

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 20 JULY 2015 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mr Stewart Scothern, Miss June Cohen-Kingsley, Mr Roland Stretch,
Mr Stephen Jones, Mrs Joanne Leeman

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

2187 To receive apologies for absence none

Open Forum

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

Present for the Open Forum: City Cllr M Thomas, City Cllr S Rogerson

- Further development of a Neighbourhood Plan and working alongside the Lancaster City Council District Plan was discussed. Green Belt boundaries, potential for agricultural related building and businesses along the new link road and sites for housing development were issues raised. Consideration is to be given to a survey being carried out to determine local housing needs.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

2188 To record Declarations of Interest

None

2189 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 June 2015 as a true record. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2190 Progress Reports (for information only)

- Toilets on canal: plans to reopen the toilet block by the Canals and Rivers Trust have been shelved so demolition procedure has been started by City Council -because of health and safety compliance the work could take some weeks.
- Recreation field play area; new fencing is due to be erected this week.
- Foreshore; more boulders have been put in position to protect the grassed areas.
- Foreshore -outlet pipe; the condition of this is being closely monitored by the Environment Agency and they are carrying out work to replace the supporting gravel that is being washed away on high tides.
- Sea View Drive handrail- the materials have been ordered and work will be carried out in the near future.
- Safety on Bottomdale Road; Lancashire County Highway Services are to make a site inspection and may consider additional 'Slow' markings to warn motorists about pedestrians in the road.
- FROGS have organised a litter pick on the recreation field
- Boundary Commission- Electoral Review of Lancashire -circulated to councillors for comment and a notice placed on the Council notice board
- County Council -Countywide Sign Posting Project -circulated to councillors for comment

2191 Administration

A grant was received from ENTRUST/LEF for the recreation field development project through the May Fair Committee. Recently an inspection has been carried out and as the May Fair Committee is no longer in existence ENTRUST is seeking confirmation of continuing maintenance of the recreation field.

Resolution: to inform ENTRUST that the Parish Council will take on the responsibility for the continuing maintenance of the recreation field and the area will be retained in Parish Council ownership and remain open for public use.

Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall Committee's request for permission to replace the cowls on the roof of the hall: the cowls are not immediately dangerous but their condition is deteriorating and the Committee feels that it would seem sensible to have them replaced. The cowls protect the openings of the ducts in the ceiling of the main hall which ensure circulation of air and control of humidity. The work will be at the Committee's expense.

Resolution; to give the Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall Committee permission to go ahead with the work.

Report from the Neighbourhood Plan meeting held on Tuesday 7th July 2015; four councillors, the clerk and six members of the public attended along with two Officers from Lancaster City Council Planning Department, Mr P Hatch and Mrs J Milligan, who came to explain some of the details of Neighbourhood Plans. It was felt that with the core of people it should be possible to create a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish but it was not finally decided when would be the best time to start. The City Council is still working on its Local Plan and it may be sensible to wait for the completion of this and then link up with it. Topics discussed for possible incorporation into a plan were the Green Belt and parish boundaries, potential development along the new bypass, housing needs and a housing survey with the provision of areas for building smaller properties, the shoreline, tourism and the protection of historical assets. The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 4th August.

Appointment of a groundskeeper; from a list of six applicants, four were chosen for interview. Interviews are to be held on Monday 27th July and Cllrs Scothern, Cohen-Kingsley and Stretch will attend.

2192 Financial matters

Resolution: to accept the quarterly receipts and payments report presented by the clerk.

Current Account £1,876.51 Savings Account £86,310.49

Donation towards a World War I 'Roll of Honour' plaque for the Memorial Hall; to link with the archiving of material from the World War I commemoration exhibition held in 2014 it is proposed to erect a plaque on which the names of all the men from the parish who served in the war are listed. The cost of the plaque will be £240 and there is approximately £100 left over from the grants received for the exhibition.

Resolution: to donate £100 towards the cost of purchase of the plaque (using the power under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972).

Slyne with Hest Scout & Guide HQ which is located on Parish Council land; there have been a number of comments about the state of the HQ and the need for some refurbishment work to be carried out. Enquiries indicate that the Slyne with Hest Scout and Guide management Committee have very little money for this. It has been suggested to them that they make an application to County Cllr A P Jones for some funding from the Local members Grants Scheme. Whether this has been done yet is not known. Councillors felt that the S & G Committee should be showing some commitment by its own fund raising. However if details of costings for refurbishment work, especially on the exterior of the building, along with bank accounts, fund raising and any other grant applications etc. were to be supplied the Council would consider giving support.

2193 Open Spaces

Recreation field issues; a meeting attended by Councillors J Leeman and R Stretch and the clerk was held on Tuesday 23 June 2015 with Penny Bennett -landscape architect and Julie Paton -Lancashire County Council Project Officer. An inspection of the field was made. Subsequently a report was received from P Bennett. This acknowledges that there are faults.

Mr Ross of Duncan Ross Limited has made a further inspection of the field and also spoken to Mr Tony Cowperthwaite who put some drains in the field approx. ten years ago. Mr Ross's brief report was discussed and he has offered a more comprehensive report which the Council has agreed it would like to receive. Mr Ross suggested that there may be inadequate drainage, that drains may be blocked, that existing drains may have been damaged or some drains which have been said to have been installed have not been and overall the current drainage is not satisfactory. The question was raised as to whether the overall design of the scheme is at fault, the workmanship is at fault or both are.

It was decided to write to the manager of the contractors Newground (Groundworks) to explain the problems that have been experienced and to ask for his assessment and to copy in Lancashire County Council Environment Projects Manager. Meanwhile the solicitor is to be asked to ascertain the approximate cost of employing an Expert Witness should the Council decide to go to litigation.

As there is no Council meeting in August, it was agreed that an extraordinary could be called if it was necessary to make progress in resolving these issues.

Improvements to the path round the perimeter of the recreation field; three quotations for work on the path have been obtained.

Resolution: to accept the quotation from Mr M Ashton of £2354 (ex VAT) for materials and hire of equipment, plus approx. 3 days labour taken from the lengthsman scheme allowance and to have the work carried out.

Refurbishment of some of the play equipment: a recent inspection report from Lancaster City Council (LCC) indicated that some of the play equipment needs attention. A quotation for the work has been obtained from LCC, i.e. £722.00 +Vat. As per the agreement with LCC for playground maintenance there would be a deduction of £100 from this cost. (£622.00 +Vat payable).

Resolution: to accept this quotation and to have the work carried out.

Provision of a junior football pitch with nets; because of the present difficulties with flooding and the unsatisfactory condition of the ground for a football pitch as planned, the provision of a small 'kick-about' pitch on the drier area to the south of the bowling green has been suggested. The cost to mark out a pitch and supply two junior posts has been quoted as £770 +Vat. by LCC.

Resolution: to accept this quotation and to have a junior pitch installed.

Consideration of any issues arising from the open space inspections; not all the inspections had been completed- deferred to next meeting.

Consideration of a site meeting with the Canal and River Trust (CART) to discuss improvements to the canal infrastructure; this suggestion has been made by a representative from CART. Cllr Leeman and Cllr Jones are willing to attend a meeting.

2194 Burial Ground

Reconsideration of the numbering of the memorials: this suggestion was made some time ago but left in abeyance; numbering would help to identify the graves more easily. It was decided to go ahead with this and the cost of the numbered discs is to be sought. New notices will be displayed to explain to the public the intention of numbering the memorials.

It has been noted that cars are being left parked for periods of time by people who are not visiting the Burial ground. It was decided not to take any immediate action but to monitor what is happening.

2195 Planning Applications

Applications received

15/00665/ADV Slyne Lodge, 92 Main Road, Slyne, LA2 6AZ

15/0092/TCA Slyne Lodge, 92 Main Road, Slyne, LA2 6AZ

No issues were raised over the above applications

Notification of permission granted

15/00205/FUL 10 Sea View Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6BY

15/00311/FUL 34 Prospect Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6HZ

15/00446/FUL 64 Main Road, Slyne, LA2 6LE

15/00452/FUL Belmont Farm, Hasty Brow, Slyne, LA2 6AG

15/00453/FUL Belmont Farm, Hasty Brow, Slyne, LA2 6AG

15/00464/FUL 14 Peacock Crescent, Hest Bank, LA2 6EN

2196 Payment of Accounts

Resolution: to authorise the transfer of £9,000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account.

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed:

	DD	Eon	11.31	electricity bill -burial ground
Cheque	101811	P Walton Tree Services	400.00	work on trees in Hanging Green wood
	101812	Envirocare	1530.00	grass cutting
	101813	P & L Barton Ltd.	396.49	stone for foreshore
	101814	Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council	3123.00	contribution to lengthsman scheme
	101815	Mains Business Equipment	115.40	service of photocopier + stationery
	101816	Mr M Ashton	14.34	open spaces maintenance materials
	101817	Mrs D Brookes	831.72	clerk's salary
	101818	Petty cash	16.48	postage + Cllr S Jones allowance
	101819	HMRC	362.36	NIC & PAYE
	101820	Cllr S Scothern	50.00	chairman's allowance
	101821	Cllr J Leeman	10.00	councillor's allowance
	101822	Cllr J Cohen-Kingsley	10.00	councillor's allowance
	101823	Cllr R Stretch	10.00	councillor's allowance
	101824	Lancaster Canal Trust	14.00	membership fee (minute ref 2179)

2197 Matters raised by members for future consideration

SS -overgrowing hedge on Peacock Lane becoming a hazard for pedestrians

2198 Date of next meeting Monday 21 September 2015 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.