

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2004 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present Mr Peter Millard (PM)- Chairman, Mr Stephen Jones (SJ), Mr Michael Jackson (MJ)
Mrs Andrea Johnson (AJ), Miss June Cohen- Kingsley (JC-K)

Clerk Mrs D Brookes

Also present for Open Forum: PC D Lowe, ECSO D Gwilliam, Mr I Salisbury, Mr A Leydon, Mr R Pritchard,
Mr P Walsh, Mrs Greaves, Mr R Greaves, Mr C Bluglass, Miss S Patel,
City Cllr M Thomas

479 **Apologies** none

Standing orders were suspended

Open Forum including Police & Communities Together (PACT) Meeting

PC Lowe reported that there had been 13 crimes reported in the past month, 7 involving youths and in addition 15 incidents of youth nuisance: this was a considerable increase on previous months and it was agreed that it was unacceptable. Groups of young people had been congregating in the village; many of the youth incidents were related to alcohol consumption. Investigations had been carried out by the police and police patrols had been increased particularly at weekends.

The Bowling Club had suffered considerable damage and it had been suggested that the pavilion verandah should be sealed up during the winter months to prevent youths congregating there; investigations of the cost of this or other possible options and sources of funding were to be made. Again it was emphasised that all incidents should be reported – the new police call number is 0845253545.

Mr Leydon, Mr Pritchard and Mr Walsh -Bowling Club Agreement; PM explained that as a result of a directive from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Council's are required to look at their leases and rents for land. It was the Council's intention to put arrangements with the village sports clubs on a more realistic and equitable footing and for this reason the Council was looking at the Bowling Club's present Agreement. It was expected that the Bowling Club would take full responsibility for the maintenance of the green but it would be able to apply to the Council for a grant and the Club could decide how to spend it. An advantage to the Club would be that it had a lease, a usual requirement when applying to funding bodies for grants. Any new agreement would not be brought into force until after the tenth anniversary of the present agreement in June 2005 and tenders for work on the green for the 2005 season could be sought as usual.

Mrs Greaves complained that the new bus shelter on Manor Lane did not provide adequate protection from wind and rain; possible modifications are to be looked into.

Cllr M Thomas had contacted City Contract Services about the removal of hedge trimmings after the cutting of the Bowling Club hedge and had been assured that they will be taken away in future.

Mr R Greaves spoke about the lack of involvement of residents in village matters; MJ pointed out the ongoing parish consultation on asset management as a means of involvement.

Mr Bluglass reported that the Arts Council funding for the youth shelter decoration project should now be in the Council's account. The amount spent on artist's fees and materials was slightly under the estimate and the possibility of using some of the excess to buy special varnish to protect the art work was being investigated.

MJ asked whether anything more could be organised for the youth. The Youth and Community Service apparently has some money available and is looking at ways to encourage more youth involvement, for example in the Rural Youth Forum.

480 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Proposal to accept these as a true record made by SJ, seconded by AJ and agreed.

481 **Matters arising from the minutes**

Parish Consultation, Asset Management Review; MJ had produced notices which are now displayed around the village and residents have been invited to send comments to the Council.

Vacancies on the Council; Lancaster City Council Elections officer had been informed of the vacancies and a Notice of Casual Vacancies published regarding the request for an election to fill them.

New bus shelter on Manor Lane had been fixed and M Ashton, the lengthsman, had concreted the floor. See complaint above- enquiries to be made about modification.

British Waterways, dog waste bins on the canal towpath; notification that bins have been supplied at Hatlex Lane and Hasty Brow Lane bridges and are being emptied free of charge; BW have limited resources but are willing to enter into joint agreements.

Cockling in Bay; still fairly large number operating off Bolton-le-Sands shore. Shore clean up organised by Morecambe Bay Partnership had taken place at the previous weekend; meeting was being organised to set up a new local group.

482 **Financial matters**

A receipts and payments report for the month was presented.
Current Account £4709.13, Savings Account £37140.54

Councillors Allowances; confirmation had been sought and received that only elected members are eligible to receive the basic allowance and all members are eligible to claim the travel allowances. Proposal to formally adopt the Councillors Allowances Scheme as discussed at the October meeting made by MJ, seconded by JC-K and agreed.

Donation to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (S137/118); proposal to make a payment of £50 made by SJ, seconded by PM and agreed. Formal thanks to be sent to Rev G Vickers and Mr & Mrs Nelson for their participation and help at the Remembrance Service.

Christmas trees; it was decided to erect three trees outside the Memorial Hall. DB to contact electrician.

483 **Payment of accounts**

Transfer from Savings to Current Account - none

Proposal to pay accounts as listed made by PM, seconded by SJ and agreed.

Cheque No.

100656	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	50.00	donation
100657	Mrs D Brookes	562.51	clerk's salary and expenses
100658	Petty cash	15.10	sundry items

484 **Tennis Club**

Youth shelter and vandalism; a letter had been received from the Club about the problems of youth vandalism and bad behaviour with resulting costs to the Club and loss of membership. The problem was being attributed to the presence of the youth shelter and consequently the Club requested the withdrawal of this facility.

The Council noted the dismay of the Club members and is aware that there is cause for concern but is trying to address the problem with the help of the police. A reply to be sent to this effect with an explanation that the Council tries to support all groups in the village and will continue to keep the situation under review.

Lease; Section 25 Notice was served in April, little progress since, clerk to check with Bannister Bates and to write to Club to see if the committee wishes to have further discussions.

485 **Football Club**

It is believed that discussions have been taking place between the solicitors for both parties and the clerk had spoken to Miss Glading of Bannister Bates Solicitors and had been told that a draft lease was almost

ready; a copy had been requested but to date nothing received. Clerk to make further contact to find out more about the Club's proposals, what point has been reached and to request minutes of meetings.

486 **Open spaces**

Recreation field

Repair and modification of swings as indicated by monthly inspection report; a quotation of £266.00 + VAT had been received from City Contract Services. Proposal to accept this and have the work carried out as soon as possible made by PM, seconded by AJ and agreed.

Damage to bollards; two had been reset in concrete but had been pushed over again. K Galley had quoted £2370 + VAT for larger heavy duty bollards set deeper into the ground. It had been noted that there are substantial bollards along the Crook of Lune cycleway and it was decided to contact City Council for more information and if possible a quotation for supplying and fixing bollards. K Galley to be asked to removed damaged bollards. Insurance claim for damage to bollards to be left for time being until further quotes for replacement received.

Floodlight on hard play area; K Galley had quoted £1480 + VAT for a single 6m post with 2x 400 watt lights. Proposal to accept this quotation made by MJ, seconded by PM and agreed. Lights to be set so as not to cause annoyance to neighbouring residents. Existing redundant posts to be removed.

Drainage; Mr Cowperthwaite had provided a verbal quotation of £8500 + VAT to make improvements to the drainage system; a written report and quotation had been requested but not yet received. MJ had found the name of another firm (AE Yates, Trenchless Solutions) which deals with drainage problems and it was decided to send a letter to it requesting information.

Disability Access; further progress when drainage problem solved. MJ produced a sketch for a possible path structure across the field.

MJ said that the Council should be receiving a report concerning disability access from R Tulej of Lancaster City Council.

Grass cutting 2005 season – tenders to be sought; area of foreshore and football pitches to be excluded.

Bowling green maintenance – tenders to be sought for 2005 season; after this it is expected that the Bowling Club will take full responsibility (see open forum above).

487 **Foreshore**

Tractor parking – J Graham; Miss Glading of Bannister Bates Solicitors had advised a licence for use of the land on the foreshore; details required are 1) charges -£100 per annum was confirmed, 2) terms -5 years, renewable was confirmed, 3) area, SJ to make measurements.

Land for Garage, Dr & Mrs Pearson; Miss Glading advised a lease. No further correspondence had been received from Dr & Mrs Pearson and it was decided that the clerk should write to them to explain that the Council is anxious to progress this, and if not resolved by Easter, payment of rent backdated to 1 October 2004 will be demanded.

488 **Planning Applications**

Application No.

04/01526/FUL erection of extensions to rear of and over existing garage to form garden room with bedrooms over with dormer windows to front and rear for Mr and Mrs R Atkins, 43 Sea View Drive no impact, no comments

Dealt with by sub-committee

04/01400/FUL demolition of existing conservatory, erection of new conservatory and utility room for Mr & Mrs R G Harrison, 6 Rushley Mount no impact, no comments

04/01469/FUL erection of a garage extension to the side Mr J Walling, 12 Prospect Drive no impact, no comments

Applications granted

04/01220/FUL Mr E S Robinson, Hatlex Cottage, 11 Hatlex Lane
04/01375/FUL J Whiley, 6 Sunningdale Crescent

Tree Preservation Order No 155(1989), trees at Peacock Lane; permission sought by Parish Council to crown raise and side prune as necessary T2,T3, T4 and A1.This is as the result of a request from the Highways Authority because branches are catching on buses.

Tree Preservation Order No 29(1976), trees at Beaumont Hall, Green Lane T1,T2,T3,T4,T11, and T13 thinning by 10% and removal of deadwood -permission granted.

Notice of Application for Restaurant Licence, by Jonathon Richard Pye and Erin Elizabeth Pye for 6 Coastal Road, to be known as Ruby's

Only comment was disappointment that historic name of Victoria Tearooms to be changed. Clerk asked to write to proprietors to ask them to reconsider name, copy also to be sent to Wright and Lord, Solicitors

Notice of Application for Transfer of Licence by Susan Debra Birkhead-Hughes and Gareth Scott Thomas William Lymer, Hest bank Hotel, 2 Hest Bank Lane -noted.

489 **Highways**

M6/Heysham Link, concern about impact on parish. Suggested that this should be open to wider discussion and included as a specific item in the Open Forum of the January 2005 meeting- agreed & will be advertised in village.

490 **Burial Ground**

Improvements to entrance on Bottomdale Road and provision of parking spaces; a site meeting had been attended by Mr John Jackson, Lancashire County Council Divisional Highways Officer, MJ, AJ and the clerk to discuss MJ's suggestions. Mr Jackson had supplied plans and MJ is to draw up ideas. Enquiries to be made of Lancaster City Council Planning Department whether planning permission will need to be sought.

491 **Parish Plan**

Mr John Stelfox had chaired a meeting of the Steering Committee held on 27 October 2004. Working groups (environment, social, economic and transport) had been set up and were making progress on their reports. The next meeting is to be held on 23 November.

492 **Correspondence**

Heysham News, 2 issues; CPRE, Countryside Voice; Clerks and Councils Direct; Community Futures, Community Focus, newsletter; North West in Bloom Competition report- generally quite complimentary-copy to Arden Close residents; Office of Deputy Prime Minister, New Ethical Framework Regulations come into force 14 November can be found on www.hmso.gov.uk.

Minutes of the meeting of the Lancaster Area Rural Road Safety Committee held on Thursday 14 October.

Minutes of the meeting of the Lancaster District Sustainable Transport Forum held on Wednesday 22 September. -all above circulated

Lancashire County Council, Bus Service Funding and Parish Partnership – briefing for members to be held on Monday 13 December- MJ might attend.

AJ reported on the Morecambe Bay Partnership conference which she had attended; cockle picking likely to continue for 2-3 years; wind farm construction seems unlikely for at least 10 years.

MJ had sent comments to the Government Boundary Commission regarding the consultation. He was reminded that he must make it clear if he is commenting on any matter as an individual that it is his personal view and not necessarily the view of the Council.

493 **Matters for future discussion**

AJ would be attending the Police Forum on 26 November.

Assets Register comments and discussion at January meeting.

MJ suggested that the Tree Wardens are asked if they are likely to have any major expenditure in the next financial year -consider for budget.

494 **Date of next meeting** Monday 20 December at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 10.20pm.