

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 18 JULY 2005 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present Mr Peter Millard(PM)- Chairman, Mr Stephen Jones(SJ), Miss June Cohen-Kingsley (JC-K) and (from 8.00pm) Mr Stewart Scothern (SS)

Clerk Mrs D Brookes (DB)

Also present Mrs Barbara Barber and for Open Forum - ECSO D Gwilliam, City Cllr S Rogerson, City Cllr M Thomas

606 **Apologies** Cllr Andrea Johnson, County Cllr A Jones

Standing orders were suspended

Open Forum

Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting –ECSO D Gwilliam gave the report
Crimes reported during the month included a theft from a property, 2 thefts from vehicles parked on drives, 2 cases of criminal damage to vehicles and damage to a boat on the canal; there had been 4 instances of rowdy behaviour and also reports of suspicious activity by people with air rifles.
It was reported to ECSO Gwilliam that there had been some suspicious activity on the foreshore on the evening of 10 July involving a number of vehicles coming and going and being driven to the far end of the shore road -details were noted.

Three priorities were identified for action 1. speeding through the village including on Hest Bank Lane, Hanging Green Lane, Marine Drive and Coastal Road; 2. Marine Drive/Station Road, parking and congestion; 3. juvenile problems (it was however noted that to date this summer these had been fewer).

City Cllr Thomas reported that after the May meeting he had spoken to the City Council about the dog waste bin on Sea View Drive but had not any contact since.

A complaint had been received about the ivy and brambles growing on Hatlex Bridge causing some obstruction- British Waterways to be contacted. Also a complaint that the litter bin on the canal towpath near Hatlex Bridge was overflowing- City Council to be asked to empty this.

City Cllr S Rogerson reported on behalf of County Cllr A Jones that the M6/Heysham Link planning application was unlikely to proceed before the end of the year and it seemed probable that there would be a public inquiry. There were many concerns and criticisms of the proposals and the overall effect which the scheme would have on the area and it was hoped that all these would be taken on board by the planners.

All the visitors except Mrs Barber left the meeting and standing orders were reinstated.

607 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution to accept these as a true record, proposal made by SJ, seconded by JC-K and agreed.

608 **Matters arising from the minutes**

Hammerton Hall planning application had been refused; the City Council Planning Department had been asked to inform the Council if an appeal was made.

Geraldine Smith MP had written with an assurance that she will be pressing for a full public enquiry on the northern route for the M6/Heysham Link when a planning application is submitted to Lancashire County Council.

Installation of Broadband internet access, following further enquiries about comparative costs, BT broadband at a cost of £17.99 per month if paid by Direct Debit seemed to be most favourable but the clerk was given authority to find the best value and to arrange payments as required. Proposal made by PM, seconded by SJ and agreed.

Extra bus timetables; County Council had been contacted and promised to look into the feasibility of providing more timetables and information at bus stops.

609 **Financial Matters**

A monthly receipts and payments report was presented; this included the quarterly totals compared with budget.

Current Account £2672.33, Savings account £50,047.29

Renewal of lengthsman's contract; Resolution to renew the contract which is on the same terms as in previous years put forward by JC-K, seconded by SS and carried.

Proposed alteration to foreshore rating; the Valuation Officer has had the opportunity to review his assessment of the property and wrote to inform that he is ready to commence discussions. It was decided to write to him reiterating the submission already made that the foreshore is no longer used for commercial purposes and that the Council wishes it to revert to open space.

Photocopier; the Toshiba copier had broken down and was considered to be beyond economical repair. As the copier is in frequent use and a replacement was needed urgently the Council decided to call on emergency powers to authorise this. A quotation had already been obtained from Office Technology Corporation Ltd and this was £1265 + VAT for a Infotec A3/A4 laser digital copier. It was decided that a second quotation should be obtained and Mains Business Equipment was suggested. A resolution was put forward that a new copier should be purchased from the firm offering the best value and, with the consent of the chairman and vice-chairman, the clerk was given the authority to enter into a purchase agreement. Purchase to be ratified at next meeting

Mr M Ashton, lengthsman, had returned a cheque for £30.80 dated 21 June 2004 which inadvertently had not been cashed and being overdue could not be accepted by his bank. He asked whether the Council would consider reissuing the cheque. It was agreed to do this.

610 **Payment of Accounts**

Proposal to transfer £7000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account made by SJ, seconded by PM and agreed.

Proposal to pay the cheque to Lancaster City Council which had been withheld pending an improvement of the grass cutting and the other invoices as listed made by PM, seconded by JC-K and agreed.

Chq No			
100733	Lancaster City Council	882.26	open spaces grass cutting
100738	Bolton-le-Sands parish Council	2852.00	contribution to lengthsman scheme
100739	Lancaster City Council	2341.77	erection of lighting columns, rec. field
100740	Lancaster City Council	477.05	bowling green grass cutting & maintenance
100741	Mrs D Brookes	641.25	clerk's salary and expenses
100742	Petty cash	41.02	sundry items
100743	Inland Revenue	483.94	PAYE & NIC payments
100744	M Ashton	30.80	reissued cheque

611 **Open Spaces**

Recreation field; Mr Cowperthwaite, drainage contractor, had begun work on the new drainage scheme for the field.

City Contract Services had inspected the areas about which there were complaints concerning the lack of strimming and those which had been left so that they had become considerably overgrown and had since carried out work to remedy this. Mike Ashton and Mr Clarke had carried out work to improve the area around the play equipment and Mr Clarke was investigating the cost of bark chippings for the area beneath the play tower.

Concerns were raised about the lack of strimming by the County Council of verges, for example, along parts of Coastal Road.

North West in Bloom competition; two judges had made an inspection of the village that morning. The village task force helped by M Ashton had done a lot of work to improve the pound and stocks as well as planting and caring for the pots outside the Memorial Hall; Arden Close Residents Association had put a lot of effort into their own gardens and the flower beds in the Close and the judges were well impressed.

A list of other projects had been produced for the task force with the intention of continuing the interest and work throughout the year and trying to recruit more volunteers.

Stocks and pound; after almost six months a reply had still not been received from Mr S Gardner, the City Council Conservation Officer following a query about the appropriate way to preserve the pound and stocks and also the milestones, therefore he had been contacted again and had promised to send some information. The provision of a plaque to mark the stocks and pound is to be pursued. Consideration was given to whether the pound and stocks should be insured but the decision was left open because these are structures of historical interest and as such would be impossible to replace if severely damaged and therefore it was difficult to put an insurance value on them.

Provision of more village notice boards. SJ suggested two more, one near the Hest Bank Lane/Shady Lane junction and one on the foreshore. Mike Ashton to be asked to make two, similar to the one which he made to replace that at Station Road.

Tennis Club lease; details of the Council's proposals had been sent to the Committee but to date no response had been received

612 **Football**

The clerk had spoken to Lyn Glading from Bannister Bates Solicitors and she had offered to contact Mr S Wright of Slyne with Hest Football Club but to date there had been no further communication. PM said that he would try to contact the Chairman of the Club, Mr C Knowles.

613 **Foreshore**

Status of land on which Dr & Mrs Pearson's garage is situated; the clerk had tried to contact the person at County Council who was dealing with this and had left telephone messages but to date no communication had been received.

Land on which Mr Graham is parking his tractors; Ms Glading, Solicitor, had promised that a draft Licence for consideration by the Council would be sent in the next few days.

Safety and warning signs; -provision of beach safety signs deferred from last meeting, SJ and DB to meet on shore to look at what is needed.

-signs prohibiting overnight parking; complaints had been received that mobile homes were regularly being parked on the foreshore and the occupants camping overnight. The sign had been vandalised and taken down and it was agreed that it should be replaced. Proposal to purchase a replacement sign made by PM and seconded by JC-K. Clerk to try to make arrangements for this to be done a.s.a.p.

Also discussed was the possibility of providing a new bay vista plaque for the plinth already in place on the foreshore. Mrs Barber offered to contact Rotary International to see if they might be willing to sponsor it.

RSPB-renewal of sporting rights; a draft lease had been received and circulated and it was agreed that this should be accepted.

614 **Planning applications**

Application No.

05/00914/FUL erection of a single storey extension to front for Mr & Mrs Yates, 6 Hatlex Lane no comments

05/00849/FUL erection of a two storey side extension to form kitchen/diner with bedroom ensuite and balcony over, rear conservatory and rear dormer for Mr & Mrs K Stanwix, 44 Marine Drive concern about large size of extension making the property over dominant in its location with potential detrimental effect on neighbouring properties

05/00850/FUL erection of a single storey extension to side and minor alterations for Mr & Mrs Whittle, 11 Bay View Crescent no comments

05/00842/FUL + amendment	installation of dormer windows for Mr & Mrs Riding, Rainsborrow, Mowbrick Lane some concern that this is effectively converting the house into a three storey structure which could be over dominant and would seem to be contrary to conditions applied when the permission was for building was granted in 1998.	
05/00840/FUL	erection of a two storey extension to the side, a single storey extension to the opposite side and a conservatory to the rear for Mr J Guiver, 47 Hest Bank Lane some concern because of the size of the extensions and the height of the roof which could be over dominant in this location	
05/00769/FUL	erection of a two storey extension and conversion at side to provide additional bedrooms, bathroom and utility room for Mr & Mrs Whiley, 25 Throstle Walk	no comments

Applications granted

05/00648/FUL	Mr & Mrs D Wilson, 1 Slyne Woods
05/00747/FUL	Mr & Mrs Vollands, 18 Prospect Drive
05/00726/FUL	The Trustees, St John's Hospice, Lancaster Road
05/00531/FUL	Mr & Mrs K J Galley, 3 Orchard Close
05/00333/FUL	Mr & Mrs J Hughes, 60 marine Drive

Refusal of planning permission

05/00849/FUL	Mr & Mrs K Stanwix, 44 Marine Drive
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Notification of granting of Certificate of Lawful Use

Application for certificate of lawful use of land as agricultural and commercial, including livery, teaching and keeping of horses made by Mrs Carol Hill, land north of Beaumont Grange, off Green Lane, Bottomdale Road.

615 Burial ground

Improvement of the entrance and paths; SJ, AJ, JC-K and the clerk had had a further meeting with Mr Atkinson of Thomas Associates Architects to go through some of the details of the proposal, including the positioning of the entrance, the upgrading of the paths and provision of parking spaces. It was agreed that a computer survey of the land should go ahead. The possible alterations and future use of the building were discussed but left in abeyance.

While the councillors were at the cemetery they also looked at other improvements which needed to be carried out, for example, removal of ivy from the walls and building, strimming back vegetation and hedge cutting. Clerk to ask lengthsman and Mr Clarke to carry out this work.

Garden of Remembrance; positioning of plots and spaces for memorials and formation of paths between them. It was agreed that any work required could be carried out.

616 Highways

John Leach had forwarded a copy of an enquiry he had made to Lancaster City Council regarding the semi permanent advertising signs which had reappeared at the junction of Bottomdale Road and the A6 and also on lampposts. A reply was awaited. The Parish Council had previously contacted Lancashire County Council Divisional Highways concerning these signs but providing they were not causing a traffic hazard they seemed to have little concern about them.

SS had concerns about the inconsiderate parking in parts of the village; it was suggested that perhaps photographic evidence would be helpful in trying to get some action to solve this problem.

617 Correspondence

Heysham News; Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Burning Issues; Community Futures, Community Focus -newsletter; Lancashire Partnership Newsletter; Clerks and Councils Direct; English Nature -Cumbrian Nature, Nature North West, Sitelines; Lancashire Partnership for Road Safety, newsletter and posters;

LAPTC, minutes of meeting; Lancaster District Sustainable Transport Forum, minutes of meeting; Lancaster District Community Safety Partnership, Northern News -newsletter and Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008; Lancashire County Council, Minerals and Waste Developments Framework, notice of launch; all above circulated.

Lancaster District Community Safety Partnership, notification that the application for additional street lighting had not been successful.

ASB Marine Environmental Research, Scoping Study on Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management- information requested supplied.

English Nature, Designation of Special Area of Conservation- Morecambe Bay, Notice of inclusion of site in register of European Sites in Great Britain -information filed

Lancaster City Council, Lancaster Local Development Framework, Submission of Statement of Community Involvement -information passed on to Parish Plan Committee.

BT's proposal to re-align payphone provision to meet consumer demand-consultation period of 42 days; phone boxes under review:- 1. Hest Bank Lane -remove and 2. Manor Lane -change to cashless.

618 **Vacancies on the council**

Mrs Barber gave a summary of her background and her interest in becoming a member of the Parish Council. Following a discussion it was agreed to invite Mrs Barber to become a councillor.

As Mrs Barber will be unable to attend the next two meetings the formal co-option process is to be deferred until the October meeting.

619 **Matters suggested by members for future consideration**

None

620 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 15 August 2005 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm