

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on
Monday 13th February 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

1. Apologies. A. S Robson

Present: Councillor I.C. Hancock in the Chair. Councillors L. Norris, C. A. Brooks & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson. County Councillor Colin W Horncastle.

Public. Penny Bliss (Sandybraes). Northumbria Police: None. Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul. Slaley Notes: None. Community Trust: None.

2. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.

County Councillor CW Horncastle for agenda item10,

3. Minutes of January Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 753 – 758 + appendix 1, page 758, appendix 2 page 759, appendix 3 page 769, appendix 4 page 761, appendix 5 page 762 & appendix 6 page 763.

Proposed a true record by Cllr L Norris and seconded by Cllr CA Brooks. The minutes were dated and signed.

4. Matters Arising.

- a) 4d 9/1/12 Cllr Brooks had attempted unsuccessfully to email a copy of the School Field agreement sheet to Police Constable Sue Cockburn. Clerk to send a hard copy through the post.
- b) 4g 9/1/11; 18f 12/12/11 Replacement village information board fitted by Trevor Golightly on Thursday and Friday February 2/3rd February (replacement bolts sent did not fit the old frame so TG needed to get a piece of additional steel to make secure). Invoice for £60 arrived 14/2/2012.
- c) 8b 9/1/11 (hard copy) Introduction to planning 25/1/12. Clerk attended. Hand Out attached as **appendix 1/130212, page 769**. Councillors Brooks and Norris asked to read by circulation. The most amusing incident was when the two planning officers said that from April 2012 all PC copies of planning applications would be via the web. DF got very annoyed with this and said this had not been agreed, the draft Charter stipulated PC's must have a hard copy. (TPOs) Tree Protection Orders was another while elephant with no-one at parish level having any ideas which trees are protected and which are not and a list is not printed on the County's web site. As with unlawful building work the CC planning officers rely upon PCs and the general public reporting suspicious building work or free felling. (*See 8c hard copy below on TPO inconsistencies*).
- d) 8d 9/1/11 (hard copy) Invoice for £662.24 to empty Litter bin and Dog bins for financial year 11/12. After several emails it was established that the account should be paid. Funding by NCC only comes into force for 12/13 regardless of what was said in May 2011. A cheque was issued and signed by Cllrs Brooks and Norris.
- e) 8x 9/1/11 West Area Highways Ditch digging area request. Areas forwarded by email. Clerk received a reply 19/1/12 saying the clearing of ditches comes under the jurisdiction of the adjacent landowners i.e. the farmers to clear the ditches. CC Horncastle said this was not true. Cllr Hancock reported having been told something similar in the past. Both Councillors and the Courant reporter would try and get to the bottom of this.
- f) 14c 9/1/11; 11d 12/12/11: GMS quote for cutting the four grassed areas £480 + Vat circulated. Clerk to request if GMS has a public liability insurance for working on the public highway.
- g) 19d 9/1/11 West Area Highways Engineer, Andrew Olive, telephoned and said he would go and look at the none-filling of some potholes on the U8081. He thought an explanation could be that the repairs had already washed out. Cllr Norris reported that one additional hole had been filled.

h) 19f 9/1/11; 4h 14/11/11; 15b 10/10/11: Parked vehicles on village footpaths – Northumbria Police asked to check this at different times of the day on different days of the week. **NP have note as yet reported back.**

5. Public Participation.

a) Neighbourhood Watch correspondence delivered by a parish house to house drop by NP.

6. Community Trust Report

a) No report was to hand or any member of the committee attended. Therefore Cllr Brooks reported the following.

b) Catherine Lincoln is no longer a member of the CT although she has volunteered to see the completion of the Sport and Play area. A new Secretary for the CT has not been made therefore correspondence to be directed through Norman Watson.

c) Hexhamshire PC has contacted Eileen Tuohy, of the CT as being interested in co-ordinating the bulk buying heating oil syndicate.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor.

a) Reference 4e Cllr Horncastle will seek clarification.

b) Confirmation of CC's offer to fund a second speed unit was made on 10/1/12 – Cllr Horncastle had misplaced the emailed official order. Clerk to resend (late February) after his return from holiday.

c) Cllr Horncastle reported that West Area Highways Manager, Richard Hayes, has been making headway with the winter services programme which was seen as more efficient /cost effective.

8. Correspondence.

Hard copy

a) NCC Ross Wigham, dated 10/1/12, Communications Issues environmental campaign 'Love Northumberland' continued in 2012. Looking for people who have gone the extra mile in protecting or promoting the environment. Copied and circulated.

b) NCC Mike Bird - Joint meetings of NCC & PCs West Area Tuesday March 13th 6 p.m. at Ponteland High School.

c) NCC Karen Ledger -Applications to carry out work on protected trees. There are currently inconsistencies in the way trees are protected. PC will be consulted on TPO applications but not on applications to carry out works on trees in Conservation Areas TCA applications. (*see 4c above Cllr Horncastle to check this at the next West Area meeting*)

d) NCC Val Knowles - Funding for Outdoor Sport and Outdoor Play from the Housing Developer Funds. Application Deadline dates during 2012.

e) Application for funding from CAN and Age Concern Northumberland.

f) Glasdon products advertising leaflets.

Emails:

a) 10/1/12 NCC Charlotte Colver LDF: North'ld Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Consultation December 2011 (see 8b 12/12/11) acknowledged response and provided a unique respondent reference number of 111,114. The Clerk holds many old documents from TC days and she requested permission to recycle many. It was suggested that the final TC Local Plan should be retained.

b) 12/1/12 Wendy Taylor NORTH rural housing event 27/1/12.

c) 14/1/12: Gwen Ridley asked if the bus time-table could be incorporated into the News sheet, this request was emailed to the editors. The time-table has been included with the Feb issue.

d) 14/1/12 NCC Andy Rutherford: 2012/13 Devolution of Local Services.

e) 14/1/12 RFB No 2

- f) 14/1/12 David Francis: matters arising NSP Issue 7: The implications of welfare reform.
- g) 20/1/12 Came & Co: Councillors Guide to what is needed in Insurance cover.
- h) 20/1/12 CAN e:news
- i) 26/1/12 NCC James Fell Diamond Jubilee celebrations – wanted a reply of our activity by 3/2/12.
- j) 28/1/12 RFB No 4
- k) 30/1/12 Planning Department Vicky Crofton, Enforcement officer – made an unannounced site visit to Slaley Hall Villas and was pleased to report that none were being occupied. And only the private lodges had wheelie bins out for collection.
- l) 31/1/12 Lynne Nelson PSA meeting 6/2/12 at Blyth.
- m) 31/1/12 RFB No 2
- n) 31/1/12: Carrol Hessey forwarding an email from Richard Powell wanting our contact information. Clerk replied with web site details. The Hotspur for Healey and the News sheet for Slaley
- o) 1/2/12 David Pitt - A Pennine Journey new long distance walk will be managed by new Supporters Club.
- p) 6/2/12 NCC Mike Bird – agenda for West Area Meeting on 14/2/12 at Prudhoe.
- q) 6/2/12: RSN weekly digest for Feb 6th.
- r) 6/2/12: RFB No 5
- s) 13/2/12: NHS A&E Ambulance review in North East England. 6 attachments including maps for Durham & Teesside. Article on page 3 of Hexham Courant 10/2/12. Cllr Hancock reported that only one page is provided in the document (Clerk unable to open). Mrs Bliss suggested downloading DocX from Microsoft. CC Horncastle suggested the Chairman contact Wayne Daley of Cramlington on 07897446773.
- t) 13/2/12: RFB No 6
- u) 13/2/12: RSN weekly digest 13/2/12

9. Financial Report.

- a) Cheques to be signed

Cheque No 461 Webfusion Vat only from previous cheque No 455	£1.16
No 462 (Tuesday a.m.) T. Golightly fit replacement notice board	£60.00

 Proposed by Cllr. Norris and seconded by Cllr. Brooks the cheques were signed
- b) Interim cheques 11/1/12 No 459 NCC empty dog bin £331.12 + litter bin £331.12 = £662.24 (See 4c) & No 460 Tyne & Wear Play Association Installation Inspection £250.00. Cllr Hancock and Brooks/Norris signed the two cheques.
- c) Brought forward from December Transfer to the PC of the £500 awarded by Tynedale Council to the CT for emergency repairs to the school building when the school grounds were opened to the public in May 2006. Susi Goncu emailed on January 13th and said there were no grant conditions attached by Tynedale Council at the time it was awarded. Susi received confirmation from the Insurance Officer (Nicola Johnson) that no reason could be found why the transfer could not take place. Therefore the £500 has been paid into the PC account to be used for general expenditure towards the Play Area.
- d) Clerk to request the repayment of the Groundworks NE £600 (less the £100 Vat) from CL.

10. Current Planning Applications.

12/00076/FUL Conversion of outbuilding to form annex to house with bedroom, bathroom and living space. West Ridley Hall. No objections

12/00147/FUL Replace an extant permission to extend the time for implementation of 20081147 – construction of two-storey detached dwelling. Tree Tops. No objections. *Mr Johnston received a reply to this application suggesting he may wish to employ a planning consultant to*

conduct an assessment sequential test. If no suitable, available and achievable previously developed sites within the search area can be identified then the application site may still be appropriate for development in principle. Clerk will telephone Kate Blyth for clarification on this statement. In the interim Mr Johnson to speak with CC CW Horncastle. PC to provide a supporting letter.

Outstanding applications or decisions on NCC web site

11/02682/FUL Replacement of existing garage door on west elevation of workshop with two windows and new chimney. Rose Cottage. Wooley **Pending.**

11. Update games/play area within school grounds:

- a) First three inspections (December) from David Robson received and emailed a copy to School. January inspections received and emailed to school 7/2/12.
- b) Email 1/2/12 from CL re outstanding monies – confirmation from Val Knowles regarding payment to school.
- c) Installation Inspection by Tyne & Wear Play Association account paid £250.00 A very thorough inspection report accompanied the inspection.
- d) Two quotes for the trellis protection at Laburnum Lodge GMS £552 inc Vat & Stuart Bell £710 inc Vat (see 12b 10/10/11; 11j 12/12/11)– Cllr Hancock reported that both quotes were much higher than he had anticipated and that funds for this will be from the £500 given by the CT (see 9c above) however Cllr Hancock suggested that funding may have to be obtained from different sources. Cllr CW Horncastle suggested that Peter Dodd on 07711353383 be contacted as he has worked on school premises (timber work) with Cllr Horncastle in the past. His email is pete.dodd@hotmail.co.uk. Cllr Hancock to inform the Irish family that the PC feels the quotes are very high as installation costs of concreted posts had not been envisaged as being paid for out of the Parish Precept. Cllr Hancock also to suggest that the Irish family contact Mr Dodd for a third quote.

12. Dukesfield Smelt Mill Arches Project Update (see 8b (emails) 9/1/12).

- a) Councillor IC Hancock & Clerk P Wilson attended a meeting at the Travellers Rest on Tuesday February 7th at 7.30 p.m. representing Slaley Parish Council with a view to representing Slaley PC on the Dukesfield Steering Group. A second meeting is organised for this Thursday February 16th at 7.30 p.m. to meet representative from the Friends of North Pennines.
 - 1) Cllr Norris proposed IC Hancock and P Wilson to represent Slaley PC on the Steering Group. This was seconded by Cllr Brooks.
 - 2) Cllr Norris proposed Liz Sobell as the Community Representative on the Steering Group for both parishes. This was seconded by Cllr Brooks.Clerk to forward an email to Ian Forbes informing him of the Slaley PC representatives.
- b) Hexhamshire PC has allocated a grant of £500 towards the project. The Clerk suggested it would seem appropriate that Slaley PC also provide a grant when required.

13. Parish Plan – Annual Speeding Review (note 4f, 9/1/12 additional speed unit)

- a) The Courant account of agenda item 4f 9/1/12 said that the rotation was firstly £7,086 then later in the article £7,200 was incorrect and a correction was requested, this has not been published.
- b) Email correspondence from Slaley School asking for copies of minuted concerns over school vehicles parked on highway during term time. School is trying to access funding to provide additional parking for staff within the grounds. Clerk replied by email with details of annual February Speeding reviews, quarterly Action Plan updates and minute references since 2009.
- c) PC email to CC Horncastle made 10/1/12 accepting his offer to fund a second speed unit (see 7b above)

14. Representing the Parish Council on the Commemoration Hall Management Committee.

Approved minutes from 12/10/11 circulated and **attached as appendix 2/090212, page 770.**

A verbal report from the meeting on January 16th 2012 was made.

- a) Cllr Hancock asked why the Reserve Pool (agenda item 8) was to be increased annually to 10% of the income. PW replied that the committee had considered that in 2011, 10% was a more realistic percentage. There were no further questions from the approved minutes.
- b) PW verbally reported that Catherine Lincoln had become the Hall Secretary as a co-opted official. Bobby Johnston has retired from cutting the grassed area at the Hall. The caretaker was going to be asked if he would undertake this additional role. Asking Alex Evison was also tabled as a possibility. Next meeting is Tuesday April 24th.

15. BOATs update.

- a) Slaley PC's reply emailed to DB on 16/1/12. Cllr Hancock is still waiting for more information from Liz Sobell regarding UCRs.
- b) RF reported to DB trail bikes riding the footbridge over the Devils Water at The Peth, this was also reported to the Police under incident number 249 17/1/11.
- c) Request from YDGLA to help with the UCRs in North Yorkshire. Circulated to BOATs sub committee.

16. Parish Council Councillor Vacancy. (17, 9/1/12; 17, 12/12/11; 16b 14/11/11)

- a) Tom Henderson returns to work in the UK in May and retires from the RAF in October. He is very interested in rejoining the PC and intends to discuss this with Cllr Hancock during March.

17. AOB

- a) A complaint has been made about the state of the north section of footpath No 15 from Pine Hill to Colpitts Grange. Apparently it is very wet and muddy and only passable with Wellington boots. On Sunday February 12th a bore, 4 sows and 16 piglets escaped from Pine Hill and the piglets made their way into West Cornerfield garden causing damage. Clerk reported this to the footpaths officer. Neil Dawson has acknowledged this correspondence. Mrs Bliss from Sandybraes added a little background information on the state of the north section of the footpath.
- b) Potholes: South top of single-track section to Linnels Bridge large pothole in center of road. + several places in Slaley village.
- c) Grit heap has been placed on top of a drain cover between Glen Lodge and Hilltop (north-east carriageway).
- d) Deep open highway drain on C265 (lead cover stolen) has been replaced with a heavy duty plastic cover. (see April 2011 request, report reference 023530).

18. Date of March monthly meeting.

Monday March 12th.

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