

# Slaley Parish Council

Ian Stevens  
Chairman of Slaley Parish Council,  
Winter House,  
Slaley,  
Northumberland,  
NE47 0AA.

Tel: - 07395 566997

Email: [slaleyipc@gmail.com](mailto:slaleyipc@gmail.com)

4th December 2023

I hereby give notice that **the Meeting of Slaley Parish Council** will be held on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023** in the **Community Room, Slaley Commemoration Hall, at 7.30pm.** to which you are summoned for the transaction of the following business.

Signed: *Ian Stevens*  
(Chairman of Slaley Parish Council)

## AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Public Participation**
3. **Short Address by County Councillor Colin Horncastle**
4. **Declarations of Interest**
5. **Minutes of Meeting Held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023**
  - a. Approval of minutes
  - b. Review of actions
  - c. Matters arising
6. **Correspondence of significant note**

*(Councillors are reminded that all Council related email correspondence can be viewed at [slaleyipc@gmail.com](mailto:slaleyipc@gmail.com))*

**Karbon Homes** – Email response to Councillor Stevens regarding grounds maintenance at Park Side, dated 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Raised under agenda item 8 h..
7. **Approaches Made to Councillors directly**
  - a. **Correspondence**
    - i. **Mrs. Doonan – Chair of the Commemoration Hall Trustees** – contacted Councillor Stevens by text suggesting that there should be a joint discussion between interested parties regarding the Pyramid of Care Arrangements in the village. Raised under agenda item 8 i..

- ii. **Tynedale Hospice at Home** – contacted the former Parish Clerk, Mrs. Wilson, on 13<sup>th</sup> November who passed the email correspondence on to Councillor Stevens. It comprised a thank you note for a donation received from the Council and a request that we keep the hospice in mind for any possible future donations. The Council's grant arrangements are raised as item 8 c. on this agenda.

b. **Personal**

**Pothole reported** – Mr. Dryden reported a pothole in Slaley village to Councillor Stevens on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Councillor Stevens reported it to the County Council via FixMyStreet. The report was acknowledged and repairs assigned.

**8. New Items**

a. ***Review of Outstanding Actions for 2023/24 (led by Cllr Stevens)***

Review and update of actions log.

b. ***Recruitment of Parish Clerk (led by Cllr Stevens)***

Feedback on the actions taken to recruit a new Parish Clerk.

c. ***Review of Annually Gifted Grants (led by Cllr Stevens)***

On an annual basis the Parish Council has gifted grants to local charities. This arrangement sits outside the new Grants Policy (September 2023) prompting the need to discuss the practice and the future direction of travel in relation to it. Issues for consideration are:

- i whether Councillors wish to continue this practice
- ii. if this arrangement is to continue what mechanism should exist to identify deserving charities?
- iii. if donations are to be made to charities this year what should their value be?

d. ***Agreeing the Precept for 2024/25 (led by Cllrs Stevens and Taylor)***

Councillors are required to agree the precept for 2024/25 at this meeting, in order that it may be communicated to the County Council for inclusion in Council Tax bills. Any proposed increases to the current levy must be appropriately costed by Councillors proposing them.

e. ***Advertising Policy (led by Cllrs Stevens and Douglas)***

A review of the Advertising Policy has been undertaken by Councillors Stevens and Douglas. This agenda item allows Councillors to comment on its content and ultimately sign the document off

f. ***Town and Parish Council Conference 2023 (led by Cllr Taylor)***

Feedback from Councillor Taylor on the conference which she attended on the Parish Council's behalf.

g. ***Parish Council Notice Board (led by Cllr Douglas)***

Progressing an action (minuted as item 6 c) from the Parish Council meeting of October 2023 Councillor Douglas presented a paper to Councillors via email on 30<sup>th</sup> November regarding the purchase of a new notice board. This agenda item provides an opportunity to discuss the paper.

**h. Grounds Maintenance**

The issue of grass cutting in the village is yet to be addressed fully by Councillors. This agenda item will allow the current position to be restated, a 'to be' position to be discussed, whilst considering Karbon Homes email of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 on the issue (see agenda item 6).

**i. Sub-committee Report – Pyramid of Care (led by Cllrs Douglas, Stevens and Taylor)**

At the Councils November meeting (minuted item 9 d.), it was agreed that a sub-committee should progress thinking around the Pyramid of Care in the Parish, with particular focus on the Commemoration Hall acting as a Resilience Hub. This agenda item allows that sub-committee to provide feedback to the full Council.

The sub-committee was established through email correspondence and comprises of Councillors, Stevens, Taylor and Douglas.

**j. Parish Council banking arrangements (led by Cllr Taylor)**

At the Councils October meeting (minuted item 11 c. ii.), Councillor Taylor agreed to explore the concept of transferring funds from its 'chequing' account, into an interest yielding one. In a paper sent to Councillors via email on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 Councillor Taylor set out potential options for them to consider. This agenda item allows Councillor Taylor's paper to be discussed.

**9. Planning Applications**

None

**10. Finances (led by Cllr Taylor)**

<b>a. Outgoings between 6<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023</b>		
• Grant – Northumberland National Park Mountain Rescue Team		£400.00
• First aid course		£683.00
• Hire of Commemoration Hall		£32.00
• (Cllr) Jon Storey – Defibrillator battery		£267.60
• (Cllr) Jon Storey – Defibrillator pads		£71.94
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,454.54</b>
<b>b. Income between 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023</b>		
• None	<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
	<b>ACCOUNT BALANCE Total</b>	<b>£20,365.25</b>

**c. Financial Overview of Council funds**

**11. Any Other Business/Urgent Matters**

*Only items received by the Chair of the Parish Council at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting will be considered.*

None as of 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.