

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on Monday August 9th 2021 after a site visit to Slaley First School grounds at 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

Four Councillors from Slaley Parish Council looked around the school field prior to the business meeting at the Hall. The trees which NCC had recommended removal (document dated 15/6/21) were inspected – actually being cut down on Wednesday August 11th. Councillors also looked at the Early Years Area where the PC had recently placed dummy cameras to protect the equipment. The Councillors decided that they would not give financial assistance to the school with the tree removal costs. They were alarmed that a tent had been left erected during the summer holidays and thought that the Early Years Area was dirty and untidy. The Councillors had asked that the equipment, which the Headteacher was concerned about, was placed out of harm's way during the period when the school was closed. The Clerk was requested to write to the Chair of Governors detailing their concerns.

1. Public Participation. None

2. Apologies. Councillors S. Carson, I. C. Stevens County Councillor Colin Horncastle.

Present: Councillor A.M. Livesey as Chairman. Councillors S. C. Douglas, J. Storey, D. J. Taylor & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson.

3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record. Cllrs DJ Taylor, SC Douglas, IC Stevens & the PC Clerk all to declare an interest in 16c. 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 5a

4. Minutes of July 12th 2021 meeting (circulated pages 1545 – 1548), appendix 1, page 1549 & appendix 2, page 1550. The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr S. C. Douglas and seconded by Cllr J. Storey. The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising.

- a) 5a 12/7/21; 5a 14/6/21; 5a 10/5/21; 5b 12/4/21; 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. 13 months after this began there was no update available. Gillian Cowell on annual holiday when asked for an update.
- b) 5f 12/7/21; 5h 14/6/21; 5d 10/5/21; 16b 12/4/21: Slaley Business Directory - Cllr SC Douglas contacted Slaley Hall. No response therefore no further update.
- c) 5g 12/7/21; 5j14/6/21; 16e 16/5/21: Community Sub-committee Top Eleven Tips on website – no feedback from the public.
- d) 17b 12/7/21: Wall down outside gas cabinet at Townfoot/Riding Mill road corner. Clerk made extensive enquiries over several days. It was established highways knew nothing about the wall, a local farmer said the wall had been knocked down on November 28th 2020. Finally, a name for a contact at Northern Gas was obtained and a telephone call to this contact on Monday 26/7/21 resulted in a contractor rebuilding the wall on Wednesday July 28th.
- e) 5h 12/7/21; 17 14/6/21: BOAT closure. Cllr J. Storey reported the removal of the Closure Notices 14/7/21 – Reply from NCC that more formal signs and padlocked gates are in the process or being placed on the BOAT. Karl Beckett contacted the Clerk by email 20/7/21 with a photograph of the damaged BOAT where he dropped his mobile – this was sent on to David Brookes. Further correspondence of illegal usage with photographs from Cllr J Storey on 2/8/21. Again on 8/8/21, then a photograph of the gate removed - received later on 8/8/21. Police have in hand.

6. Tackling Climate Change at Parish Level.

Meeting on Wednesday August 4th when the discussion topic was 'community energy'. Slaley PC got a grant and looked into a community PV project between October 9th 2017 and April 8th 2019. Cllr DJ explained that a PV Project was to be looked at again exploring suitable sites, grants & beneficiaries. NCC Climate Action Plan is on the Slaley web site. A Stocksfield Councillor has declared a climate emergency and Slaley PC was asked if it would do the same. A very lengthy discussion followed with differences of opinion. Eventually it was agreed that in future the vision and decisions of Slaley Parish Council will have a positive impact on our environment.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor

- a) Update Glen Crossroads – Karl Beckett’s reply from MP Guy Opperman, 19/7/21 who suggested the County Councillor could help, circulated to Councillors. Cllr AM Livesey contacted Highways 19/7/21 asking for a report from the inspectors visit. CC C Horncastle requested an update at 12.58 on 9/8/21 - he did not receive any response.
- b) Update on reducing village speed to 20 mph. – CC C Horncastle requested an update at 12.58 on 9/8/21 - he did not receive any response.
- c) Email 25/7/21 from a local farmer complaining about lack of sight when exiting fields due to overgrown verges on the Kellas road. Cllr J. Storey replied that the verges had been left to protect Northern Marsh Orchids and other indicator species of wild meadow plants which are in decline. Cllr J. Storey looked at the gateway in question and used his brush cutter to open up sight-lines

8. Correspondence.

Hard copies:

Clerk & Councils Direct July issue

Email

- a) 13/7/21: RSN Rural Bulletin
- b) 13/7/21: Nichola Turnbull -Tynedale Local Area meeting
- c) 15/7/21: GNAA News.
- d) NCC Carrol Hessey Love Northumberland 2021
- e) 20/7/21: RSN Rural Bulletin
- f) 20/7/21: NALC Enews
- g) 20/7/21: Forest England – Stakeholder Consultation.
- h) 27/7/21: RSN Rural Bulletin
- i) 27/7/21: Pennine Journey – north Loop Ultramarathon 2022. 104 miles of trail, footpath, moorland and grass land. Anticipate around 100 runners. Starts at Blanchland sports field 30/4/22 and ends back there 1/5/22. Mark Marchant 07428 071115 asking for feedback.
- j) 27/7/21: Training event by Rape Crisis Tyneside & Northumberland – 27/8/21 at Newcastle. £40 per delegate.
- k) 29/7/21: NALC Enews
- l) 29/7/21: Streetworks - Emergency TTRO Hallgate, Hexham repair mains water
- m) 30/7/21: CAN NEWS – Louise Currie reducing her hours – new post is anyone interested.
- n) 30/7/21: NALC Member Update
- o) 30/7/21: Contacts for Multi Council Seats on the County Committee – Hexham & Hexhamshire vacant seat
- p) 3/8/21: RSN Rural Bulletin
- q) 4/8/21: RSN Funding Digest
- r) 4/8/21: NHS NEAS 40% off all course bookings this August at new facility on Team Valley Trading Estate
- s) 4/8/21: Streetworks TTRO Aydon Road Corbridge.
- t) 5/8/21: Forestry Commission Tree Helath Update.

9. Financial Report.

- a) TP Jones & Co LLP. July payroll paperwork
- b) Invoices received & paid since June meeting
WEL Medical replacement Defib pads authorized payment of £64.50 on 16/7/21
Two dummy security cameras £14.12 ordered by P. Wilson
As agreed May 10th minutes agenda item 14: Hire of Slaley Commemoration Hall for Artisan market £80
- c) Bank statement for July received £14,416.62
- d) AGAR forms: Notification of Exemption Status acknowledged by Little john 13/7/21
- e) Email correspondence from GNAA re grant aid applications saving postage costs– Bank details received

10. New Planning Applications.

21/02633/FUL: Proposed extension of existing farmhouse into adjacent barn. Woodnook Hill Farm, U8080. NE47 0BW. Councillors emailed comments by August 5th. **No objections.**

21/02682/OUT: Resubmission: Outline application for development of up to 3 detached dwellings (all matters reserved) Land west of Rose Cottage, Wooley Road, Hexham, Applicant Mr. A. Garvey. Comments by August 12th **No objections.**

21/02859/FUL: Proposed Garden Room extension to the rear of the property and removal of a modern porch to the north elevation revealing the original door opening. Church View, Slaley. NE470AD. Mr. Best

21/02860/LBC: Proposed Garden Room (as above)

No objections.

21/02878/FUL: Change of use of land for siting of Shepherds huts and associated development. White House Farm, Slaley NE47 0AN. Applicant Mrs G. Kellett.

No objections.

Decisions from planning

21/01740/FUL: Proposed garage conversion to facilitate living, utility and garden store room. Proposed roof to be hopped to mitigate the impact upon the neighbouring property. Eastholme. Slaley NE47 0BQ. Mr P & Mrs P Wordsworth.

Granted

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. **Permitted.**

11. Social Media Report - Councillor A.M. Livesey/ Cllr IC Stevens & Slaley Web Page Report - Councillor S.C. Douglas. Social media advertising of the Artisan Market was a large part of its success. NCC + Eon grants for greener homes on the web site

12. Defibrillator Update– Monthly check list attached as appendix 1/090821 page 1555.

Cllr J. Storey reported that he had carried out the July 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. The door seals were cleaned 3/5/21. Date on replacement pads is 2023-11. Training of use with a defibrillator would be beneficial Clerk to ask NEAS about more parish training this Autumn.

13. Update games/play area within school grounds.

a) Monthly reports received for July and forwarded to school.

b) 13b 12/7/21: Email received 15/7/21 from School - Tin Calder cutting down three Cherry Trees on August 11th. One cherry tree was not as shown on the NCC map – Clerk to contact tree surgeon to make sure he is not going by the NCC map. Cllr IC Stevens had met with school Headteacher and Chair of Governors, he received clarification about who covers the cost of the tree removal and emailed this information on 26/7/21. Reconsider the request for financial help – further explanation by email 3/8/21 from Cllr IC Stevens. The Councillors decided that they did not want to provide any financial assistance to the removal of the trees. Clerk to write to the Chair of Governors about the school grounds – tent a health and safety issue should have been removed for the holidays. Also the untidiness of the Early years area which the PC were asked to protect.

c) 13c 12/7/21: Two security dummy cameras purchased by Clerk, the wording for two notices finally agreed and printed by the school. Both cameras and notices were fitted at the school by Cllr IC Stevens on Friday 25/7/21.

14. Local Transport Plan Programme Consultation 2022/23

Emailed information 17/7/21 will agree priorities in September

15. Neighbourhood Plan

ZOOM meeting with David English & Sarah Brannigan at 11 a.m. on Friday 20th August. The PC has been asked to identify the things they would like to address through a neighbourhood plan.

1. Approach to green belt planning
2. New build – good environmental credentials
3. Shortage of affordable housing
4. Economic sustainability for farming community
5. Positively encourage environmental considerations and alternatives
6. PV Community Project
7. Tourism small scale – micro development – farm diversification
8. Listed building - Renewable energy
9. Carbon sequestration
10. PC to be listened to when it makes comment on planning applications

b) NCC Neighbourhood Planning Newsletter arrived by email 30/7/21. Page 4 of the newsletter *The Future of the Planning System* claims *The Housing, Communities & Local Government Committee reported strong criticism of the Government's perceived downgrading of neighbourhood plans The Government's reforms to Local Plans were seen likely to squeeze out neighbourhood plans..... The Government must clarify the role and status of neighbourhood plans in the proposed system.....*

16. Slaley Commemoration Hall Update by Cllr DJ Taylor.

- a) Approved minutes from May 19th meeting attached as **appendix 2/090821, page 1556.**
- b) Artisan Market report from Wednesday July 28th. A second market will be held on October 27th.
- c) 16 12/7/21: Cllr DJ Taylor re-tabled the request to the PC for financial help with an overhang on the new extension with seating below. Email containing plan and more details circulated 5/8/21 by Cllr DJ Taylor. Withdrawn due to the fact that from May 19th 2021 three Councillors are Trustees of the Commemoration Hall. Clerk to seek further clarification from Stephen Rickitt.

17. AOB

- a) Cllr S. Carson complained to a contractor about a heap of topsoil left outside a village home 13/7/21..
- b) Request for the grass at the crossroads Lead Road/ B6306 to be cut back Clerk to contact highways

18. Date of September 2021 meeting: Monday September 13th.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.59 p.m.