

Minutes from meeting of Slaley Parish Council on Monday October 10th 2022
in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

1. Public Participation. None.

2. Apologies. CC Colin Horncastle.

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

3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record. None.

4. Minutes of September 22nd 2022 meeting (circulated pages 1655 – 1659), appendix 1, page 1660 & appendix 2, page 1661. The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr D. J. Taylor and seconded by Cllr J. Storey. The minutes were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising.

a) 5a 22/9/22, 5a 8/8/22: Cllr I C Stevens reported (25/9/22) wheelie bin at Trygill was not emptied so he and Mrs. Stevens filled a bin bag to tidy site. Cllr J Storey reported to NCC under 101007998042 then 30/9/22 a bin wagon stopped and asked for directions to the bin at Trygill. Bins now appear to be emptied.

b) 5b 22/9/22; 5b 8/8/22; 5b 11/7/22; 5b 13/6/22; 17 9/5/22: Cllr Graham Curry pencilled in for Slaley PC October meeting, however due to new room not being open and an earlier booking, the PC Chairman suggested postponing to the November meeting, which Cllr Curry acknowledged.

c) 5c 22/9/22: 17d 8/8/22: Request for Townhead Give Way despite another reminder still not renewed.

d) 5d 22/9/22, 5d 8/8/22, 8f 11/7/22: Illuminated Sheep ZOOM meeting Friday 7/10/22 - Update.

- Sheep at Church all week bar Mondays (except 7/11/22)
- Mondays sheep at Rose & Crown (except 7/11/22)
- November 6th Sheep at Christmas Fair
- School working with Church
- Mutton month during November at Community Shop
- Jon making Sheep Shaped Shortbread
- Vicky Young dressing the Sheep in Shepherds outfit
- Naming Competition – £10 book token for first prize
- Sheep pictures to colour and place in village windows being considered

e) 17b 22/9/22: Fly tipping Cllr J. Storey reported fridge ref no 101007994296 & dumpy bag no 101007994307. Reply from NCC requesting that land owners/farmers who have items fly tipped onto their land then become responsible for its disposal and should not place it onto the grass verges. Cllr D Taylor says fridge is still there.

6. Tackling Climate Change at Parish Level.

a) Slaley, Healey & Hexhamshire CEG intend to organise an event to celebrate the Winter Solstice.

b) Date of next CEG meeting Wednesday October 19th.

c) Several emails 10/10/22 Recalling the Newbiggin meeting on September 29th. Cllr S C Douglas attended – this must be a NCC computer fault as Cllr S C Douglas also got several.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor

a) Update Glen Crossroads hedge - Emails October 3rd. The Parish Council must reflect that what we are doing is what we have been asked by concerned parishioners and angry residents of Healey parish.

b) Update on reducing area outside school speed to 20 mph. Michael McMonagle replied by email 4/10/22 that the small two-vehicle layby to the east of the school gate will be enforceable to the parking restrictions on the road.

c) Sections of the village footpath have holes or are in need of repair work, these are mainly outside O'Dunain, Greyholme & Middle Grange.

8. Correspondence.

Hard copy:

Clerks & Councils Direct October. Glasdon catalogue

Email:

- a) 23/9/22: Northern Powergrid reminder of meetings Hexham Mart & Bellingham
- b) 23/9/22: School – Governor Vacancies
- c) 26/9/22: Streetworks TTRO Broadgates, Hexham
- d) 27/9/22: Wm Wearmouth report from joint event with Northern Powergrid held at Hexham Mart
- e) 27/9/22: RSN Rural Bulletin.
- f) 28/9/22: Streetworks TTRO C282 Whitley Chapel to Dipton Mill road
- g) 28/9/22: Streetworks TTRO U8296 Yarridge Road
- h) 28/9/22: Shelly Winters Scribefest 14/10/22 – free ZOOM conference dedicated to Parish, Town & Community councils.
- i) 28/9/22: Wm Wearmouth confirmed that 50 landline telephones are allocated to the Hexham area
- j) 29/9/22: Streetworks TTRO U8090 & U8100 in Healey parish
- k) 30/9/22: Forestry Commission September News.
- l) 30/9/22: NCC Census 2021
- m) 30/9/22: CAN Enews
- n) 3/10/22: NALC AGM 8/10/22 at Felton.
- o) 4/10/22: RSN Rural Bulletin
- p) 4/10/22: Professor Harry Bradbury of Anick holding an event in Newcastle to explain the new opportunities under which the whole of Northumberland can benefit economically.
- q) 5//10/22: Georgia Langdon, Hexham Courant emailed Chair & Clerk to asking for background to an article on off-roads bikes in Slaley. Cllr Stevens asked Cllr J. Storey to provide information. Cllr J. Storey will reply Tuesday 11/10/22.
- r) 5/10/22: Shelley Winters Scribefest reminder
- s) 7/10/22 NCC Climate Action Northumberland October issue

9. Financial Report.

a) Payroll paperwork October 2022

b) Invoices received & paid since September meeting

c) Invoices to be paid

* Procut Grounds maintenance Ltd - parish areas £345.10 School area £198.80. Parks side £294.10 + Vat £167.60 Total £1,005.60

* Cllr J. Storey thought the last cut of the season was too short and Cllr S.C. Douglas thought grass cutting should be discussed. PC Clerk contacted the school to ask if they were happy with Procut service. – No reply from school. Cllr D J Taylor understood that using the school contractor kept costs down.

Councillors to get quotes from other landscaping / grass cutting contractors who have the necessary permissions to work on the public highways and also within the school grounds. The seven areas currently covered are:

- (i) area around the seat on the B6306 south of Wooley junction
- (ii) area to the west of Townhead junction (amongst the trees)
- (iii) area on the B6306 junction with the village, north/east area of Townhead around the Millennium Seat
- (iv) area either side of the former BMX track (now a footpath) in Slaley School field
- (v) Parks Side bungalows (taken on by PC after continuous complaints by parishioners when Karbon Homes contractor only cut every 4 weeks and left the frontage looking like a silage field).
- (vi) Grass frontage outside South Farm (Cottage owner 90 years old and son in Charlotte Straker hospital)
- (vii) south of village street from Reason View down to Townfoot corner.

10. New Planning Applications.

22/03017/ADE: Advertisement consent for 8 x pole mounted signs, 13 x Totem signs, 18 x Fascia signs and a 1 x Letter sign. Slaley Hall Hotel, Slaley. Comments by October 24th. **No objections**

22/03124/FUL: Refurbishment of barn to form fitness room, home office, den, shower room and utility room. Installation of roof-lights, stair and formation of new access into main house kitchen. Shield Hall, NE46 1TU. Mr. G. Hall. **No objections**

22/03125/LBC: Listed Building Consent for refurbishment of barn to form fitness room, home office, den, shower room and utility room. Installation of roof-lights, stair and formation of new access into main house kitchen. Shield Hall, NE46 1TU. Mr. G. Hall. **No objections**

22/03125/LBC Listed Building Consent for refurbishment of barn to form fitness room, home office, den, shower room and utility room. Installation of rooflights, stair and formation of new access into main house kitchen. Shield Hall, Slaley. Applicant Mr. G. Hall. **Pending – must be superseded by above.**

22/02185/FUL: Creation of single storey extension to rear of existing dwelling. Pry House, Slaley NE47 0BL Applicant Mr. Stephen Percy. **Pending**

Decisions from planning

11. Social Media Report - Cllr I C Stevens / Cllr D J Taylor & Slaley Web Page Report - Councillor S.C. Douglas. Email 6/10/22 from former PC Chairman alerting the PC of attempted log-in to PC email address. Cllr D J Taylor to investigate.

12. Defibrillator Update– Monthly check list attached as appendix 1/101022, page 1666.

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.

13. Update games/play area within school grounds.

On the July 11th 2022 (agenda item 14c) meeting Cllr I C Stevens mentioned an idea of a community structure on the school grounds of an area with a roof and somewhere to sit and chat. Clerk meanwhile asked school what they thought of the outdoor gym equipment recently fitted to the Acomb play area. Slaley PC Councillors had no interest in progressing this idea.

14. Parish Council Vacancies

One candidate thinking about the position

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

Approved minutes from July 20th **attached as appendix 2/101022, page 1667.**

Cllr S C Douglas said SCH was one document away from getting an ExportMPAN which will allow SCH to export solar power to the Grid.

The Resilience Hub bid (NPGrid) has been resubmitted in line with the feasibility meeting and we await final approval. (which would come into the Parish Council).

Cancelled Open Day will now be part of the January 2023 Village Halls Week.

100 years heritage programme of celebration has been cancelled and a 100-birthday event will now take place on December 30th offering parishioners a slice of cake and a drink.

16. Slaley Parish Plan; Action Plan: October Update attached as appendix 3/101022, page 1668

A lengthy discussion took place about the closure of the school grounds in 2002 and the formation of a Steering Group to involve the community in addressing some of the issues of concern in the parish. This resulted in the Parish Plan, adopted by the Parish Council in 2004 and the Action Plan document which the PC has faithfully reviewed every three months. Three further Steering Group meetings have taken place in 2008, 2012, 2017 and February 2021 as the Actions of the Plan have come to fruition. The latest template (in black) is the result of the 2021 Steering Group discussions. The red ink are the updates known to the PC Clerk, however, it is a PC document and the Councillors are invited each quarter to record their known improvements. The Annual Planner gives the dates of the quarterly reviews and also the months when the other Action Plan reviews take place.

17. Consideration of a vision and mission for the Parish Council – Cllr IC Stevens to report

Cllr D J Taylor to provide a simple three themed message for the public to know what the PC will be considering at its next meeting – this will change every month.

18. A proposed dog poo initiative – Cllr IC Stevens to report

- Cllr I C Stevens has noticed an increase in village dog fouling since the evenings were getting dark
- Special PC printed poo bags, 10,000 for £500 could be made available free of charge at the Community Shop
- Cllr D J Taylor can get free bags
- Is it bags that stop people picking up after their pet?
- Is it parishioners or visitors who allow their dog to foul the village street?
- Is there a “tool” for disabled people to pick up after their pet? Cllr D J Taylor to enquire
- Need a focused approach – village map – show where fouling is taking place.

19. Progressing a regular Parish Council surgery – Cllr IC Stevens to report

There was agreement amongst councillors that parish council surgeries might generate more public engagement with the Parish Council. Cllr I C Stevens suggested that before embarking on them, that the work Cllr D J Taylor was to pursue in relation to item 17 (of these minutes) should be signed off first.

20. AOB

Clerk reminded the Councillors that the grants would be paid next month including the additional £175 awarded for “something different” and presented a copy of the 22/23 Precept as at October 10th 2022. This resulted in a discussion of how the PC finances work and when Precepts have to be provided to NCC in setting the County’s Community Charge. The Annual Planner was looked at again.

21. Date of next meeting: Monday November 14th at the earlier time of 3.30 p.m. (November only)

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