

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Slaley Parish Council  
Held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.30pm  
in Slaley Commemoration Hall**

**Present:** Councillor Ian Stevens, Councillor Stella Douglas, Councillor Debra Taylor, Councillor Jon Storey and Parish Clerk Clare Loughlin.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Lynda Sale and County Councillor Colin Horncastle.

**2. Public Participation**

None.

**3. Short Address by County Councillor Colin Horncastle**

Due to the absence of County Councillor Colin Horncastle there was no address.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Ian Stevens , regarding Item 6.b.

**5. Minutes of Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**i. Approval of minutes**

Following an amendment to item 6. i. – ‘Dipton Court’ to read ‘Dipton Cut’, the minutes were proposed as a true record by Councillor Debra Taylor and seconded by Councillor Stella Douglas.

**ii. Review of outstanding actions**

Councillors made use of an Actions Log that had been specially generated for this meeting to assist in the review of outstanding actions, for not only this item but also items 7. i. and ii.. It was welcomed by all and it was agreed that it would ultimately be uploaded to the shared drive so that real time updates could be made. A degree of governance will need to sit around such an arrangement. Until that time updates should be reported to the Parish Clerk. **Action – Parish Clerk and Councillor Ian Stevens to discuss governance arrangements**

- a. Interruption to the Post Van Service. No satisfactory update. Consideration being given to contacting our local MP. Parish Clerk to contact her counterparts in the other villages the van visits to ascertain their views on the issue and what action they may have or are taking. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

**iii. Matters arising**

- a. Grants Policy – *relating to action 8. iii from Parish Council meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023.*

Councillors agreed that Councillor Debra Taylor should lead a small sub-committee (to include Councillor Stella Douglas) to review the current policy and present any proposed amendments to Councillors at their meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023. **Action - Councillor Debra Taylor.**

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iv. **Review of Outstanding Actions From Previous Parish Council Meetings**

Actions reviewed and Actions Log updated as appropriate.

In relation to minuted item 8ii of 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - Councillor Jon Storey received a request from the owner of the hedge to assist in trimming it. **Action – Jon Storey**

6. **Correspondence**

- a. Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2024/25. Two proposals for the LTP were submitted by Councillors Debra Taylor and Stella Douglas. The Chairman requested that any additional suggestions be submitted by Councillors ahead of their July meeting, where those to be put forward to the County Councils Highways team would be agreed. Submissions to be made by 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023. **Action – All Councillors.**
- b. Councillors approved Councillor Ian Stevens' request to attend the National Rural Crime Network Conference in London on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at a cost of £55. **Resolution - approved.**

7. **New Items**

i. **Review of Annual Parish Meeting Minutes (9<sup>th</sup> May 2023)**

Actions reviewed and Actions Log updated as appropriate.

In relation to minuted item 5 – Councillors requested that the issue of the faulty speed sign at Townhead be added as an agenda item to their July meeting. **Action – Parish Clerk**

ii. **Review of Annual Slaley Parish Council Meeting Minutes (9<sup>th</sup> May 2023)**

Actions reviewed and Actions Log updated as appropriate.

In relation to minuted item 13 - the Parish Clerk provided a draft of the 'Yearly Planner'. A query was raised as to who would undertake the Heritage Asset review. Councillor Debra Taylor ultimately agreed that she would lead it **Action – Councillor Debra Taylor**

iii. **Election of Parish Council Vice Chairman**

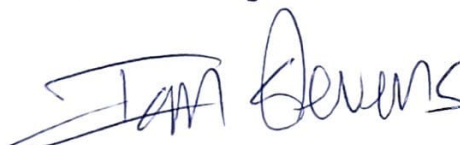
Councillor Jon Storey was proposed for the position of Vice Chairman of Slaley Parish Council by Councillor Stella Douglas and seconded by Councillor Debra Taylor.

**Action - Councillor Jon Storey to complete Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Parish and Town Councillors.**

iv. **August 2023 'Walkabout'**

Councillors agreed that the 'walkabout' this year should focus on the grassed area cut on their behalf by ProCut to help inform the ongoing debate in this space. It was agreed that an item be placed on the July meeting agenda to discuss in more detail the information that would be required to gain a better understanding of the issues surrounding grass cutting in the 'village'. Ahead of that, the Parish Clerk was requested, with the help of Councillor Stella Douglas to compile the following for that meeting; the work schedule of Procut and a map of the grassed areas cut by Procut. **Action – Parish Clerk and Councillor Stella Douglas**

The 'walkabout' will commence at 7 p.m. from the Commemoration Hall. The Parish Council meeting that will follow will commence at 8 p.m..

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**iv. Parish Council Surgeries**

Councillors agreed that surgeries allowing the community greater access to Councillors were a good idea. However it was agreed that they should be addressed by the sub-committee looking into how the Parish Council conducts its business rather than being seen as a standalone item

**v. The Departure of Helen and Olwen Savage from the Village**

The Chairman shared an email with colleagues capturing notes of a meeting led by Mrs. P Wilson regarding the activities to mark the departure of Helen and Olwen Savage from the Village. A key element of the ensuing discussion was whether the Parish Council would wish to make a monetary donation to support those activities. It was agreed it should and Councillor Debra Taylor proposed a sum of £150. This was approved by Councillors. **Resolution - approved.**

Parish Clerk to advise Mrs. Patricia Wilson of the agreed donation. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

**8. Planning Applications**

Councillors noted that Planning Ref: 23/00516/FUL, Infill existing dry stone boundary wall to consistent height of 1.9m from 1.5m using natural random stone to match existing. Wooley House, Wooley, NE46 1TY, had been **Granted.**

**9. Finances**

The Parish Clerk and Councillor Debra Taylor presented the Councils finances to Councillors. All was in order and a bank balance of £17,389.12 was recorded.

**10. Any Other Business**

None.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023, to take place at Slaley Commemoration Hall at 7.30 p.m.

*Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.*

*Jan Stevens 12/07/23*