

Minutes of meeting of Slaley Parish Council held on Monday January 9th, 2023
at 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

Vacancy on the Parish Council. Ms. Lynda Sale, Hollies House, Slaley was proposed (by email) by Cllr I. C Stevens and seconded at the meeting by Cllr J. Storey. There being no objections from Cllr D J Taylor or Cllr S C Douglas. Ms. Lynda Sale was co-opted onto Slaley Parish Council. Cllr L. Sale's 'Acceptance of Office' + her 'DOI' when completed will be forwarded to the election office at NCC. This co-option made the meeting quorate.

Public Participation. Presentation to the Council by Jim Bailey retired Slaley News editor and Michael Elphick, proposed co- editor with Catherine Lincoln for 2023. Two documents received 8/1/23 and circulated. 'The Future of Slaley News' by Jim Bailey (Retiring Editor) **attached as appendix 1/090123, page 1681.** 'Slaley Newsletters' by Michael Elphick & Catherine Lincoln. **attached as appendix 2/090123, page 1682.** A draft application to the Community Chest by Cllr D. Taylor was also tabled.

A discussion on the various financial possibilities followed. There has been an external offer for the printing of the February issue, but arrangements to cover the printing of the March issue onwards was still in question. The funds held by Slaley Community Trust was questioned by Mr. Elphick, himself a former Chairman of the Trust. Photocopying is not a route the new editors wish to go down, they would prefer a printed, folded and possibly stapled copy ready for the distribution volunteers. Cllr L. Sale remarked that she found it difficult to understand why the PC was happy to fund the parish website to the tune of £200 but not a hard copy of the Slaley News to at least the same amount. Cllr S C Douglas suggested that the PC should allocate up to £60 to cover the March issue. Mr. Bailey and Mr Elphick were thanked for their attendance and for their individual 'Slaley News' work.

Apologies. Councillor I. C. Stevens.

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

3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record. None.

4. Minutes of December 12th, 2022, meeting (circulated pages 1669 – 1672), appendix 1, page 1673, appendix 2, page 1674 & appendix 3, page 1675. As amended by Cllr I C Stevens.

The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr S. C. Douglas and seconded by Cllr D. J. Taylor. The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising.

a) 7b 12/12/22: Clerk emailed a reminder to empty the bin at Trygill on the Tuesday before Christmas. Clerk inadvertently called it the landfill bin. Adam Keen pointed out that waste is taken to Haverton Hill EfW plant to generate electricity. Cllr J. Storey checked the bin 8/1/23 and it had been emptied Wed January 4th, however the bin has been knocked causing the bracket holding the locking bar to loosen and twist. Cllr Storey will see if it can be repaired.

b) 8r 12/12/22: Councillors to read and report any comments on NCC Planning Enforcement Strategy Consultation ends (extended to January 20th, 2023). Slaley Councillors had no comments on the document.

c) 17d 12/12/22: New group formed Protecting Slaley Forest Group – Cllr J. Storey sent through copy of initial notes from meeting for information. Cllr D.J. Taylor said weekend off roading on the coal road created a danger for walkers.

6. Tackling Climate Change at Parish Level.

a) CEG received an invitation from Stocksfield Climate Change Group to a presentation at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday January 18th when Herbie Newell from Humshaugh will give a talk about Humshaugh Net Zero. Groups from Corbridge and Wylam are also invited. Attending DT, PW, JJ, CF, LS, PG, HP.

b) 6/1/23: NCC Climate Action January 2023 News.

c) Cllr D.J. Taylor reported the success of the on-line advent calendar.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor.

a) Strengthening work on Blue Gables bridge over Strothers Burn. (Opposite Broadpool). 8 – 12 weeks, start date mid-May – any concerns? Clerk telephone Keith Wilson – no concerns.

b) Cllr D.J. Taylor asked CC C Horncastle for an update on the reintroduction of the police speed gun.

c) Cllr D J Taylor asked when the 20-mph rollout in Slaley village would happen. There was no actual date available. The rollout information needed to be relayed to the community once it was known.

d) County Council news was conveyed including diseased ash trees, front line services, industrial action, waste management income, staff appointments and redundancies.

8. Correspondence.

Hard copy:

Clerks & Councils Direct January

Email:

a) 12/12/22: Northern Powergrid – Emergency Power cuts.

b) 13/12/22: RSN Rural Bulletin

c) 13/12/22: NCC Luke Dixon – deadline for Enforcement Strategy Consultation extended to 20/1/22

d) 14/12/22: Reminder of conference and Christmas Wishes from Cllr Glen Sanderson

e) 14/12/22: NHS Stakeholder Update

f) 14/12/22: Northern Powergrid – Invitation to Online Briefing at 10.30 a.m.

g) 16/12/22: Bridge Northumberland have helped over 2000 Northumberland residents

h) 16/12/22: CAN Village Halls heritage project

i) 20/12/22: RSN Rural Bulletin

j) 21/12/22: Forestry Commission December 2022 news

k) 21/12/22: Pennine Journey September 23rd, 2023, 247 miles over 3 – 6 days, includes Blanchland to Hexham, asking for village halls to become race checkpoints

l) 22/12/22: NCC Communication Team – Warm Spaces Support for residents – page 1, 3rd entry is SCH for Allendale, Allenheads, Haydon Bridge & Bardon Mill areas. **Cllr S C Douglas to have amended.**

- m) 22/12/22: WHP Telecoms Ltd pre planning application for Slaley Hall Hotel consultation drawings and details – the Councillors had no concerns with this pre-planning application.
- n) 4/1/23: RSN Rural Bulletin
- o) 6/1/23: CAN Enews
- p) 7/1/23: Neighbourhood Watch, Michael Appleton appointed Northumbria Watch and is asking for a point of contact. Councillors thought this position should be advertised in Slaley News.

9. Financial Report.

- a) Payroll paperwork: December & October – December quarter.
- b) Invoices received & paid since December meeting
- Mr. I. C. Stevens – Jubilee seat at SCH £439.00
- Clerk’s salary October – December 2022 £1,156.00
- HMRC tax on Clerk’s salary October – December 2022 £44.00
- TP Jones & Co LLP payroll preparation Oct - Dec 2022 £51.50
- c) Invoices to be paid –
- Slaley Commemoration Hall Wi-Fi August – December 2022 5 @ £33.85 = £169.25
- North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust – First Aid Training 7/4/22. £683.00
- d) Lloyds bank statement balance at 1/12/22 was £17,712.35
- e) Cllr D J Taylor contacted by retiring editor of Slaley News asking if the PC would consider covering the annual printing charge of approximately £1,200. It was agreed that the PC would cover the costs of the March edition if needed.

10. Agree 2023/24 Precept spending. This was agreed by Councillors that we have a budget of £13,917.40, which is broken down as follows:

- Operational costs – £6,509
- Grass and snow management – £1,150
- Community play area – £1,268.40
- Printing – £150
- Grants – £2,340
- Contingency – £2,500

This includes a 5% increase in the precept and a 5% increase in the Clerk’s salary. The Parish Clerk was tasked with communicating the agreed increase in the Slaley Parish Precept of 5% with Northumberland County Council.

11. New Planning Applications.

22/04731/FUL: Replacement of rotten single glazed sliding sash windows (reference numbers W9, W28, W31, W42, W45, W46, W48, W49 & W52) in the main house with slim-line double glazed timber sliding sash windows. Shield Hall, Hexham. Applicant Mr. G. Hall.
Withdrawn 6/1/23.

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

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. **Pending.**

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. **Letter of objection.**

Decisions from planning

22/03653/LBC: Listed building consent for replacement of rotten single glazed sliding sash windows in the main house with slim-line double glazed timber sliding sash windows. Shield Hall, Hexham. Applicant Mr. G. Hall. **Refused**

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

Cllr S C Douglas reported peaks on web site usage over the Christmas break. Cllr D.J. Taylor had suggested that, due to the amount of information on the website, that the format/layout should be re-fashioned in the coming months.

13. Defibrillator Update– Monthly check list attached as appendix 3/090123, page 1683

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.

b) 13b 12/12/22: The second Defib machine delivered to Slaley Rose and Crown was, delivered incorrectly. It was repackaged and arrangements were made for its collection, twice, between CU Medical, Slaley PC Clerk, the Rose and Crown and the courier. Problems when incorrect information passed to courier. Email from R&C 4/1/23 saying spare machine was still at R&C.

14. Update games/play area within school grounds.

Weekly inspection reports for December 13th, 22nd 6th January received and forwarded to school.

15. Parish Council Vacancies

Ms. L. Sale has been added to correspondence and has been co-opted onto the Council earlier tonight. There remains one vacancy.

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

Report on 100th birthday party on Friday December 30th. All grant bodies had been thanked and invited. PC Jubilee bench fitted for party and looks very good. Batteries ordered and will be installed at the Hall. Hallmark accreditation renewal is due, trustees going through policies to update in line with new layout and facilities. Focus for 2023 will be for the hall to become self-funding.

17. Slaley Parish Plan; Action Plan - January 2023 update. Attached as appendix 4/090123, page 1684.

No further information

18. Town, Parish & Community Council Conference. Hexham Mart January 24th, 2023.
Clerk & Cllr SC Douglas attending. Cllr J. Storey will be reserve if needed.

18. AOB

a) Mobile Post Office left Slaley 5.20 on Friday January 6th. After speaking to Martin Nichol at Stocksfield Post Office we were told that it had a new operator, and he is finding end of day work challenging therefore the hours are reduced by 15 minutes to 5.15 end on a Monday, Thursday and Friday. Cllr S.C. Douglas to mention in notes and the new editors mention in February Slaley news.

b) The Coronation of King Charles III, will be held on Saturday, May 6th, 2023 – does the Parish Council intend to commemorate the event? Cllr D J Taylor suggested following the model used for Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Cllr S C Douglas suggested an initial public meeting when Cllr I Stevens got back. No decisions were made.

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

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.