

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council, Monday March 14th 2022,  
At 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

**1. Public Participation.** Apologies from Lynda Sale invited

**2. Apologies.** County Councillor Colin Horncastle.

**Present:** Councillor D. J. Taylor as Chairman. Councillors S. C. Douglas, I. C. Stevens & J. Storey & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson.

**3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.** Parish Council Clerk for the Wander insurance through Gallagher – agenda item 18.

**4. Minutes of February 14th 2022 meeting (circulated pages 1595 – 1599), appendix 1, page 1600, appendix 2, page 1601 & appendix 3, page 1602.** The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr J. Storey and seconded by Cllr I. C. Stevens. The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

**5. Matters Arising.**

a) 7c 14/2/22: The holly bushes at Hollybush corner. Further correspondence with highways asking if a skip can be provided to clear site and find any rootstock. Mrs S. Charlton checked deeds and land boundary, the fenced off holly bushes section belongs to Highways. Fence needs replacing. Glen replied that if we stack branches inside the fence, he will collect under traffic management. Clerk got a copy of 1770s enclosure award maps – nothing to see they only show public highways and land ownership. 19<sup>th</sup> century second edition shows a tree in centre of road.

b) 7f 14/2/22: The 30-mph sign at Townfoot, Slaley Village replaced.

c) 19 a 14/2/22: Vicky Norton from Northumbria police replied that her new department mainly deals with safeguarding issues not community matters.

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

Christopher Porter from Hexhamshire is taking over the Chair for the next four meetings. Thanks to Peter Topping who stepped down after chairing the group for two years.

World Earth Day is Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup> – There is going to be an event at Slaley Commemoration Hall entitled “Just One Thing”

Tree planting initiatives continue across the parish, today five more fruit trees were planted at Parks Side in the community orchard. Cllr S C Douglas intends to make a site map detailing which trees are where on the site. Following the recent severe storms, the Commemoration Hall is investigating how it can be used as an emergency hub in the future.

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

a) Update Glen Crossroads – email from CC Colin Horncastle said no update

b) Update on reducing village speed to 20 mph. – email from CC Colin Horncastle said no update. Cllr SC Douglas felt that there must be an information trail at NCC on both these subjects – Ask where this can be found from Cllr John Riddle. If there is no satisfactory response then a Freedom of Information request was suggested.

c) Cllr J. Storey reported a drain cover lifting at Townfoot corner 22/2/22. Clerk saw repair in progress.

d) 1/3/22: Wooley resident Mrs A. Livesey reported new lights at Wooley Grange to be reconsidered.

e) Slaley resident Nigel Morton reported 2/3/22 potholes on Wooley Road, incident number 101007592522

**8. Correspondence.**

**Hard copies:**

Clerk & Councils Direct February issue. Citizens Advice and Age Concern.

**Email:**

a) 15/2/22: NCC Storm Preparations for Storms Dudley and Eunice Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 18<sup>th</sup>.

- b) 15/2/22: NCC Northumberland Local Plan – Inspectors Report view on NCC website. Plan’s adoption at Cabinet on 29/3/22 and Full Council on 30/3/22.
- c) 16/2/22: NALC member update.
- d) 18/2/22: NALC Enews
- e) 18/2/22: CAN Enews
- f) 18/2/22: Forestry Commission February 22 Area Update
- g) 21/2/22: NCC Streetworks Emergency TTRO St. Mary’s Chare, Hexham.
- h) 22/2/22: RSN Rural Bulletin
- i) 24/2/22: NALC Enews
- j) 25/2/22: NALC Member Update – The Armed Forces Covenant details
- k) 1/3/22: RSN Rural Bulletin
- l) 1/3/22: Eddie Graham Flyng Scotsman Classic Rally, Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 120 vehicles, Riding Mill Road.
- m) 2/3/22: RSN Funding Digest.
- n) 8/3/22: RSN Rural Bulletin
- o) 8/3/22: Big Northumberland Gear Change – cycle and walking infrastructure plans in N’land towns.
- p) 8/3/22: Valerie Walker local organiser for Playlist. Musical teas good for dementia
- q) 10/3/22: Kate Pawley Zebra Business Case Update. Both PCs supported the ZEBRA bid to the DfT for 73 new zero emission buses. (Slaley 13/12/21 agenda 8v. Healey Int/100 agenda 2v).
- r) 10/3’/22: On August 8th 2021 both councils were offered a visit from someone in Glen Sanderson's Cabinet. We replied asking for a joint visit on August 11th. Healey Parish Council sent a reminder on March 3rd this year. Glen Sanderson has put **Monday June 13th** in his diary to come out to Slaley. He has asked the Clerk to provide an indication of what the two Councils wish to discuss with him. Both Councils wish to discuss the Glen crossroads. Healey planning issues. Slaley 20 mph rollout. Environment issues. Solar panels. Emergency Hub etc. CC Colin Horncastle’s email suggests it may not be Cllr Sanderson who attends.
- s) 10/3/22 Slaley Community Shop Community Fund.
- t) 11/3/22: NCC Climate Change Newsletter
- u) 11/3/22: Green Lane Association (GLASS) having its say on riding byways.

## 9. Financial Report.

- a) February/March payroll paperwork
- b) Invoices received & paid since February meeting
- c) Invoices to be paid
- Commemoration Hall WiFi January – March
- P. Wilson salary January – March £1,128.99
- HMRC Tax January – March £21.00
- d) Cllr SC Douglas paid Melanie Cant to change the domain transfer from 123 Reg to Rocket spark.
- e) Lloyds bank – Online banking changes.

## 10. Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee.

- a) Second PC Letter sent to 23 separate parish organisations asking for update by March 14<sup>th</sup>

### Replies:

**Slaley Show:** A Royal theme to the show and competitions.

**Film Club:** show a comedy film about Rex the Queen’s Top Dog who ends up in a London dog’s home.

**Healey Parish Council** considered an Installation of some kind. Iron artwork (Philip Hubbuck). Tree Sculpture (Cllr M Cartlidge reported that there was a large Yew Tree stump in the churchyard, which may be suitable). A wooden ‘something’ (Neil Jobes). Any of these at a prominent site in the parish possibly crossroads Healey to The Barn. A kissing gate at a popular footpath entrance. Commemorative Mugs for children was also tabled. Hope that Healey residents could join in any Slaley celebration/party event.

**St. Mary’s Church:** Flower displays in Church – ask local organisations to provide window displays + Local artists to exhibit paintings of flowers and gardens. Jubilee weekend and Wander Sunday.

**Local History Group** has agreed to provide a window display at St. Mary’s for the Jubilee weekend.

**Slaley Parish Council:** it was agreed to think about one ‘wooden’ seat only for position at the Commemoration Hall. Clerk to get prices for the April meeting.

It was agreed to host a public meeting chaired by Cllr I C Stevens at 11 a.m. on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April where parish groups could discuss ideas and see where working together was possible. Cllr I C Stevens would be able to offer up to £250 towards events, possibly 5 @ £50 each e.g. Film Club showing of the Queen’s Corgi would be eligible for £50 or WI providing afternoon refreshments £50 would cover the hire of Slaley Commemoration Hall. Advertising this event would be crucial to its success. Cllr Stevens to cover Slaley News & Facebook, Cllr Douglas to cover Slaley Notes, Cllr Taylor to cover web. Clerk to forward to Cllr I C Stevens the email addresses for the organisations who received an email in January and February.

#### **11. New Planning Applications.**

**22/00321/FUL:** Single storey side extension at rear providing utility room. Deneside, Wooley, Hexham. NE46 1TY. Applicant Sophie Betts. **Pending.**

**21/04771/FUL & 21/04772 LBC:** Construction of a garden room, replacement staircase, internal alterations to partitions and walls to ensuite bathrooms and kitchen. Repairs to existing windows and installing secondary glazing. Refurbishment of barn to form fitness room, den and utility room. Re-slating the roofs, repairing floors, stalling rooflights and new stairs. Shield Hall, NE46 1TU. Applicant Gary Hall. **Pending**

**21/03782/FUL:** Conversion of outbuilding to guest accommodation, East Ridley Hall, Strothers Bank Slaley. Applicants Mr & Mrs Paul Spencer. **Pending**

**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. **Pending.** \*  
\*checking on line there are some objections to this application

#### **Decisions from planning**

**12. Social Media Report - Cllr I. C. Stevens & Slaley Web Page Report - Councillor S.C. Douglas.**  
Cllr SC Douglas asked for a Neighbourhood Plan heading on the web site. This was agreed.

#### **13. Defibrillator Update– Monthly check list attached as appendix attached as appendix1/140322, page 1607**

- 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. The update confirmed by The Circuit.
- b) First Aid Training by NEAS was agreed for Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> – still vacant places.

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

- a) Correspondence re Weekly Inspector not having a DBS certificate – School has stopped the inspections. Cllr Glen Sanderson replied to our request for NCCs Recruitment Policy for the employment of playground inspectors. Request passed to Greg Gavin, Head of Neighbourhood Services. Slaley a unique situation Stephen Wardle and David Hunt will reply. Stephen Wardle replied that it is not the policy of NCC to have its playground inspectors checked but in future NCC would carry out the weekly inspections at Slaley outside of school hours. Slaley School Headteacher has agreed to this. The Councillors with reluctance also agreed.
- b) Sport & Play inspection 2/3/22 – wood board behind netball net is starting to perish. Wood needs to be treated. Cllr I C Stevens and Clerk still to undertake their inspection deferred from September 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 minutes agenda item 13d.
- c) School needs a community governor – Cllr J Storey explained that people in general were reluctant to become a Governor because, like being a Trustee, the position holds financial and legal implications which can hold an individual responsible should there be a problem in the school or organization.
- d) January inspection sheets arrived 10/3/22 and forward to school & Cllr I C Stevens.

#### **15. Parish Council Vacancies**

Lynda Sale invited to attend meeting. Cllr J. Storey asked that Steve Percy be also invited.

#### **16. Neighbourhood Plan**

- a) Cllr D J Taylor is Treasurer of the Steering Group and the Parish Council has taken into its account £1,105.00 for NP expenditure. An Income & Expenditure breakdown will be presented to the PC each month showing how the NP money is being spent.
- b) Cllr S C Douglas asked for a Neighbourhood Plan heading on the web site.
- c) Cllr S C Douglas reported that stage one is completed, the Steering Group are working on stage 2. Community consultation is booked for meetings on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Leaflets, banners etc. are currently with Robson Print.

## **17. Joint meeting**

**September 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 meeting** – agenda item 8c) 11/8/21: Cllr Barry Flux, NCC business Chair, offered a meeting with Glen Sanderson, Leader of NCC or a cabinet member. Members of both PCs replied yes. Clerk offered both PCs as a three-pronged meeting; First Slaley, then both, finally Healey. Separate meetings were also given as a possibility. This was emailed 13/8/21. Healey PC asked if an email could be sent to Glen Sanderson with a reminder of the offer.

Mr. Sanderson replied 3/3/22 that “someone” would be glad to attend and requested we let Susan Taylor know the dates of our meetings in April, May and June. See agenda 8r above Monday June 13<sup>th</sup> agreed. Both Councils wish to discuss the Glen crossroads. Healey planning issues. Slaley 20 mph rollout. Environment issues. Solar panels. Emergency Hub etc.

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

a) Cllr D J Taylor reported that the paintings were back inside the Hall with some excellent publicity in both the Hexham Courant and the Community Foundation.

Fundraiser ‘Gone to the Wall’ had been a success with praise for the Italian wines and food

**b) Wander insurance through Gallagher.** Only if the event is organized by a subcommittee or a working party operating under their governance. This was discussed in detail. A PC letter to be sent to the two Wander organisers and an invitation sent for them to attend the April meeting. The Wander to become an agenda item in the monthly meetings. The Councillors to receive a copy of the minutes, the constitution the Risk Assessment. Then the Councillors could consider the Wander to be organized by a sub-committee.

## **19. AOB**

a) Slaley Church has set up a collection point in St. Mary’s Church for goods for Ukrainian people. A list of the request goods is available and collected items will be delivered to North Tyneside depot. Due to the wonderful response the collection is temporarily suspended. Help for Ukrainian women and children fleeing from war in their country – Slaley Parish Council is shocked by recent events and is supportive of any local help. They hope to keep themselves informed of updates.

b) Empty family home at Reason View – *Update – property occupied - lights and furniture present at end of meeting. Therefore, no further action needed.*

c) Cllr J. Storey gave a verbal report from the Woodland Protection Group which recently met at Whitley Chapel with a ZOOM presentation by Inspector Benson and a request for volunteers for future forest policing events. Cllr D J Taylor asked if the WPG meeting notes could be circulated for a full discussion in April.

## **20. Date for April 2022 meeting:**

Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.