



**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of
Slaley Parish Council
Held on Monday 15th June 2026 at 7.00pm
In Slaley Commemoration Hall**

Present

Councillor Anne Livesey (Chair), Councillor Michael Ogle (Vice-Chair), Councillor Mark Osborne, Councillor Alexia Dawson & Councillor Julie Cole.

In attendance

Parish Clerk - Samantha Dalglish,

Members of Public

Residents – None

1. Welcome and councillor news.

None.

2. Public Participation.

None.

3. Apologies for absence

Councillor Nicole Dean & County Councillor Horncastle.

4. Declarations of Interest

None

5. Planning Applications

25/04461/FUL - Part-retrospective: Construction of manege, horse walker, hardstanding and cross country field (as amended 25.03.2026) at Todburn Steel Slaley Hexham Northumberland NE47 0DH [exp 23rd June]

The Slaley Parish Council have no objection to this application.

6. Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026.

Minutes were agreed as true copy (*Proposed – Cllr Cole/Seconded Cllr Ogle*)

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026.

Minutes were agreed as true copy (*Proposed – Cllr Dawson /Seconded Cllr Osborne*)

7. Matters arising – actions log

Addressed under Agenda Items

8. County Councillor update.

None

9. Agenda Items.

a. Wooley Grange adoption update (Cllr Livesey)

Mark Mather has responded to confirm that the issue is being prioritised. Any further updates will be communicated at future meetings once they are received.

b. Rural Crime report (Cllr Cole)

None received

c. AGAR (Clerk)

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was approved and signed by the clerk and chair.

Proposed: Cllr Livesey

Seconded: Councillor Cole

Action: The Clerk will send through the AGAR to Mazars and upload to the Slaley Community website.

d. Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment was reviewed and updated.

e. Ground nesting bird signage (Cllr Osborne)

Councillor Osborne advised that the Forestry Commission has confirmed it is not responsible for the signage. He will liaise with the Moorland Association to establish responsibility and investigate the issue further.

Action: Councillor Osborne will contact the Moorland Association for further information

f. Grants Policy

It was noted that the Grants Policy and application form require updating. Councillor Dawson agreed to review the current policy and submit a draft for consideration at the next meeting.

Action: The Clerk will send copies of the Grants Policy & Application Form to Councillor Dawson. Councillor Dawson will review and create a draft Grants Policy for review.

g. Advertising Policy

It was noted that the Advertising Policy requires updating. Councillor Dawson agreed to review the existing policy and submit a draft for consideration at the next meeting.

Action: The Clerk will send a copy of the Advertising Policy to Councillor Dawson. Councillor Dawson will review and create a draft Advertising Policy for review.

h. Caravan check with Forestry Commission

It was reported that an abandoned caravan remains in Slaley Forest. Councillor Osborne

will liaise with the Forestry Commission regarding the appropriate action required for its removal.

Action: *Councillor Osborne will contact the Forestry Commission to investigate action to remove the caravan from Slaley Forest.*

i. Wildflower Verges advantages & disadvantages.

It was agreed that, while the creation of wildflower verges would be an attractive initiative, it would require ongoing management and coordination with grass-cutting contractors. The Council does not currently have the capacity to progress the project. The proposal will be reconsidered should an independent working group seek the Council's support; however, no further action will be taken at this time.

Action: *No action at this time*

10. Correspondence

- 1.2 No councillors are available to attend the information session regarding the digital switchover, however the council would like to be kept informed so that they can provide information to residents when required.

Action: *The Clerk will respond to Andrew Dawson at NCC requesting to be kept informed.*

11. Finances (led by Parish Clerk)

- Finances accepted as true record.

(Proposed – Cllr Cole /Seconded – Cllr Ogle)

12. Agenda Items for 20th July meeting agenda

- Wooley Grange adoption update
- Rural Crime report
- Grants Policy
- Advertising Policy.
- Speed monitoring camera repair
- Road repairs

13. Private session/ confidential items

None

14. Any Other Business

The Council noted concerns expressed by residents regarding ash dieback in trees located at Blackburn Farm/Cattery.

Action: *The Clerk will contact Woodland Management at NCC to highlight the issue.*

Members noted concerns about the potential fire risk in Slaley Forest due to higher temperatures and prolonged dry conditions.

Action: Councillor Osborne will contact the Forestry Commission to request that fire risk signs are installed within the forest.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 20th July 2026 at 7pm (Commemoration Hall) unless otherwise advised

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7:50pm

