



Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Slaley Parish Council

Held on Monday 18th May 2026 at 7.00pm

In Slaley Commemoration Hall

Present

Councillor Anne Livesey, Councillor Julie Cole, Councillor Michael Ogle, Councillor Nicole Dean, and Councillor Dawson.

In attendance

Parish Clerk - Samantha Dalglish.

Members of public

M Elphick

1. Welcome

2. Election of Chair.

Councillor Livesey was nominated by Councillor Cole and seconded by Councillor Ogle. There being no further nominations, Councillor Livesey was duly elected Chair, and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

Proposed: Cllr Cole

Seconded: Cllr Ogle

3. Election Vice Chair.

Councillor Ogle was nominated by Councillor Cole and seconded by Councillor Dean. There being no further nominations, Councillor Ogle was duly elected Vice Chair, and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

Proposed: Cllr Cole

Seconded: Cllr Dean

4. Members Disclosure of Interests.

There were no updates to Pecuniary Interests.

5. Adopt Standing Orders.

Councillor Livesey proposed the adoption of the Standing Orders for the current year, and this was seconded by Councillor Dawson.

Proposed: Cllr Livesey

Seconded: Cllr Dawson

6. Adopt Financial Regulations.

Councillor Cole proposed the adoption of the Financial Regulations for the current year, and this was seconded by Councillor Ogle.

Proposed: Cllr Cole

Seconded: Cllr Ogle

7. Adopt IT Policy.

Councillor Dean proposed the adoption of the IT Policy for the current year, and this was seconded by Councillor Livesey.

Proposed: Cllr Dean

Seconded: Cllr Livesey

8. Adopt Data Protection Policy.

Councillor Dawson proposed the adoption of the Data Protection Policy for the current year, and this was seconded by Councillor Ogle.

Proposed: Cllr Dawson

Seconded: Cllr Ogle

9. Adopt Grants Policy*

Councillor Livesey proposed the adoption of the Grants Policy for the current year, and this was seconded by Councillor Dawson.

Proposed: Cllr Livesey

Seconded: Cllr Dawson

**The grants process will be reassessed after the AGAR is finalised.*

10. Adopt Advertising Policy

Councillor Livesey proposed the adoption of the Advertising Policy for the current year, and this was seconded by Councillor Dawson.

Proposed: Cllr Livesey

Seconded: Cllr Dawson

**The advertising policy will be reassessed after the AGAR is finalised.*

Action: The Clerk will send through Grants & Advertising policy to Councillors.

11. Fulfilling Volunteer Roles.

- a. Commemoration Hall Committee – Cllr Ogle
- b. Slaley News -Cllr Livesey
- c. Defibrillator –Cllr Osborne
- d. Social Media – Cllr Dean
- e. Parish website – Cllr Dean
- f. Community Play Area – Cllr Dawson
- g. Noticeboard – Cllr Dawson

12. Annual Risk Assessment.

Moved to June agenda for full review.

Action: The Clerk will send through Risk Assessment for review.

13. AGAR

Approved and ready to submit to the auditor for review.

Proposed: Cllr Livesey

Seconded: Cllr Dawson

14. Yearly Planner.

Distributed to councillors and posted on Slaley Community website.

15. Public Participation

Mr Elphick thanked Cllr Livesey for her kind words about the Slaley News.

Mr Elphick is developing an article about accessing Slaley Parish Council services and information. He will share the draft version with Cllrs Livesey and Dean prior to publication for review.

16. Apologies for absence.

Councillor Osborne and County Councillor Horncastle.

17. Declarations of Interest

None

18. Planning Applications

26/01526/FUL - Removal of existing single storey rear extension and construction of replacement single storey extension at Burnside Cottage Lead Road Slaley Northumberland, NE47 0BN [Deadline 20th May 2026]

The council has no objection to this application.

Action: *The Clerk will comment through the NCC planning portal.*

19. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of Meeting Held on Monday 20th April 2026.

Minutes were agreed as true copy.

Proposed: Cllr Livesey

Seconded: Cllr Dawson

20. Matters arising

None

21. County Council Update

None

22. Agenda Items

a. Wooley Grange adoption update (Cllr Livesey)

No update. Cllr Livesey will contact County Cllr Horncastle to see if he can progress the matter.

Action: *Cllr Livesey will contact County Cllr Horncastle.*

- b. Rural Crime Report (Cllr Cole)
No report received. Cllr Osborne will be asked to follow up on the burnt-out caravan in Slaley Forest with the Forestry Commission.

Action: Cllr Osborne will contact the Forestry Commission.

- c. Community policing report & 'Cuppa with a Copper' (Cllr Cole)
This has been organised for 24th June at 6pm at the Slaley Commemoration Hall. It has been advertised on the website. A poster will be sent by Cllr Dean to be added to the noticeboard by Cllr Dawson.

**Action: Cllr Dean will send Cuppa with a Copper poster to Cllr Dawson
Cllr Dawson will attach the poster to the Community noticeboard.**

- d. Banking mandate update (Clerk)
Councillors Livesey, Dawson and Dean have been added as signatories to the banking mandate and to the Scribe accounting system.
- e. Insurance renewal review (Cllr Dean & Clerk)
Councillor decided to renew the insurance policy with Ansvar due to the reduction in premium from £1016 to £647 per annum. The clerk will contact Ansvar to issue the new policy.

Action: The Clerk will contact Ansvar to issue a new insurance policy.

- f. Ground nesting bird sign update (Cllr Osborne)
No update

23. Correspondence

1.3 Slaley School

Cllr Dean met with the head of the school. Cllr Dean will send through the information provided at that meeting for review.

The play area requires a further repair. The Clerk will order the replacement part.

Action: The Clerk will contact order the replacement part from Kompan.

1.5 Karbon Homes

Contact was received from Karbon Homes to arrange a grass cutting contract with Slaley Parish Council for the grass area at Parkside, to start in April 2027.

The Clerk will review the size of the area to estimate the costs associated with the grass cutting and negotiate terms with Karbon.

Action: The Clerk will review the size of the grass cutting area at Parkside.

1.6 Procuts

Procuts confirmed that they mow 18 times per year between April 1st and October 31st. The areas they cover are;

- the strip of grass adjacent to the road leading out the east of the village,
- The grass at the Parkside bungalows,

- the grass verges at the east of the village, and
- small area of grass on the B6306 where the Welcome to Slaley sign and bench seat is located.

The clerk will send a map to Cllr Ogle who to identify the areas mentioned so that the area can be mapped to enable an accurate cost estimate.

**Action: The Clerk will send a map to Cllr Ogle to identify grass cutting areas.
Cllr Ogle will identify the grass cutting areas and send back to the Clerk for information.**

24. Finance

- Current account overview - **£1487.90**
- Instant Online interest account - **£ 6028.83**
- Financial Overview of Council funds, including spend against budget

Finances accepted as true record.

Proposed: Cllr Livesey

Seconded: Cllr Dawson

25. Ongoing Matters

- Wooley Grange adoption update
- Rural Crime report
- AGAR
- Risk Assessment
- Ground nesting bird signage
- Grants Policy
- Advertising Policy
- Caravan check with Forestry Commission.

26. Private/Confidential Session

None

27. Any Other Business

A paid position as a caretaker to Slaley Commemoration Hall is available.

A paid position as social media/PR manager for Slaley Commemoration Hall is available.

28. Next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 15th June 2026

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.50pm