

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2007 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present Mr Peter Millard(PM) –Chairman, Mr Stephen Jones(SJ), Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K), Mrs Andrea Johnson(AJ), Mr Carl Willett (CW)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes(DB)

Also present for Open Forum City Cllr M Thomas, Mr J Leach

884 **Apologies** Cllr Stewart Scothern, Cllr Julian Newbold, PC D Lowe

Standing orders were suspended

Open Forum

Mr Leach reported that he had been trying to obtain information about the repair of the damage to the canal bridges but had had only limited success. It was agreed that it is important to continue to press for some sort of restriction over traffic using the bridges, to try to prevent further damage to these already weakened structures and to ensure that British Waterways carry out speedy repairs. It had been pointed out at a Lancaster Local meeting attended by AJ that Local Authority resources are allocated on a points system; enforcement measures whether for the bridges or to reduce traffic and speed through the whole village could be costly.

Cllr Thomas had been making enquiries about sources of funding for the proposed signage for the foreshore and had been in contact with County Cllr Jones and also Lancaster City Council Engineers Department. Cllr Jones's allocated £1000 allowance from County Council has already been earmarked for a project in Morecambe. Cllr Thomas had been promised some information from City Council and will pass this on when received.

Cllr Thomas had concerns about the litter and fly tipping along Hasty Brow Road. The clerk had already spoken to City Contract Services about the lack of cleaning and had been promised that some action would be taken but to date nothing had happened. This is to be followed up. Other sites, for example, Folly Lane, Ancliffe Lane, Green Lane, where fly tipping is prevalent were discussed. It was suggested that charges now being made by City Council for disposal of rubbish are exacerbating the problem.

The visitors left the meeting and standing orders were reinstated

885 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

It was resolved to accept these as a true record, proposal made by JC-K and seconded by AJ.

886 **Matters arising from the minutes**

Reanes Wood; a letter sent to Maxine Knagg, Lancaster City Council Tree Protection Officer with concerns about the potential for damage to the trees had been acknowledged and the advice given is that if any tree work is commenced within the wood it should be reported to the Planning Services Department and the planning authority would investigate any such incident. The trees are legally protected by the Tree Preservation Order no 336 (2004).

Lights on the path on the recreation field; these have now been put on a timer and are no longer lit overnight.

887 **Financial Matters**

A report of receipts and payments during the previous month was presented by the clerk .

Current Account £1032.08, Savings Account £19742.78

It was noted that the Audit Commission has extended the appointment of BDO Stoy Hayward as auditor to parish councils for the financial year 2006/07. The Commission has approved new fees to operate from 2006/07.

Grant to Bowling Club to offset some of the maintenance costs for the green in 2007; it was resolved to pay a grant of £1650, proposal made by JC-K and seconded by SJ. Allocation made in budget and payment to be made in financial year 2007/08.

North West in Bloom competition and Lancashire Best Kept Village competition; it was resolved to enter the competitions and pay the appropriate fees (NW in B, £30. LBKV,£10), proposal made by SJ and seconded by CW.

Burial Ground, increase of fees; it had been noted that Lancaster City Council had recently proposed increases in its fees for burials. A suggestion was made to increase the Parish Council's fees to the level of the City Council's fees less 25%. It was decided to investigate the fees charged by the City Council, local parishes and churches before making a decision and it was deferred to the next agenda.

Proposal for the provision of an additional police car for the 'greater Carnforth area'-report on meeting attended by PM; there is apparently one police vehicle allocated to this area and it was proposed that parishes within the area should provide funding to operate another vehicle. It was felt by this Council that alternatives had not been fully explored, that the precept had already been set so funding would not be readily available and overall that this is a Police Authority matter.

888 Payment of Accounts

It was resolved to transfer £7000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account ; proposal made by SJ and seconded by AJ.

It was resolved to pay the accounts as listed; proposal made by JC-K and seconded by AJ.

Chq No.

100916	P & L Bates	400.02	rock & stone for foreshore improvements
100917	Lancaster City Council	29.38	play equipment monthly inspection
100918	Lancaster City Council	2689.58	grass cutting/grounds maintenance 2006 season
100919	Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council	3144.00	contribution to lengthman scheme
100920	Olympia Commercial Cleaning	23.83	bus shelter window cleaning
100921	Leander Architectural	182.19	plaque for pound and stocks
100922	Mrs D Brookes	688.76	clerk's salary and expenses
100923	Petty cash	4.63	sundry items
DD	BT	120.31	telephone bill
100924	Morecambe Bay Partnership	200.00	purchase of beach cleaning equipment

889 Open Spaces

Tenders for village grass cutting contract for 2007 season; four quotations were received. It was resolved to accept the quotation provided by City Contract Services and to award them the grass cutting contract, proposal made by SJ and seconded by PM. Quotation for general grass cutting is £2325, for burial ground, £800 and for the soccer field at Bottomdale £532 giving a total of £3657+VAT; in addition grassed areas on foreshore to be cut if and when needed.

Play equipment inspection 2007; it was resolved to accept the quotation of £360 +VAT provided by City Contract Services, proposal made by SJ and seconded by JC-K.

Play equipment safety surfaces; a representative of Matta Products had visited the play area and quotations had been received to provide safety matting under the equipment, this is approx. £65 per square metre. It was decided to obtain more information on the various types of safety surfaces. However a decision on whether to carry out work on the surfaces will probably have to wait until the outcome of the Lottery bid for improvements to the recreation field is known.

It was also noted that the recent inspection report from Contract Services mentioned the lack of signage at the play area.

Dog waste bin -provision of an additional bin in Hatlex Lane near to the canal; Lancashire County Council has given permission to site a bin on the verge at the corner of Ashworth Drive and City Contract Services has given agreement to emptying a bin. It was resolved to purchase a dog waste bin, cost £301.25 +VAT, from Wybone, proposal made by SJ and seconded by CW.

Trees in Hanging Green Wood; the Tree Wardens had expressed some concern about two trees in the wood and consideration was given to having them felled or cut down, mainly on the grounds of safety. It was agreed to seek further advice from Mr P Walton, Tree Specialist, and as the trees are protected by a TPO to make application to Lancaster City Council for work to be carried out on them.

Village Task Force for small maintenance jobs and to tidy up the village; the first meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 April at 7.00pm.

Lease for Slyne with Hest Football Club; a letter had been received from Bannister Bates Solicitors requesting confirmation of the land which is to be included in the new Lease. It was agreed that this is the land covered by the previous lease and does not include any additional land which is at present leased to Mr G Riley.

Lease for Tennis Club; the points raised by the Tennis Club Committee had been discussed at a meeting of Parish Council representatives and Tennis Club Officers and were reported to the Council.

The following was agreed:

to correct the plan attached to the lease to show more accurately the area of the pavilion and to exclude the path in front of the pavilion and those surrounding the courts;

to exclude reference to the premises, it was agreed that the pavilion belongs to the Club, but not the toilets and storeroom. The Council is prepared to hand over the toilets and storeroom to the Club under formal agreement;

the term of the lease will be twenty five years, with a rent of £150 per annum rising by £5 per annum for the first four years and thereafter with a review at the end of every subsequent five year period;

to delete certain clauses referring to the premises and to make small amendments to make the lease specific to the Club.

These are to be conveyed to the solicitor with a request for a new draft of the lease.

Lease for Bowling Club; the Bowling Club Committee had raised several points regarding the draft lease and after discussion of these the following was agreed:

to modify the plan attached to the lease to indicate the position of the Club's marking hut;

the term of the lease will be twenty five years, with a rent of £150 per annum for the first five years and £200 per annum for the next five years and thereafter with a review at the end of every subsequent five year period

to add to the clause referring to the sale or supply of intoxicating liquor - ' without the necessary licence being obtained' ;

to make small amendments to make the lease specific to the Club.

These are to be conveyed to the solicitor with a request for a new draft of the lease.

890 **Foreshore**

Claim by Dr & Mrs Pearson regarding land on which garage is situated; this is still being dealt with by the solicitor and further information is awaited. Advice from the Society of Local Council Clerks suggests that that as the land is registered it will till remain as Common Land whatever the outcome -further discussion deferred

Foreshore safety signage; confirmation of a decision by Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council about the signs they intend to erect is still awaited; following this it is the intention to contact Lancaster City Council Engineers Department which offered advice about getting the signs manufactured so that they are similar to the ones on Morecambe promenade -deferred to next agenda.

Equipment for beach cleaning; regular beach cleans are held and volunteers collect large amounts of litter and debris. It has been suggested by Morecambe Bay Partnership Beach Clean Officer that in partnership with Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council it would be more convenient and efficient if the local team has its own set of equipment. It was resolved to make a grant of £200 towards the purchase of equipment, proposed by PM and seconded by AJ.

Drainage work on the dyke adjacent to Shorefield Caravan Park-deferred from the October meeting (832); it was resolved to accept the quotation of £1050 +VAT and to ask Mr T Cowperthwaite to carry out the work, proposed by AJ and seconded by CW.

891 **Planning Applications**

Application No.

07/00176/FUL erection of single storey extension to rear and velux windows to front, rear and side
for Miss K Duhs, 16 Goodwood Avenue no comments

07/00190/FUL erection of single storey extension to rear
for Mr & Mrs Butcher, 30 Manor Road no comments

dealt with by sub-committee

07/00039/FUL erection of single storey extension to rear
for Mr & Mrs I Ireland, Londis Convenience Store, 13 Manor Road no comments

07/00086/FUL erection of single storey extension to front and rear
for Mr & Mrs Trevett, 25 Prospect Drive no comments

07/00079/FUL erection of a single storey side extension
for Mr W Sharples, Station Road Deli, 2B Station Road
Parish Council has been given to understand that residents of neighbouring
properties have concerns because it affects access to rear of properties
particularly emergency access and if this is so the Council would expect it to be
taken into consideration

07/00068/FUL alteration to existing kitchen extension
for Matt & Debbie Anderson, 7 Hest Bank Lane no comments

Applications granted

06/01445/FUL Mr & Mrs Wood, 10 Ascot Gardens
06/01523/FUL Mr & Mrs Kennon, 12 Throstle Grove
06/01551/FUL Fairfield Developers, 2 Warren Drive

Notification of Appeal to Secretary of State

06/01099/FUL Mr & Mrs D Casson, Geiranger, Lancaster Road

Listed Buildings and structures; a letter had been sent to Mr S Gardner, Lancaster City Council, Senior Conservation Officer with concerns about the milestone on Hest Bank Lane because it has been noted that in a planning application there are proposals to move it. Concern has also been expressed about the damage to the canal bridges which are listed structures. To date no reply has been received.

892 **Burial Ground**

Memorial testing and any urgent work needing to be carried out- all tests had not been completed- deferred

Improvements to entrance -no plans yet received from Mr Gill -deferred

893 **Highways**

Traffic and Safety Issues; Mr Alistair McMurray of Lancashire County Council had written acknowledging a meeting with JN to identify concerns relating to parking near Hest Bank Bridge and on-street parking near to Webb's Garage on Hest Bank Lane. He promised to also look at the problem of damage to the canal bridges and to investigate the issues further together and try to identify measures that will remedy the situation.

A letter had also been received from British Waterways with their concerns about damage to bridges in this and other areas apparently because of an increase in their use by trucks and other large vehicles. The current programme of repair is within the constraints of a limited budget. They have had meetings with the highway authorities in a bid to address the cause of the problem generally and look at measures to reduce the risk. Specifically engineers and heritage advisors had visited the Hest Bank Lane bridge and arranged a meeting on 2nd February with the County Council. To date, it was noted, that safety netting had been erected along the parapet of the bridge and the towpath beneath the bridge had been closed for safety.

894 **Correspondence**

Lancashire Playing Fields Association newsletter, 'The Playing Field'; Lancashire County Council, Overview and Scrutiny Review of Bus Shelters; Lancashire County Council, Consultation Paper on Engaging Communities and Neighbourhoods; Lancaster City Council, Proposals for Unitary Government Status; NALC, review of Quality Parish Council Scheme; Post watch, Post Office Network Consultation; Communities and Local Government, Revised Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members.

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

Noted that the proposals for the M6 to Heysham Link are to be the subject of a Public Inquiry.

896 **Date of next** meeting Monday 19 March 2007 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 10.15pm