

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 15 MARCH 2010 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mr Stephen Jones(SJ) -Chairman, Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K),
Mr Peter Millard(PM), Mrs Beverley Melici(BM), Mr Stewart Scothern(SS),

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

1403 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Julian Newbold -shift working

Resolution: to approve the reason for absence

1404 Declarations of interest none declared

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

Open Forum

Present for the Open Forum; City Cllr M Thomas, Ms T O'Brien, Mr I Catterall. Mr & Mrs G Bagnall, Mr R Greaves, Mr M Ashton -parish lengthsman

Apologies received from P.C.S.O. J Dawes, City Cllr S Rogerson

- Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting; there were no police representatives at the meeting but a report had been sent. There had been one call to the Police regarding rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour (2 for the same time in 2009) and no calls regarding vehicle nuisance (1in 2009). Three crimes have been recorded (7 in 2009) two have been detected and the third is under investigation. A warning was given of bogus callers operating in the Lancaster and Morecambe area using high pressure tactics to gain access to addresses.
- Mr Ashton provided information about the cost for clearing an area next to the entrance at the burial ground. He reported that work to repair the roof of the burial ground building was on-going but had been held up by the weather conditions and the repair of the fence at the recreation field was in hand. As part of his work along with the Rights of Way officer for Lancashire County Council he will look at the path over occupation bridge which it was said is becoming blocked by tree branches.
- Ms O'Brien asked the Council to consider again the position of the memorial bench on the foreshore and invited them to see for themselves the view of the bench from her property.
- Mr & Mrs Bagnall restated that they are still willing to donate a section of land, at no cost to themselves and subject to agreement with the County Council, to allow the construction of a path or refuge to improve pedestrian safety on Hest Bank Lane. Mr & Mrs Bagnall and Mr Catterall pointed out some perceived problems with the new road markings, that signage included in the original scheme was still not in place and work on the improved lighting had not been completed. This will be raised with County Council.
- Mr Greaves expressed some thoughts on the development of the canal and linked parking areas.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

1405 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 February 2010 as a true record. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

1406 Progress reports (information only)

- Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition- businesses and organisations in the village have been contacted about entry into the Certificate of Merit classes- to date two positive replies have been received
- Signs for the recreation fields are ready for fixing in place
- A letter has been sent to Stagecoach expressing concern about some of the bus services -a reply is awaited.
- The foreshore plaque is still not yet in place because the fixative requires warmer conditions

1407 **Administration**

Quality Parish Council status -thought is to be given to moving towards becoming a Quality Parish Council. The clerk has obtained the Certificate in Local Council Administration and the Council meets many of the criteria for quality status. A document laying out the details of qualification and application is to be circulated amongst members.

1408 **Financial matters**

Resolution: to accept the report of receipts and expenditure for the month.

Current Account £1397.69 Savings Account £24912.75

A letter had been received from Bannister Bates Property Lawyers outlining their general terms of engagement and charging for dealing with a new lease for the Scout and Guide Headquarters.

Resolution: to accept the terms and the Chairman to sign the document on behalf of the Council.

Review of the effectiveness of internal audit; a copy of the list of criteria, produced by BDO LLP, appointed external auditors, for an internal audit had been supplied to each council member for consideration

Resolution: to confirm that the criteria have been discussed and the Council's procedures have been looked at and appear to be adequate for its needs.

Re-appointment of the Internal Auditor; an independent member within the audit group comprised of clerks/RFOs from Carnforth Town Council, Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council, Halton PC, Nether Kellet PC and Slyne with Hest PC carries out an audit for the council on a six-monthly basis.

Resolution: to continue with the present arrangement and to confirm the appointment of the independent internal auditor as a member within this group.

1409 **Payment of accounts**

Resolution: to authorise the transfer of £5000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed

	DD	BT	153.84	phone bill
Chq	101261	Lancaster City Council	163.91	topping up bark for play equipment surface
	101262	Printing Plus	149.58	newsletter printing
	101263	Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council	3192.75	parish's contribution to lengthsman scheme
	101264	Lancs Association of Local Councils	400.28	subscription
	101265	Mr R McGuire	102.40	groundsman's pay
	101266	Mrs D Brookes	778.67	clerk's salary & expenses
	101267	Petty cash	48.27	sundry items
	101268	United Utilities Water PLC	48.36	wastewater services at Slyne Cemetery

1410 **Open spaces**

Annual inspection and risk assessment of areas owned and managed by the council; this not only identifies any remedial work that is necessary but also acts as a basis on which the level of insurance cover can be determined. Councillors agreed that this should be carried out using the same format as previously and they will share the task between them.

A request to plant a birch tree on the triangle opposite St Luke's Church; this request to plant a memorial tree had been received through one of the tree wardens. A suitable site has been identified and if the request is granted the tree warden will suggest an appropriate size of tree and will oversee the planting.

Resolution: to grant the request and accept the tree warden's recommendations.

Purchase of bedding plants for tubs outside the Memorial Hall and on the Station Road green;

Resolution: to allocate up to £750 for the purchase of plants and grant Cllr Cohen-Kingsley permission to go ahead and place an order.

1411 **Highways**

Alteration of bus shelter on north side of Manor Lane; the council has received a number of complaints over the years, most recently at the last meeting, that the open aspect of the shelter gives insufficient protection in bad weather. An enquiry to Queensbury Shelters was therefore made about the feasibility of enclosing the shelter by addition of a side panel and a quotation of £350 (+VAT) for installation of an end panel has been received

Resolution: to accept the quotation and have a panel fixed.

Request for seats at bus shelters on Manor Lane; enquiry to be made to Queensbury Shelters regarding the feasibility and cost of installing a seat in the shelter on the north side of Manor Lane.

Hest Bank Lane pedestrian safety scheme; Lancashire County Council has said that it is unable to make any further contribution to the scheme; if the Parish Council was to implement its own scheme, approval on some of the issues where it relates to the highway would be required from County Council. Mr & Mrs Bagnall's offer of land was fully discussed. There were concerns about the cost to the Council for professional fees and construction work if the Council were to go ahead with its own scheme.

Resolution: to decline the offer of land and not to pursue the scheme as it was felt that the Council lacked funding and without the support of County Council the expertise to carry it out.

Mr & Mrs Bagnall are to be thanked for their generous offer and interest in improving pedestrian safety.

1412 **Foreshore**

Consideration of the position of the 'Redmond' memorial bench near to 'Spinney Cote'; further information had been received from Mrs Ridal on behalf of Redmond family and the councillors had been asked to look at a suggested new position for the bench; -also see Open Forum above. Also refer to previous minutes (ref 1327 and 1383). The bench's position, issues around this and principles involved were discussed

Resolution: not to move the bench but to leave it in its present position. This was a majority decision.

Request to place another memorial bench on the foreshore

Resolution: to agree to this in principle but not to make a decision on its position until the area has been inspected and a policy for seats on the foreshore has been formulated and agreed.

1413 **Burial Ground**

Risk assessment and annual inspection of memorials -refer to minute 1286, May 2009-formal inspection not due this year but any reported problems will be assessed.

Work on entrance; an estimate of £216 had been received from Tony Cowperthwaite for a day's work to clear the area at the east side of the entrance of tree stumps, vegetation etc.

Resolution: to accept this quotation and have the work carried out so that the area can be prepared as a future burial plot.

In spite of several phone calls, Information has not yet been received from the planning office about any impact the new proposals would have on the conditions of the granted planning application (minute ref 1399). This will continue to be pursued.

1414 **Planning Applications**

Applications received and dealt with under Standing Orders(20)

Application No.

10/00091/FUL Slyne Lodge, 92 Main Road, Slyne, LA2 6AZ

10/00173/FUL 74 Coastal Road, Hest Bank, LA2 6HQ

10/0012/TPO 10 Hatlex Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6ES

No issues were raised on any of the above applications and therefore it was decided not make any comments.

Planning permission granted

09/01005/FUL

8 The Knoll, Hest Bank, LA2 6BU

10/00021/FUL & 10/00020/LB

Beaumont Cote Manor, Slyne, LA2 6AB

10/00033/VCN

7 Rushley Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6EF

notification of public inquiry

09/00032/ENF

26 Hanging Green Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6JB

notification had also been received of the application for an Existing Lawful Development Certificate (ELDC) for the property but it was too late to be included on the agenda for this meeting.

1415 **Matters suggested by members for future consideration for information only-** decisions cannot be taken

The Council's participation in the May Fair celebrations -make a shield and arrange the barbecue

1416 **Date of next meeting** Monday 19 April 2010 at 7.30pm

Parish Assembly on Monday 12 April 2010 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm