Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of
Slaley Parish Council
Held on Monday 21st September 2026 at 7.00pm
In Slaley Commemoration Hall

Present
Councillor Anne Livesey (Chair), Councillor Michael Ogle (Vice-Chair), Councillor Mark Osborne, Councillor Nicole Dean, & Councillor Julie Cole.

In attendance
Parish Clerk - Samantha Dalglish,

Members of Public
Residents – None

1. **Welcome and councillor news.**

2. **Public Participation.**
None

3. **Apologies for absence**
Councillor Alexia Dawson, County Councillor Colin Horncastle.

4. **Declarations of Interest**
Councillors Declarations of Interest can be found at
https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx?ID=318&LS=3

5. **Planning Applications**
26/02704/FUL - Orangery to rear at North Cottage Marley Cote Walls Hexham NE47 0DQ **[Exp 22nd September 2026]**

The Council raise no objection to this application.

26/03212/LBC - Listed Building Consent - Demolition of modern agricultural buildings, conversion of traditional outbuildings to a house with extension to provide gym, plant room, workshop, store and garage at Todburn Steel Slaley NE47 0DH **[Exp 2nd October 2026]**

AND

26/03211/FUL - Demolition of modern agricultural buildings, conversion of traditional outbuildings to a house with extension to provide gym, plant room, workshop, store and garage at Todburn Steel Slaley NE47 0DH **[Exp 5th October 2026]**

The Council raised no objection to this application.

26/03225/FUL - Refurbishment of dwelling, internal remodelling, replacement of all windows, repointing of the stonework where needed with lime mortar, replacement of the existing rear first floor extension with a modern first floor extension and the conversion of the existing garage to a studio which will remain ancillary to the principal dwelling at Muddle House Slaley NE47 0AA **[5th October 2026]**

The Council raised no objection to this application.

6. Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th July 2026.
Minutes were agreed as true copy

(Proposed – Cllr Cole / Seconded Cllr Ogle)

7. Matters arising – actions log

The Clerk is awaiting photographs and precise location details of the reported issues.

Councillors will provide the requested photographs and location information to the Clerk, enabling the issues to be accurately reported to Northumberland County Council.

8. County Councillor update.

None

9. Agenda Items.

a. Wooley Grange adoption update (Cllr Livesey)
Councillor Livesey expressed her disappointment with Northumberland County Council regarding the delays and administrative difficulties surrounding the issue. It was noted that house sales have reportedly fallen through on three occasions because the road has not been adopted by Northumberland County Council.

Action: Councillor Livesey will raise her concerns directly with Northumberland County Council and will copy MP Joe Morris into the correspondence.

b. Rural Crime report (Cllr Cole)
No thefts or burglaries were reported. However, a fatal road traffic collision and incidents of anti-social behaviour involving motorbikes were reported.

c. Grants Policy (Cllr Dawson)
Councillor Dawson was unavailable to provide an update, so this item will be deferred to the October meeting agenda.

d. Advertising Policy (Cllr Dawson)
Councillor Dawson was unavailable to provide an update, so this item will be deferred to the October meeting agenda.

e. Fly tipping in Slaley Forest (Cllr Osborne)
The rubbish has since been removed.

f. Caravan check with the Forestry Commission (Cllr Osborne)
Councillor Osborne will follow up with the Forestry Commission.

Action: Councillor Osborne will follow up with the Forestry Commission.

10. Correspondence

Correspondence was all information based from NCC.

11. Finances (led by Parish Clerk)

- Second tranche of the Precept was received in September (to be reflected in October financial report)
- It was agreed to donate £50 to Tynedale Talking Newspaper.
- Finances accepted as true record.

(Proposed – Cllr Livesey / Seconded – Cllr Cole)

12. Agenda Items for 19th October meeting agenda

- Wooley Grange adoption update
- Rural Crime report
- Grant Advertising Policy
- Advertising Policy
- Caravan in Forest
- Road surface on the Main Street
- Blind Spots at intersections
- Christmas event plans
- Book exchange library

13. Private session/ confidential items

None

14. Any Other Business

1. Councillor Osborne noted that gullies are blocked and Japanese knotweed has been sighted.

Action: Councillor Osborne will report the issues on Fix-My-Street

2. Concern was raised regarding the removal or alteration of information on the Parish Council website by external contributors, which could potentially affect the Parish Council's ability to meet its legal and reporting requirements under Assertion 10.

   The website is currently a community resource hosted by Slaley Parish Council, allowing external contributors to provide local information alongside Parish Council content. However, if the Council cannot ensure that the website remains compliant with its legal requirements, it may be necessary to move to a **gov.uk website**. This would significantly restrict external contributions and would mean that information relating to Slaley

Commemoration Hall, including its booking system, and other local community information not directly related to Parish Council business would no longer be hosted on the Council's website.

This change would also require Healey Parish Council to establish and fund its own gov.uk website, rather than contributing towards the operational costs of the existing shared website.

To maintain the current arrangement while ensuring appropriate oversight and compliance, it was agreed that the Clerk will change the website password and advise all external contributors that any new website content or amendments must be submitted to the Clerk or Parish Councillors. The Clerk and Councillors will then be able to review and make any necessary changes before information is published or amended.

Healey Parish Council and Slaley Commemoration Hall will continue to contribute financially towards the annual hosting and operational costs of the website.

Action: The Clerk will change the password and inform permitted contributors of the change. The Clerk will contact those no longer permitted access to the website.

3. Councillor Dean suggested the creation of a community book exchange that would be accessible to residents at all times. This would require suitable housing, such as a purpose-built shed or similar structure, together with arrangements for its ongoing maintenance.

   The proposal requires further discussion, including consideration of a suitable location and potential collaboration with the Slaley Community Shop or Slaley Commemoration Hall to identify an appropriate site.

Action: The Clerk will add this to the October Agenda for discussion.

4. The creation and development of local community events was discussed. Given the time of year, planning for the Christmas period was identified as the immediate priority, with further discussion and planning of other local events to follow. Councillor Livesey will talk to Andrew Coney about Christmas plans.

Action: The Clerk will add this to the October Agenda for discussion.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 19th October 2026 at 7pm (Commemoration Hall) unless otherwise advised

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