

# **Because of the Coronavirus a meeting of Slaley Parish Council on Monday April 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 was administered by ZOOM video connection.**

## **1. Public Participation.**

**2. Apologies** Councillor I. C. Stevens. **Taking part were:** Councillor A.M. Livesey as Chairman. Councillors S. Carson, S. C. Douglas, J. Storey (from 7.35p.m.), D. J. Taylor (from 8 p.m.) & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson.

**3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.** Cllr. J. Storey, as the PC representative on the Better Broadband at The Glen Area, will remain able to report as per his dispensation to speak on agenda items 5b

**4. Minutes of March 15th 2021 meeting (circulated pages 1521 – 1523), appendix 1, page 1524 & appendix 2, page 1525.** The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr. S. C. Douglas and seconded by Cllr S. Carson. All the Councillors present at the meeting agreed that the Clerk should sign the minutes.

## **5. Matters Arising.**

a) 5a 15/3/21; 5a 8/2/21; 5a 11/1/21; 5a & 14/12/20: Transfer of Community Trust funds. Verbal report from discussion with NALC's chief officer Stephen Rickitt on March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021. The meeting was un-quorate to report at this point.

b) 5b 15/3/21; 5b 8/2/21; 5b 11/1/21; 5a 14/12/20; 6a 9/11/20; 5a 14/10/20; 1 & 5a 14/9/20; 5a 10/8/20; 14a 13/7/20: Improved Broadband around The Glen area. Clerk emailed Gillian Cowell 8/4/21 who presented in September 2020 for an update. Gillian replied and an offer was made to the Group. UK Gigabit Voucher scheme launched 8/4/21 was explained. At £92,970 this still seemed expensive Cllr J Storey to draft a letter to Guy Opperman and the Chairman to send.

c) 6b 15/3/21: Dog waste bins not attached to locking posts (village & High Clear lane) reported to NCC. Cllr S. Carson said they were still not being attached. Clerk reported Swang Lane bin overflowing and requested an immediate empty – this was done Tuesday 30/3/21.

d) 7c 15/3/21: NCC Policy for litter on grass verges – request passed to CC C Horncastle who is asking Local Services. – No reply.

e) 8v 15/3/21: Decision of PC Chairman regarding personal details on agendas, letterheads and on web site was that her details fully remain.

## **6. Tackling Climate Change at Parish Level.**

The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary were all re-elected at the first AGM. Full minutes on web. Five Fruit trees were planted at Parks Side in March.

## **7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor**

a) Update Glen Crossroads. Officers working from home made this type of correspondence difficult to follow through.

b) Update on reducing village speed to 20 mph. – as above.

c) Cllr J Storey said the B6306/Lead road crossroads were also dangerous.

d) Cllr S Carson reported the sides worn away from the wider section of the south side of the road down into the Linnels Bridge and the barrier over a large pot hole has remained in situ for several months now north side, south bound carriageway just before the turn off to Lambshield.

## **8. Correspondence.**

### **Hard copies:**

Clerk & Councils Direct April issue. RBLI – TOMMY information and Order Form especially for VE Day May 8<sup>th</sup> 2021. Cllr DJ Taylor suggested a planter would be a more attractive addition to the parish possibly at the village seat and information board area. The Clerk asked who would water the planter, the planters at Parks Side are watered on a rota by the residents on a daily basis. The Chairman suggested that maybe the volunteers who work in the Community Shop would like to take this on board – Needs to be discussed with Cllr IC Stevens. The Clerk also pointed out that volunteers cut the grassed area and they already have the information board stand and the Post Box to contend with, it might be good practice to ask for their input before placing something else to strim around each week. Cllr DJ Taylor later said she would like it planted with wildflowers.

### **Email**

- a) 16/3/21 RSN Rural Bulletin
- b) 16/3/21: Came & Co Slaley PC Insurance Renewal circulated to read and report back. Cllrs AM Livesey & SC Douglas reported that the insurance details were acceptable without change.
- c) 17/3/21: NALC Enews
- d) 18/3/21: GNAA News
- e) 18/3/21: Election Staff roles – Polling Station Marshalls
- f) 19/3/21: Beadnell PC Play Area Inspection feedback – thank you
- g) 19/3/21: CAN Fostering an Enterprising Countryside
- h) 22/3/21: NHS Northumbria Healthcare Stakeholder update
- i) 23/3/21: NALC Member update
- j) 26/3/21: Northumberland Knowledge Website – User Survey
- k) 29/3/21: Streetworks TTRO Wooley junction to Espersfield Junction 26/4/21.
- l) 30/3/21: RSN Rural bulletin
- m) 30/3/21: Streetworks TTRO Dilston to Corbridge
- n) 31/3/21: NALC Member Update
- o) 31/3/21: Streetworks TTRO A68 Allenfords to Carter Bar Apl 2021 – March 2022
- p) 1/4/21: CAN Village Halls Portal launched.
- q) 1/4/21: Cllr Ian Stevens proposed a tidy around the village parish seat and litter bin (near the letter box). A Pack of Teak Oil to treat the seat was agreed (by email) and Councillors were requested to look at a replacement litter bin for this site and the Townhead site. Clerk suggested Glasdon products. Cllr DJ Taylor had recommended Trimline 25 Lite bin with open lid and liner. Cllr S Carson said a fully covered bin would be better. Cllrs to relook at samples and make suggestions via email. *See also the discussion on hard copy mail above.* Cllrs IC Stevens and J Storey intend to pressure wash the area. Cllr AM Livesey thanked the Councillors in advance.
- r) 7/4/21: RSN Rural Bulletin
- s) 7/4/21: NALC Enews
- t) 7/4/21: Forestry commission woodland officers
- u) 7/4/21: Streetworks TTRO Old Tyne Green Footpath, Hexham
- v) 8/4/21: RSN Funding Bulletin
- w) 8/4/21: NCC Temporary jobs to help run local elections
- x) 9/4/21: NALC Enews Death of HTH the Duke of Edinburgh
- y) 11/4/21: NALC Elections & business during The period of national Mourning

## 9. Financial Report.

- a) TP Jones & Co LLP. Employers Summary Year End 2020/ 2021
- b) Invoices received & paid since February meeting  
Salary P Wilson January – March 2021 £1082.99  
Tac HMRC January – March 2021 £10.00  
Annual expenditure P. Wilson £326.81  
TP Jones payroll preparation January – March 2021 £46.80  
NCC weekly inspections of community equipment £263.35  
Slaley Commemoration hall WiFi October – March £158.40
- c) Year-end Income and Expenditure attached **as appendix 1/120421, Page 1530**
- d) Introduction letter from Andrew Hutchinson who is taking over from GMS his trading name is Procut Grounds Maintenance Ltd.
- e) Invoices to be paid  
It was agreed to pay the £250 2020/21 allocated for meetings at Slaley Commemoration Hall as a grant towards the Hall.  
NALC subscription £174.05
- f) First payment of 2021/22 Precept received £6,381.00

## 10. New Planning Applications.

**21/00956/FUL:** Demolition of existing kitchen extension and replacement upon the same footprint and foundations to include a pitched roof. Internal alterations to create one dwelling and creation of new centrally located front door on north elevation. Orchard House, Slaley. NE47 0AA. Mr. Hodges. **No objections.**

**21/00729/FUL Demolition of garage and construction of a two storey side extension. Police House, Slaley** **Pending.**

**21/00115/FUL:** Erection of conservatory to the rear. Park View, Slaley. NE47 0BQ. Application Mr. C. Oakley. **Pending**

### **Decisions from planning**

Activity at Townfoot Caravan site 29/3/21 - Enforcement officer checked and only trees removed.

**11. Social Media Report - Councillor A.M. Livesey/ Cllr IC Stevens & Slaley Web Page Report - Councillor S.C. Douglas.** Cllr AM Livesey reported Auction sharing and responses on Facebook. Cllr SC Douglas asked where the mental health information should go on the website. It was agreed the front page after the Auction and the Directory.

### **12. Defibrillator Update– Monthly check list attached as appendix 2/120421 page 1531?**

Cllr J. Storey reported that he had carried out the weekly inspections and that the Defib was working as expected. The monthly NEAS check list was emailed by the Clerk. Cllr J. Storey checked the pads and the date is February 2022.

### **13. Update games/play area within school grounds.**

March inspection sheets received one week missing due to snow – forwarded to School with a copy to Cllr I.C Stevens.

A request for item rate made by email

### **14. Slaley Commemoration Hall Update by Cllr DJ Taylor.**

a) Minutes from January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting agreed on March 17<sup>th</sup> and **attached as appendix 3/120421, page 1532**

b) April Fool's Auction began on-line April 1<sup>st</sup> ends April 14<sup>th</sup> with the distribution of goods on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

c) Cllr DJ Taylor said a grant had been awarded for the restoration of the Hall paintings. Transport costs were still to be identified and the Community Trust was going to be asked if they would fund this.

d) Cllr SC Douglas reported bookings included Elections of May 6<sup>th</sup> & collection of Auction goods on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

e) To consider the indoor market proposal/suggestion as detailed in a circulated document – there was disagreement about this idea. The Chairman supported and thought a minimum of six months trial would be needed. Other Councillors had misgivings about the amount of money requested from the PC. £70 per market day until established and the stallholders could expect some return for their time. Cllr J Storey questioned £70 per day – Clerk explained 2 hours setting up @ £10 per hour 4-hour market @ £10 per hour and one hour to clear away ready for next hall booking @ £10. Actual produce expected to be available was also questioned would it be local people selling their eggs etc. The type of stalls and products were explained – each stallholder would need to have the **necessary trading licenses** to sell their produce e.g. Hexhamshire organics & Methieu French ready-made foods – already trading locally with insurance and trading licenses already in place. Cllr SC Douglas said many of these traders were already known to Slaley Show – Tin & Tonia, Fire & Dough Pizza Van, Fish and Chip Van etc. Cllr SC Douglas explained the idea had the full-support of the Environment Group for its local produce and less air miles. Cllr DJ Taylor said she was concerned about advertising costs and the extra traffic it might generate and the PC was asked if it could use the mobile Post Office parking area once a month during the market. Cllr AM Livesey suggested that a fully costed Business Plan with an indication of interested stallholders was needed before the Parish Council could agree to help financially.

### **15. Parish Council Elections May 6<sup>th</sup>.**

All nomination papers successfully processed.

### **16. Slaley Parish Plan, Action Plan, April Update**

a) Draft circulated and attached **as appendix 4/120421, Page 1533.** There were no changes made to the draft other than to add that Karl Beckett is looking into forming a Video Group for young people.

b) Reprinting the Directory came out of the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and was tabled at the PC meeting of February 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 agenda item 17. A lot of work has gone into updating the Slaley Business Directory from Cllr SC Douglas on web site, Michael Elphick doing the artwork for the printed copy and the PC Clerk in contacting the old listings and

getting new text for the Directory. Keeping this up-to-date will become 'good housekeeping' through the quarterly updates. In the past 300 copies were printed and distributed with the Slaley News – the majority being recycled within the first month. The web site now has a very large display – Clerk suggest a small print available in Slaley Shop for anyone wanting a hard copy. Getting listings is ongoing, a local business provided a listing today. Cllr Carson suggested the Old Methodist Chapel. Cllr AM Livesey said there were many businesses not entered in the Directory therefore the message was not getting out. Cllr Livesey would send out a request on Facebook. Clerk reminded the meeting that the Directory had been in circulation since 2004/5 with infrequent updates by the CT the last being in 2013 – it was not something new it was something which had been allowed to lapse. Advertise through May, Slaley News with a deadline of May 31st and the PC to look at the final draft at its June meeting. Including the Mental Health poster was considered a good insert. Cllr DJ Taylor proposed asking the Community Trust if they would fund the printing of any hard copies.

c) Cllr IC Stevens produced the requested information sheet entitled 'Managing our mental health and wellbeing' a hard copy has gone onto both notice boards, the web site and a copy has been given to Slaley News editor for inclusion asap. Copy attached as **appendix 5/120421, Page 1534**

### **17. Audit arrangements**

a) Email correspondence (24/3/21) from PKF Littlejohn re external audit (AGAR).

b) 2021 Asset & Investment Register – no changes from 2020. attached as **appendix 6/120421, Page 1535**

c) Risk Assessment 2021/22. Banking arrangements have changed and the first item on banking needs to be amended. New wording "payments authorised by the Clerk should not be authenticated by anyone who has an interest. In essence an interest will preclude a Councillor from authenticating payments. attached as **appendix 7/120421, Page 1536**

### **18. Annual Litter Pick**

Litter sacks, Gloves & Litter-Pickers ordered from NCC. Arranged for Saturday/Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>.

Posters on Notice boards including the school and the parish web site. Email of Litter at Trygill entrance to Slaley Forest freshly left overnight 9/10 April 2021.

### **19. AOB**

Cllr J Storey asked if the Trygill bin had been ordered. (recorded 6b 15/3/21)

b) Cllr S Carson also asked about the ordered Give Way for Townhead (recorded 18b 11/1/21).

### **20. Date of May 2021 meeting: Monday May 10th.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21.03