

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL  
held on MONDAY 21 DECEMBER 2009 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

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

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

**1361 To receive apologies for absence**

CLlr Peter Millard

**1362 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 S Rogerson and 5 residents. Apologies were received from PC D Lowe, PCSO J Dawes and City Cllr M Thomas.

- Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting; Officers were not present but a report had been received. Six incidents had been dealt with, all vehicle related, two complaints of vehicles being driven inappropriately along Lancaster Road and four thefts from or damage to vehicles. Twelve offences were recorded in the same period last year.
- Cllr Rogerson reported that at the request of the residents of Spinney Cote, the Shore, she had been to look at the position of the memorial seat about which they are complaining.
- Five residents from the Manor Crescent area expressed concerns about the possibility of a plot of land off Manor Road being used for allotments. This is City Council housing land. It is unlikely to be used for this purpose because it is too small and not suitable.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

**1363 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16 November 2009 as a true record. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

**1364 Progress reports (information only)**

The following was noted:

Permission has been granted to carry out work on the trees covered by a TPO in Hanging Green Wood -Mr Walton will be asked to do this.

The diseased tree on Shady Lane has been inspected and the County Council is waiting for a decision.

The memorial seat at the burial ground is in position and the Buck family have expressed their appreciation.

The Tennis Club lease has been finalised

The judges report of the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition had been received and included comments on some litter and weeds, the need for a little extra care of bus shelters, seats and litter bins but otherwise no major problems were reported

The closure of Hasty Brow Road on Tuesday 23 February is proposed. This is to enable BT Openreach to carry out work.

Flooding issues -a meeting had been held attended by Officers from County Council, City Council and the Environment Agency along with City Councillors and residents. Some progress seems to have been made and work continues, supported by a grant, on investigations into the effect that the proposed link road will have on flooding in the area and the drainage systems that will be required. A further meeting to report progress will be held in June. A meeting was also held with the Lancaster Fire Station Manager and residents who were seeking assurances over the action that would be taken when flooding threatened.

**1365 Administration**

Allotments- letters to land owners had elicited only one response. This was from Lancaster City Council which sent details of land in their ownership but none of this is likely to be suitable for allotments.

The clerk had obtained information about the procedures for establishing allotments -left in abeyance while suitable land is further investigated.

1366 **Financial matters**

**Resolution:** to accept the monthly report of receipts and expenditure presented by the clerk.

Current Account £1265.34 Savings Account £28881.59

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal; subsequent to the resolution to make a donation of £55 (minute ref 1351), a cheque for £50 was mistakenly drawn up, it was decided to leave the donation at £50 for this year.

Payment for grass cutting at the football ground, under a term in the lease with Slyne with Hest Football Club the Council pays 50% of the summer grass cutting costs

**Resolution:** to pay £338.10 to SwH FC, this being 50% of the bill.

Renewal of clerk's membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks

**Resolution:** to renew the membership and to pay the fee of £118

Payment towards fee for course attended by clerk. This was a revision course linked with the portfolio being written for the Certificate in Local Council Administration. Total cost £88, course fee £80 plus £8 for purchase of latest edition of the Practitioners' Guide from NALC.

**Resolution:** to pay half the course fee plus the cost of the Guide.

Tennis Club rent; the newly agreed lease runs from 1 December 2009. Under previous arrangements the rent was paid in April and therefore it will be necessary to make an amendment to the next payment. Decided to leave it until April to make the adjustments.

Inspection of accounts -this had been carried out by Cllr Scothern and everything was found to be satisfactory. However note was taken of the recommendations made by the Independent Auditor and also to review the assets register with particular regard to the value of the assets.

Grants; the new grants policy makes for greater accountability of any money given to organisations. Slyne with Hest Bowling Club has made a submission for support towards the cost of work on the veranda but this appears to be for work already done and the Council cannot make retrospective awards. Support for the Slyne with Hest Bowling Club, Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall and other organisations will be discussed by the Council at its budget meeting.

1367 **Payment of accounts**

**Resolution:** to authorise the transfer of £2000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account

**Resolution:** to pay the accounts as listed

	DD	Lancaster City Council	17.00	9th instalment- burial ground rates
	DD	BT	151.18	telephone bill
Chq.	101232	T Cowperthwaite	46.00	work on boardwalk at recreation field
	101233	M Ashton	513.00	work on boardwalk at recreation field
	101234	David Hird	446.00	repair of wall at the pound
	101235	North West Air Ambulance	50.00	donation (minute ref 1351) -S137
	101236	RBS Invoice Finance Ltd	25.66	bus shelter window cleaning
	101237	e.on	16.25	electricity bill for burial ground
	101238	Lancaster City Council	91.42	play equipment inspection (2 months)
	101239	Bannister Bates Conveyancing	402.50	professional charges -Tennis Club lease
	101240	Printing Plus	163.77	printing of village newsletter
	101241	Mr R McGuire	102.40	groundsman's pay
	101242	Mrs D Brookes	801.67	clerk's salary & expenses
	101243	Petty cash	43.89	sundry items
	101244	Slyne with Hest Football Club	338.10	50% of grass cutting costs
	101245	SLCC	118.00	clerk's membership of SLCC
	101246	Lancashire & Merseyside CTP	48.00	payment for clerk's training

### 1368 Highways

Flooding at Hest Bank Lane/Sea View Drive snicket; a complaint had been received and flooding is allegedly caused by a blocked or damaged drain. The responsibility for the snicket is uncertain although the Council does carry out some minor maintenance work from time to time. As this flooding could possibly affect the United Utilities electricity sub-station it was decided to contact them.

Proposal by Lancashire County Council to revoke the present speed restriction of 50mph on the A6, Lancaster Road and to introduce a speed limit of 40mph -no comments

Pedestrian Safety Improvement on Hest Bank Lane; consideration of Mr Bagnall's offer to enter into discussions with the Council with a view to donating, at no cost to themselves, a small section of their garden to create a raised footpath. The Council whilst looking favourably at this offer decided to refer back to Lancashire County Council and its proposed scheme before proceeding with discussions.

### 1369 Open spaces

Improvement to surface beneath tower slide at the play area;

Resolution: to accept the quotation of £139.50 +VAT provided by Lancaster City Council Contract Services to add one cube of tree bark.

Grass cutting and grounds maintenance; a quotation for grass cutting for the 2010 season was examined alongside projected figures for the purchase of a mower, associated maintenance costs, insurance and the cost of a groundsman's time.

The standard of service of provided by contractors in previous years was discussed. Clarification of the frequency of cuts quoted for is to be requested. Three quotations had been requested but to date only one received and it was decided to wait to see if any more were forthcoming.

There would be a considerable initial outlay, if the Council were to decide to do the grass cutting independently, however the spread of the costs over a (5 year) period would need to be taken into account.

A decision was deferred.

### 1370 Foreshore

Information Plaque -a proof had been received from the manufacturers; minor alterations to the wording in the text were suggested. The Lancashire and Blackpool Tourist Board is to be contacted and asked to confirm the information which they wish to have included on the plaque.

Resolution; subject to the above, to approve the design for the plaque.

### 1371 Burial Ground

Improvements to entrance; the clerk had made contact with a civil engineer who is willing to work on an hourly basis, to provide advice and oversee the alterations.

Resolution; to give the clerk authority to proceed with this and to arrange a meeting with the civil engineer to discuss what is required.

### 1372 Planning applications

Applications received and dealt with under Standing Order 20

09/01083/FUL Stevenstone, 121 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6AH

09/01132/FUL 12 Hatlex Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6EZ

09/01005/FUL 8 The Knoll, Hest Bank, LA2 6BU

No issues raised on any of the above

Applications for consideration by full council

09/01076/FUL 9 Ashworth Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6EY

The Council has concern that this application is somewhat contrary to statement 4 of the Village Design Statement 2006. The proposal is for a substantial increase in height of the property and will lead to some domination of the canalside scene and existing properties

09/01104/FUL Brantholme, Hasty Brow Road, Slyne, LA2 6AG

The Council accepts that it is government policy to encourage 'green' energy sources and considerable mitigating information has been submitted by the developers. However this development is within the North Lancashire Green Belt and the Council has looked at PPG2 (Green Belt) and policies E2, E4, E12 and

E22 of the Lancaster Core Strategy (former Lancaster Local Plan) and suggests regard should be given to the statements within these policies. Even a single wind turbine of this size will be intrusive and have some impact on the open character of the landscape. There is no substantial evidence in the submission that it will not have an impact on the protected bat populations and bird populations of the adjacent Reanes Wood. Although each would have to be considered on its merit, if planning consent is given, it is setting a precedent for other similar developments throughout the village.

Planning permission granted

09/00941/FUL            Beaumont Grange Farm, Green Lane, Slyne, LA2 6BG  
09/01023/FUL            6 Sunningdale Crescent, Hest Bank, LA2 6DE  
09/01083/FUL            Stevenstone, 121 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6AH

Planning permission refused

09/01043/FUL            Folly Farm, Folly Lane, Slyne, LA2 6AB

1373 **Matters suggested by members for future consideration**

Overgrowing trees and hedges along various roads and paths

1374 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 18 January 2010 at 7.30pm  
Cllr Newbold gave apologies in advance for not being able to attend.

Date of budget meeting Monday 11 January 2010 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.