

**Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on Monday February 13th 2023
at 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.**

1. Public Participation. Mr. K Bates, has concerns about new signage at Slaley Hall (22/03017/ADE-October 10th 2022, agenda 10). Particularly sign No 7 which directs traffic south onto the Coal Road for Event Car Park, Driving Range and Short Game Area. The U8080 is also a Byway Open to All Traffic and as such is used by off-roading vehicles. Golfers staying at the holiday villa accommodation are entitled to a golf buggy, these are unlicensed vehicles and frequently travel in both directions on this stretch of road. Mr Bates asked if a meeting with the new Slaley Hall Manager could be arranged with interested residents of the Coal Road to address the problems associated with this additional traffic. Clerk was instructed to contact the hotel manager to arrange.

2. Apologies. County Councillor Colin Horncastle

Present: Councillor I. C. Stevens as Chairman. Councillors S. C. Douglas, L. Sale, J Storey, D. J. Taylor & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson.

3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.

Councillor D. J. Taylor for agenda item 1

Councillor S. C. Douglas for agenda item 18a

4. Minutes of January 9th 2023 meeting (circulated pages 1676 – 1680), appendix 1, page 1681, appendix 2, page 1682, appendix 3, page 1683 & appendix 4, page 1684.

The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr J Storey and seconded by Cllr L. Sale. The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising.

a) 1 & 9e 9/1/23: Covering the cost of Slaley News for 2023. Cllr S.D Douglas has coordinated correspondence covering the cost through the Parish Council bank account by several donations and invoices from Hextol. February invoice for £54.75 received 6/2/23 and circulated. Income paid into PC bank account for Slaley News is £120 on 26/1/23, £250 on 27/1/23, £60 on 06/02/23 and £55 on 13/02/23. The Parish Council agreed to contribute £60. Total is £525, this is almost the full amount to enable the News to continue for the 10 months of 2023. Cllr D J Taylor informed the meeting that the Community Chest application for funding had not been allowed because PCs were not eligible.

b) 18, 9/1/23: Report from Town, Parish & Community Council Conference, Hexham Mart January 24th 2023. Clerk & Cllr S C Douglas attended. Given a hard copy of Local Services Who's Who & Northumberland T&PCC Charter. Cllr S C Douglas explained that the second half of the conference did not take place, instead a longer Q&A session was led by NCC leader Glen Sanderson.

c) 18b 9/1/23: Coronation of King Charles 111, Saturday May 6th 2023. Suggestions tabled at January meeting – further discussion. Email 13/2/23 from NCC offering PCs grants from the Coronation Community Fund – deadline is March 3rd. Cllr I C Stevens volunteered to make an application for funding. Clerk suggested a replacement Notice Board might be a good commemorative piece of street furniture, especially since the WI suggested contributing to the cost (agenda 17c 12/12/22).

6. Tackling Climate Change at Parish Level.

13/2/23: Email invitation to an on-line event entitled 'Hedgerow Healthcheck and Survey Training'. See also 8c, 8j, 8r & 8w. CEG AGM is February 22nd.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor

a) 7a 9/1/23: Strengthening work on Blue Gables bridge over Strothers Burn. NCC gave further information by email 15/1/23 the work would improve durability and capacity of the structure.

8. Correspondence.

Hard copy:

Clerks & Councils Direct February

Email:

- a) 10/1/23: RSN Rural Bulletin
- b) 11/1/23: RSN Funding Digest
- c) 11/1/23: NCC Climate Change Team collaboration event 25/1/23 5.45 at Hexham Mart
- d) 16/1/23: NALC Enews
- e) 16/1/23: Charlie Wright Free Government funded EV Chargepoints for Healey & Slaley – Cllr D. J. Taylor finding out more. *See invitation from NCC below 8j*
- f) 17/1/23: RSN Rural Bulletin
- g) 17/1/23: RSN Rural Cost of Living Survey – survey closes 31/3/23
- h) 17/1/23: Local Government Boundary Commission – consultation on new council divisions and division boundaries for NCC closes 30/1/23
- i) 19/1/23: NCC Elections office from May 2023 voters in England will need to show photo ID when they vote in person
- j) 19/1/23: Iain Hedley NCC EV Charging Points – Invitation from CC Team for the PC to apply for charging points - deadline for submission 28/2/23
- k) 20/1/23 CAN Enews switch from analogue to digital landlines, asking for an indication of vulnerable or at risk customers
- l) 23/1/23: Forestry Commission meeting at High Forest Community Centre to discuss Woodland creation in North Pennines AONB
- m) 25/1/23: NCC Ian Hedley - emailed copy of Local Services Who's Who & Northumberland T&PCC Charter
- n) 26/1/23: Healthwatch Northumberland Board chair vacancy & annual survey
- o) 27/1/23: Forestry Commission January update
- p) 31/1/23: RSN Rural Bulletin
- q) 1/2/23: RSN Funding Bulletin
- r) 1/2/23: NCC Climate Change Team Sea-Changers Coastal Foundation Fund 2023
- s) 1/2/23: NCC Dog Control Public Spaces protection order
- t) 2/2/23: Forestry Commission upcoming events
- u) 2/2/23: Streetworks TTRO Dipton House Jct
- v) 3/2/23: CAN Enews
- w) 3/2/23: NCC Climate Change February Update
- x) 6/2/23: Gallagher insurance – protect your council from Cyber attacks
- y) 6/2/23: NALC Enews
- z) 7/2/23: RSN Press Release -Local Government Finance Settlement
- aa) 8/2/23: Mayor Jamie Driscoll NTCA's decision not to raise a precept
- bb) 9/2/23: West Northumberland Primary Care Network poster
- cc) 11/2/23: Eddie Graham details of Car Rally 18/2/23 through Healey, March 24th – 26th based at Slaley Hall and a further April Rally also based at Slaley Hall.
- dd) 13/2/23: Iain Hedley Meeting at Alnwick 15/2/23 to hear about Devolution Deal.

9. Financial Report.

- a) Payroll paperwork: January.
- b) Invoices received & paid since January meeting
NCC weekly inspections July - December £172.86
- c) Invoices to be paid –
The Hextol Foundation Slaley News February invoice for £54.75
Slaley Commemoration Hall meeting venue July – December 2022 £129.00
- d) On receipt of the Precept breakdown changes background information on why certain items are covered by the Parish Council:
Grass cutting at Parks Side complaints from the public April 2014 – until 2019 when the PC took over:
2014: 18b 14/4/14; 4c 12/5/14; 4b 9/6/14; 4b 14/7/14.
2015: 17b 12/10/15; 5b 9/11/15; 5d 14/12/15.
2016: 5a 11/1/16; 11/11/16 email to Isos Housing explaining that the grass cutting at Parks Side in May was such a mess that the Parish Wander (June 2016) paid for a contractor to come in and collect what looked like

a silage field then recut the area. 7a 14/11/16; email 6/12/16 from Isos Housing saying they had given their contractor another year. 5c 12/12/16. Letter to people of the parish, hand delivered in village, and through posters, magazine and notes informing the community that Parks Side grassed areas would become part of the parish grass cutting work financed through the Parish Council. Letter attached to January 2017 minutes as appendix 1/090117.

2017: 5b 9/1/17 + appendix 1; 5b 13/2/17; 5b 13/3/17; 5c 19/4/17; 5c 14/5/17;

2018: 9c 9/4/18; 5c 14/5/18; 16 10/12/2018.

e) Note Healey PC pays £50 per year for space on the web site not £100.

f) Tax year 2021/22 Vat claim made for £729.53 received into bank account 23/1/23

g) Donations paid to SPC bank account for Slaley News £485

h) 8d 22/9/22: Cllr I C Stevens requested a fighting fund of £50 to cover expenditure associated with the illuminated sheep being in Slaley parish - can this now be paid? Cllr I C Stevens gathering receipts

i) Email 13/2/23 from NCC offering grants from the Coronation Community Fund – deadline is March 3rd - see agenda 5c above

10. Slaley Parish Plan; Action Plan ‘Speeding Review’

a) 17a 12/12/22: Cllr D J Taylor received an email from a village parishioner about speeding village traffic being a danger.

b) 19a 14/11/22: Parishioner reported speeding traffic on wrong side of road at Woodside corner.

c) 19d 14/11/22: Cllr D J Taylor reported that the village speed gun checks are to be relaunched. Sg Paul Davis has reported that the relaunch will hopefully happen in the next two months.

d) 7b 22/9/22: Village 20mph speed reduction – NCC approved drawings received from Michael McMonagle 16/9/22, both school and PC were happy with proposals. Clerk to request an indication of when work will begin.

e) 7c 13/6/22: Cllr J. Storey reported accident at Travellers Rest corner junction with Whitley Chapel road when vehicle went through the wall.

f) 5b 9/5/22: Townhead speed sign replacement: Cllr D.J. Taylor reported Elan City model EVOLIS would cost £2,250.

11. New Planning Applications. None

22/04091/CLPROP: Proposed Use for continued use of land as a caravan site without any restrictions on the layout, type, size and external colour/finish of the caravans for up to a maximum of 30 caravans at any one time. Townfoot Caravan Park, Slaley. Applicant Mr. G. Miller. Comments by 28/12/22. Case Officer Neil Armstrong. **Pending** – 27 documents associated with this application including 5 letters of objection of which the PC is one.

Decisions from planning

22/04439/FUL: Proposed rear porch replacement, 4 Fell Cottages, Slaley, NE47 0BU. **Granted.**

22/04460/VARYCO: variation of condition 2 (approved plans) 3 (materials) and 4 (timber cladding) on approved application 22/01617/FUL in order to change materials and flat roof size (flat roof to be changed to include overhang using proposed GRP, wall materials to be changed to use stone to match existing (stone removed from opening to be used to construct pillars to match main house) and windows to side elevation of extension to be changed in size. Hillfield House, Slaley. **Granted.**

12. Social Media Report - Cllr I C Stevens / Cllr D J Taylor & Slaley Web Page Report – Councillor S.C. Douglas.

Cllr I C Stevens volunteered to try and sort the PC Facebook problems.

13. Defibrillator Update– Monthly check list attached as appendix 1/130223, page 1689.

a) The monthly NEAS check list was completed by Cllr Storey. The date on the pads in the Defib is November 2023 and date on replacement pads 2024-10.

14. Update games/play area within school grounds.

Weekly inspection report for January 13th, 20th, February 2nd & 10th.

15. Parish Council Vacancy

One vacancy still exists

16. Resignation of Parish Council Clerk

Resignation received by Slaley Parish Council Chairman 7/2/23 and acknowledged informally then by letter 9/2/23. Mrs. Wilson was thanked for her work and will remain in post until March 31st. Cllr S C Douglas is coordinating the position of Clerk as explained in the NALC PC toolkit – an on-line publication. Cllrs I C Stevens and L Sale will discuss wording for an advertisement.

17. Slaley Commemoration Hall Update by Cllr D J Taylor.

Copy of approved minutes from November 16th & continuation meeting of December 7th attached as **appendix 2/130223, page 1690.**

Cllr D J Taylor explained the current roof problems which has presented the management committee with a repair estimate of £4,500. The W.I. celebrated its Centenary Dinner with the YFC doing the entertainment. A new Cleaner has been appointed and the batteries are expected to be delivered by the end of March.

18. AOB

a) Cllr S C Douglas has a query about Slaley Show and the PC Advertising Policy.

b) Report by a parish resident: Off road activity in Slaley Forest Sunday 5/2/23. Public complaints to Police then Police presence with early indications that motorcycles were confiscated. Cllr J. Storey was asked to keep the Councillors informed of any reports by the new Forest Protection Group

19. Date for of next meeting: Monday March 13th 2023

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.