

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL  
held on MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2010 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

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

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

Also present Mr A Trevvett

**1478 To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Julian Newbold -shift working

Resolution: to approve the reason for absence

**1479 To record Declarations of Interest**

None

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

**Open Forum**

Present for the Open Forum; Cllr S Rogerson, Mr J Leach, PCSO J Dawes, Mr J Parker, Mr R Greaves  
Apologies were received from Cllr M Thomas

- Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting PCSO Dawes reported that in July/August two incidents of anti-social behaviour, one vehicle nuisance and five crimes had been recorded and in August/September there were no anti-social incidents and only one vehicle nuisance and one crime recorded. Mr Leach enquired about the enforcement of the new speed limit on Lancaster Road (A6). The Police are aware of speeding issues and are monitoring and keeping a check on the problem.
- No County or City Council matters were raised.
- Mr Parker enquired about the extent of the work being done in Hanging Green Wood. Mr Greaves has carried out a considerable amount of work and an assessment of further work is due to be carried out at a meeting with Lancaster City Council's Tree Protection Officer in the very near future.
- Mr Greaves expressed concern about the amount of litter that is left on many roadside verges.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated.

**1480 Minutes of the previous**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19 July 2010 as a true record, along with the report of financial activities and planning matters between the July & September meetings These were duly signed by the Chairman.

**1481 Progress Reports (for information only)**

- The path from Highfield Drive to Marine Drive has been inspected by County Council and 'the public right of way is at a standard that is acceptable for safe use by the public'.
- Arden Close has again be nominated for an award in the North West in Bloom competition
- A property on the Shore has recently been sold. Following a request for information about access over parish council land an offer of a Deed of Easement was made through the council's solicitor, but declined.
- Lancaster City Council Planning Enforcement Team has investigated the Bed & Breakfast sign on Marine Drive and planning permission is not required. The sign at 'Concorde' on Marine Drive is still under investigation
- The Equality Act 2010 comes into force on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010.

1482 **Administration**

Consideration of issues raised relating to the closure of the public toilets in the village; -previous to the council meeting a public meeting had been held to discuss the toilet closures by Lancaster City Council and to explore the possibility of reopening them with business and community involvement. Ten members of the public attended the meeting. It had been confirmed that the toilet block on the canal bank does belong to the City Council, as does the one on the foreshore. Mr M Davies of Lancaster City Council had confirmed that there was still some possibility of financial support from City Council if the responsibility for maintenance was taken on by the Parish Council or others but a decision on the future of the toilets would have to be made quickly. One person had offered support and was willing to consider taking on the unlocking and locking of the blocks each day. As no viable alternative to the closure of the toilet blocks was forthcoming from the meeting, the status quo remains and City Council will be informed of this.

Consideration of Lancaster City Council's offer to collect unwanted bulky household items through the Bulky Matters Scheme at a reduce rate in the rural parishes. It was thought that this would not be practical and worthwhile and therefore it was decided not to express an interest in the scheme.

Consideration of the approval of the purchase of a large pan for use at the May Fair barbecue  
Resolution: to give Cllr Scothern authority to purchase a suitable pan at a cost of no more than £50.00.

1483 **Financial Matters**

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

Current Account £4,717.55 Savings Account £38,632.75

Small business rate relief had been applied to the Non Domestic Rate Bill for Slyne Cemetery thus reducing the actual annual payment to £87.39. This amount has already been paid and Direct Debit payments have been suspended.

Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2010 -the audit has now been completed by BDO LLP and in the Auditor's Report no matters were raised which require attention by the Council. The Annual Return was presented to the Council, now that the audit opinion has been given

Resolution; to approve and accept the Annual Return

A notice of the conclusion of audit will be displayed on the main council notice board for 14 days.

1484 **Payment of accounts**

Due to administrative problems with a transfer of funds from the Deposit Account to the Current Account, £5000 was eventually transferred, not £6000 as resolved at the July meeting. This has been dealt with but Alliance and Leicester Bank have made bank charges which are being contested.

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed

Chq 101314	United Utilities Water	48.36	water bill for Burial Ground
101315	Mr R McGuire	112.00	groundsman's pay
101316	Mrs D Brookes	773.27	clerk's salary & expenses
101317	Petty cash	36.17	sundry items
101318	SHMH	180.00	reimbursement of incorrect payment
101319	Mr M Ashton	133.63	purchase of various materials for maintenance work
101320	Signs Express	33.08	50% deposit for purchase of signs

1485 **Open Spaces**

Consideration of the approval of the purchase from Lancaster City Council Direct Services of Spring bulbs for the tubs, total cost £54.

Resolution: to approve the purchase

Reconsideration of Preschool's request to move the wooden storage hut from the side of the Memorial Hall on to Council land at the back of the hall (*deferred from last meeting*) and consideration of an alternative storage solution for the Memorial Hall proposed by the Memorial Hall Management Committee. The proposal is for the erection of a steel shelter, from Glasdon Manufacturing Limited, size 3mx2m at a cost of approx. £5000 which includes, delivery, assembly and base preparation. This to be located to the rear

of the hall between the kitchen and ladies toilet block. The intention is that the storage area would be shared between a number of groups that use the hall.

After much discussion the proposal was rejected because it was felt that it did not adequately fulfil the requirements for shared storage space and would not be worthwhile in relation to cost.

Some concerns were expressed about the proposed siting of the wooden hut behind the hall because of possible vandalism, security and fire risk.

A proposal was put forward to allow Preschool to move the existing hut on to the Council land at the rear of the hall, strictly for a twelve month period, with the understanding that Preschool will actively seek an alternative more permanent solution to the storage problem.

Resolution: to accept the above proposal.

Agreed by a majority decision. Cllr Jones wished it to be recorded that he has concerns about this proposal. It is expected that Preschool will put in place adequate measures relating to the security and safety of the hut and the adjoining hall.

Consideration of the provision of 'No Dog Fouling' signs for the children's play area and Memorial Hall field; a quotation of £56.31 +VAT for three signs had been obtained from Signs Express.

Resolution: to accept the quotation, to pay the requested 50% deposit and order the signs.

Proposed development of the play area at the recreation field; following discussions with Playdales Playgrounds an estimate of approx. £22,500 was received for the provision of two large pieces of play equipment along with ground preparation and safety surfaces. An Expression of Interest for funding the project was submitted to the Rural Development Programme for England, North Lancashire Local Action Group. The outcome of this should be known by the end of September.

Other funding sources are also to be looked into and the clerk will attend the Lancaster District CVS Funding Fair in October.

Work being carried out in Hanging Green Wood -Mr R Greaves has worked hard on an area at the south end of the wood, finding a well and restoring a wall. However work on the trees and vegetation needs to be given careful consideration as the whole area is covered by a Tree Preservation Order. Arrangements are being made to meet Maxine Knagg, the Lancaster City Council Tree Protection Officer, to discuss what can be done.

#### 1486 Foreshore

Consideration of improvements -after heavy rain there is substantial flooding between the edge of the highway and the hard standing areas. It was decided to consult Mr Cowperthwaite, drainage contractor and to investigate what improvements can be made.

#### 1487 Burial Ground

Consideration to be given to completing the repair the roof of the building; some work has been carried out by the lengthsman but unfortunately due to the size of the job and time constraints the repair remains unfinished. It was decided to investigate employing a roofing contractor to carry out the work. The clerk will endeavour to obtain quotations.

The discharge of planning conditions for work on the entrance -it has been agreed to employ a surveyor to look at this (minute ref 1471) but progress seems to be very slow. The clerk will try to make further contact.

#### 1488 Planning Applications

Notification of planning permission granted  
10/00804/FUL 3, The Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6DQ

#### 1489 Matters suggested by members for future consideration

Cllr Leeman -parking and traffic problems on Green Lane

#### 1490 Date of the next meeting

Monday 18 October 2010 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm

