

1. Public Participation. None

2. Apologies Councillor D. J. Taylor & County Councillor Colin Horncastle

Present: Councillor R.W.H. Hutchinson in the Chair. Councillors S. Carson, S. C. Douglas, A.M. Livesey, J. Storey & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson. Public: None

3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record. None

4. Minutes of November 11th 2019 meeting (circulated pages 1409 – 1411). Appendix 1, page 1412 & appendix 2, page 1413. The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr S. Carson and seconded by Cllr S. C. Douglas. The minutes were then signed and dated.

5. Matters Arising.

- a) 5c 11/11/19; 5c 14/10/19; 15b 9/9/19: Mr. Rickitt re loans – a loan to the hall by the PC in such circumstances under section 19 of the Local Gov (Misc Provisions) Act 1976 – facilities for recreation. Hall makes a formal application to the council and a report is written setting out the pros and cons including that there is no absolute guarantee that the money will be repaid.
- b) 7g 11/11/19: Neighbourhood Planning – Jenny Ludman been invited to speak at Slaley PC on Monday April 6th about a NP. However, she is presenting to Hexhamshire PC on Thursday January 9th and wondered if we would like to join them and do a combined NP (if Hexhamshire were willing?). Slaley Clerk has asked to join the January meeting to hear the discussion,
- c) 14b 11/11/19: parking on footpaths: Councillors to check and report (Courant 21/11/19 reported that Otterburn PC had similar problems and MPS are calling for a nationwide ban on pavement parking). Cllr S.C. Douglas to put a general reminder in the notes and through the February Slaley News.
- d) 8t 7/10/19: Simon Bowens 20 climate actions for town & parish councils. Clerk tabled a paper recording actions taken by neighbouring parishes and asking if Slaley would be interested in being part of an Action Group – working with the schoolchildren (who already has some of its work on the LCOY UK web site), the village hall, the nature reserve and other organisations who would like to take part. An Open Day on January 26th has already been advertised and this could be a possible starting forum. This resulted in a very lengthy discussion with very different aspects on climate change being tabled. Some Councilors felt changes should be central government led while others thought that as a parish we could focus on small things. Cllr J, Storey suggested speakers from the energy companies coming out to explain some “green alternatives”. Publicity and truthful information were discussed and Cllr A.M. Livesey commented upon importing wooden pellets from America for alternative heating because the UK did not hold sufficient timber to fulfill demand. (Cllr Livesey further explained that the process of making the biomass pellets produces vast amounts of carbon dioxide - so not green at all). Verge conservation was also suggested. Electric charging points was something the PC had discussed several years ago and supported the Commemoration Hall as they looked into providing a point. The Councillors were interested in the work of Slaley schoolchildren and thought it would be good if the Commemoration Hall encouraged the children’s ideas through a display at its Open Day on January 26th. The Councilors also concluded that they would support and FUND “green initiatives” as the Commemoration Hall made its 100- year improvements – with ideas such as underground heating, a different heat source to natural gas, solar panels, improved insulation (consider the new insulated plaster boards), light bulbs etc. Cllr S.C. Douglas confirmed she would be interested in working with the Clerk to form a set of actions the parish could pursue.

6. Community Trust Update.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor

- a) Recent editorials (Journal 27/11/19 & Courant 21/11/19) reported that NCC highways are asking local people to clear footpaths should snow fall. Called a “Snow Warden” scheme, those signing up will be provided with a ‘snow warden kit’ which includes a snow shovel, salt, a thermal hat and head torch, a pair of thermal gloves and a high-vis-vest. Paul Jones, the council’s director of local services said “we know from the past there’s great community spirit with people clearing their local paths and looking out for their neighbours. We want to build on that spirit and ensure people have the right kit to do the job when they’re helping out”.
- b) Owner of The Old Barn (village NE47 0AA) reported by email 9/12/19 that the village drain outside his property is blocked and stands in water when it is raining. He also reported that his front room is damp and the paint is bubbling.
- c) Highways update from Cllr S. Carson: although the Townfoot hole has been repaired there is no report from an unground camera to assess what was causing the water to surface – the PC hopes that the cause has been addressed. Dipton cut signage is almost completed. Small pot holes near Travelers Rest and road markings on Linnels bank are still to be attended to.
- d) Cllr A.M. Livesey reported the larger pot holes on the Wooley road have been filled while the smaller ones remain to get bigger – Cllr Livesey wondered if highways had a certain diameter they were instructed to fill?

8. Correspondence.

Hard copies.

Northumberland Touring Theatre company asking if the PC would offer a financial donation.

Emails:

- a) 12/11/19: RSN Rural Bulletin
- b) 13/11/19: NALC Enews
- c) 13/11/19: Planning Strategy – Notice of Chapter 13 hearing sessions.
- d) 15/11/19: CAN Autumn news
- e) 15/11/19: Kate Ershadi call for evidence of households not connected to electricity
- f) 19/11/19: RSN Rural bulletin
- g) 20/11/19: CAN households not connected to electricity evidence
- h) 25/11/19: CAN Enews
- i) 26/11/19: RSN rural bulletin
- j) 28/11/19: NALC member council update
- k) 28/11/19: NALC Enews
- l) 3/12/19: Streetworks TTRO Corchester Lane, Hexham.
- m) 3/12/19: RSN Rural Bulletin
- n) 3/12/19: NALC Member Update
- o) 4/12/19: RSN Monthly bulletin
- p) 4/12/19: Carrol Hessey - Litter Campaign – Winter
- q) 4/12/19: Streetworks TTRO Front street, Corbridge
- r) 5/12/19: NALC Enews
- s) 6/12/19: NALC Chief executive’s bulletin

9. Financial Report.

a) Real Time Information: TP Jones & Co LLP. Employers Summary November 2019

b) Cheques to be signed –

Cheque No 758 Well Medical Electrode pads £52.62

No 759 Slaley Commemoration Hall Wi Fi payments September – December 2019 £143.52

Cheques proposed by Cllr A.M. Livesey and seconded by Cllr J. Storey, the cheques were signed.

c) Thank you letter for grant from GNAA, CAN, Ladycross NR;

d) Bank statement funds as at November 28th £14,888.33

10. New Planning Applications.

Decisions from Planning:

19/02208/FUL: Proposal for reinstatement of original access to property & formation of new parking area. Rose Cottage, Wooley. Applicant C. Ryder. **Granted**

Planning application 19/03874/FUL: Replacement of existing sewage treatment plant. Slaley Hall Hotel, Slaley. Comments by October 17th. There is a lot of documents with this application - Great Crested Newt EDNA Survey (28 pages); Ecological Appraisal (30 pages); Arboricultural Pre-development Report by Elliott Consultancy (18 pages). **Withdrawn**

19/02223/FUL: Proposed demolition of existing side extension and construction of two storey side extension, front porch. 1 South Park. applicant Stephen Appleby. **Granted**

11. Social Media Report - Councillor A.M. Livesey & Slaley Web Page Report - Councillor S.C. Douglas. Everything working fine – no problems.

12. Defibrillator Update– Monthly check list attached as appendix 1/091219, page 1417

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 completed by Cllr Storey - the Clerk scanned and emailed to NEAS.

13. Update games/play area within school grounds. No update

14. Precept for 2020/21 appendix 2/091219, page 1418

To be completed in January when quotes for 2020 grass cutting are available.

15. Slaley Commemoration Hall minutes from September 18th 2019 attached as appendix 3/091219, page 1419.

- a) The Hall's Booking clerk and key holder has resigned after 15 years in the post – the position has been advertised and could be undertaken by different people. The committee is looking at an electronic booking although there still needs to be a person to make sure the system works.
- b) Open Day planned for Sunday January 26th 2020 as part of Village Hall's Week when the plans will be on view. Refreshments, Games of Chess, Whist and Table Tennis will be offered.
- c) The Hall is looking at how it can become more environmentally friendly and has invited Slaley schoolchildren to share the work they have done on climate change
- d) The Hall was awarded Hallmark 2 one of only 7 of the 64 Halls in Northumberland to be awarded this and it resulted in an immediate £63 reduction in the annual insurance.

16. AOB

- a) Dorothy Bell reported that the mobile post office was not at Slaley Thursday 5th or Friday 6th.

17. Date of January 2020 meeting: Monday January 13th.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.41 p.m.