase in the number of vehicles using the foreshore and more damage to the land. However it would seem that the majority of the cocklers using Hest Bank as an access are 'local' and are policing its use and deterring 'outsiders'.

The visitors left the meeting and standing orders were reinstated.

323 Review of Standing Orders

The chairman and clerk are to review a draft document - deferred to next agenda.

324 Financial Matters

A monthly receipts and payments report was presented.

Current Account £250.83, Savings Account £31375.50

An insurance claim for bus shelter damage had been paid -£163.83

Proposal to transfer £5000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account made by S Jones, seconded by I Salisbury and agreed.

Budget and Approval of Precept Request; a meeting had been held on Monday 12 January to discuss the budget requirements for the year ending 31 March 2005 and a proposed budget put forward. The increase in the precept requirement had only been agreed after very careful consideration of the additional expenditure that was thought to be necessary; S Jones stated that he was unhappy about the considerable increase in the precept.

An amendment to the proposed budget was agreed, i.e. to include £500 for legal fees in the predicted expenditure and to decrease the requirement for recreation and cemetery improvements by £500. Resolution:- to accept the proposed budget, as amended, and the resulting precept requirement of £26,260, which gives a rate of £19.75 per Band D property - proposed by P Millard, seconded by M Jackson and agreed unanimously.

Members Allowances (see 307) - agreement was reached on the proposals to be submitted to the Parish Remuneration Panel and these will be published after approval.

Interim payment for items for work at youth shelter (see 308)- K-G-F had submitted invoices as requested; P Millard proposed payment of £1175.00 towards the cost of the items being held, provided that they are clearly identified as Parish Council property, seconded by M Jackson and agreed.

Bowling Club, payment towards costs incurred for repairs due to vandalism; the Council looked at the Bowling Club's submission and decided that it was not able to make a contribution towards the cost of veranda roof repairs but will pay £50 towards the cost of reinstatement of the bowling green following

recent damage by a motor cycle. Future payments to clubs, for costs such as these, are to be considered in the total context of provision of recreation facilities.

325 **Youth Shelter**

Electrical connection; K-G-F had been asked for a quotation to provide three meters (ref 308) but it had not been received; he is to be pressed for this and in order to speed up the work it was decided to give authority to the clerk to accept a quotation for up to £500 - proposal made by M Jackson, seconded by P Millard.

Art work project (see above)

Funding to be further investigated.

326 **Open Spaces**

Bowling Green Maintenance 2004; four contractors had been invited to tender for the maintenance contract but three (S M Armistead, Grasscare and Green Fingers) had declined, it was therefore decide to accept the quotations submitted by Lancaster City Council Contract Services and award the contract to them. The Bowling Club's submission of costs for the 2004 season was examined and it was proposed to request a contribution from the Club of 50% of the general maintenance costs plus any additional costs incurred- proposal made by M Jackson, seconded by S Jones and agreed. The Council intends to review the whole matter of maintenance and leasing for sports clubs.

Village Grass Cutting 2004; quotations had been obtained from SM Armistead -£5150, City Contract Services - £3749 and Grasscare - £4480. Proposal to accept the quotation from City Contract Services and award them the contract made by P Millard, seconded by S Jones and agreed. It had been agreed that for the 2004 season the foreshore should not be cut on a regular basis and therefore the quotation would be amended to £339).

Play area swings; quotation for monthly inspection and maintenance to be sought.
Fall area beneath swings does not comply with ROSPA recommendations; it was agreed to obtain quotations for work required.

Recreation Field Disability Access Plan; it was agreed that changes would be required some of which could be done in the short term but others would need longer term planning, for examplpe, provision of a path across the field could not be done before drainage work was carried out. M Jackson offered to seek further information and advice.

Safety on the recreation field, particularly in adverse weather conditions -checks will be carried out as necessary.

Improvement of a hedgerow adjacent to the Public Right of Way beyond Bottomdale Field; Mr S Edwards, the Countryside Officer, seeking a contractor and some work to be carried out by the Tree Wardens; an application for a grant had been made to the Green Partnership Awards.

327 **Football**

A further meeting to discuss a Management Committee for Bottomdale had still not taken place; both Slyne with Hest FC and Bay Rangers FC to be sent letters urging them to meet as soon as possible because the Council wishes to see some progress.

328 **Planning Applications**

Application No.

03/01614/FUL erection of a conservatory and garage to rear and 1.4 meter extension to drop kerb for Mr Crowther, 6 Marine Drive no objections

03/01596/FUL erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension for Mr A Smith, 58 Marine Drive

no objection to an extension to this property but as this is such a large extension it was suggested that Planning Officers should consider it in the light of a recent refusal for a similar extension to an adjacent property

04/00003/FUL

extension of an extension to form a front porch
Mr & Mrs woodland, 18 Hanging Green Lane
no objection except to question whether this is permissible because the porch would extend beyond the existing building line.

Spectra Telecom (UK) Limited, Consultation with Parish Councillors - Proposed Vodophone Base Station at VVV Health and Leisure Club Coastal Road- no objection to this location provided that the mast complies with regulations-details not given.

Refusal

03/01302/OUT

Mr Webb, Webbs Garage, Hest Bank Lane
An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State
No further comments

Marnwood, 52 Hest Bank Lane (03/00103/FUL) - the Inspector has dismissed the appeal to the Secretary of State.

Slyne Caravan Park - letter received from Mr T K Hanley in which he states that he has no intention of turning Slyne Caravan Park into a residential park - noted.

Memorial Hall; notice received from Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall Executive Committee that it is the intention to construct a ramp for disabled access at the main entrance to the hall - noted.

329

Highways

Meeting of Lancaster Area Rural Road Safety Committee; M Jackson reported on this - an important matter was 'Business Planning', County would prefer parishes to submit a total list of road safety issues with priorities, M Jackson had produced first draft proposals, copies to councillors. Other issues included funding of road works, liaison with parishes, parking on footpaths and responsibility for controlling this, Community Safety Partnership support and speeding.

Safety on Bottomdale Road; County Council Highways Department to be contacted with request for additional signage to increase awareness of speed limit and hazards caused to road users by speed and inconsiderate driving.

330

Foreshore

United Utilities; invoice regarding reinstatement works still being pursued.
Loss of profits claim also being pursued.

Dumped Cars at Railway Cottage; S Jones and the clerk had met Mr G Mackay, Business Services Manager of Spacia (property management section of Network Rail) to discuss the problem. The boundaries of Parish Council and Network Rail land had been pointed out. Mr Mackay promised to have the cars removed but nothing had yet been done.

331

Burial Ground

Improvements to entrance- both long term and short term; the cost of long term improvements had been considered in the budget. However, for reasons of safety due to the deteriorating condition of the surface at the lower entrance, it was decided that work should be carried out as soon as possible. Proposal to accept the estimate of £585.00 (no VAT) provided by Lantec Landscapes (M Ashton) made by P Millard, seconded by M Jackson and agreed.

Burial fees - defer to next agenda

332 **Correspondence**

Heysham News, 2 issues; Beach Care, newsletter; Village Retail Services Association, newsletter; Lancashire Woodland Project, information; Clerks and Councils Direct; Agenda for Action - Lancaster District Local Agenda 21 Partnership Report; Community Focus, Community Futures newsletter; LAPTC, Winter Newsletter and information about Spring Conference; North West Air Ambulance, Funding appeal; all above circulated.
Lancaster City Council North West in Bloom Competition -notice of meeting arranged by City Contract Services- clerk to attend.

333 **Leases**

Advice had been received from Bannister Bates Solicitors regarding the serving of appropriate notice to bring the existing Tenancy Agreements to an end; notice required to be given is no more than twelve months and not less than six months.
As the renewal date for the Tennis Club lease is imminent it was decided to ask the Solicitor to serve notice on the Club at the earliest possible date.

334 **Matters for future consideration**

Best Kept Village competition

335 **Accounts for Payment**

Proposal to pay the accounts as listed made by S Jones, seconded by I Salisbury and agreed.

Chq No.			
100573	A R Hyslop	60.01	stationery
100574	Lancaster & Morecambe College	144.00	printing of newsletter
100575	Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council	33.56	items for jobs done by lengthsman
100576	Mrs D Brookes	398.50	clerk's salary & expenses
100577	Petty cash	69.35	sundry items
100578	Lancaster City Council	932.27	grounds maintenance
100579	Lancaster City Council	885.56	bowling green maintenance
100580	Lancaster City Council	256.15	repairs to swings
100581	K-G-F	1175.00	interim payment, youth shelter work

336 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 16 February 2004 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 10.55pm