

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on  
Monday 9th February 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall

7.30 – 8.30 p.m. **Core Strategy Consultation joined by Healey Parish Council.**

Present: Councillor C.A. Brooks in the Chair. Councillors I.E. Milburn, N. Green, S. Dart. D. Allsop & D.M. Bell. Healey Councillor T. Ward-Aldam (apologies Cllr M Anderton & C Johnston) & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson. Slaley, Healey & Hexhamshire Chairmen + Alistair Stevens & Slaley Clerk are meeting planning officer Frances Wilkinson at 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday February 10<sup>th</sup> at Hadrian House to discuss smaller settlements and the Green Belt.

- a) Cllr D Allsop circulated all the questions and his proposed answers
- b) Cllrs S Dart and E. Milburn reported they did not have any issues with their subjects.
- c) Cllr Warde-Aldam circulated his response.
- d) Cllr Green circulated his response.
- e) CllrBell (& Clerk because of her personal interest) proposed answers on No 8
- f) Cllr M Anderson reported the broadband problems with Rural Economy on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> & further comments on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>
- g) Cllr Brooks declared that the Green Belt Policies were OK for larger settlements and hoped that the meeting on Tuesday evening would provide an opportunity to make comment for smaller settlements. All the sections were gone through –some expanded upon, some altered. Clerk to collate all the answers and return to NCC. Copy of responses attached as **appendix 1/090215,page 1052.**

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**1. Apologies.** County Councillor Colin Horncastle

**Present:** Councillor C.A. Brooks in the Chair. Councillors I.E. Milburn, N. Green, S. Dart. D. Allsop & D.M. Bell. Clerk Mrs P. Wilson.

Public: Margaret Rowell, Jim Bailey & Chris Oakley. Northumbria Police: None: Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul. Community Trust: None. Slaley Notes: None.

**2. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.**

Cllr S Dart for planning application 14/04288/OUT.

**3. Minutes of January 2015 Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 1038 – 1043, appendix 1, page 1044 & appendix 2, page 1045).**

The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr. D. Allsop and seconded by Cllr...E. Milburn. The minutes were dated and signed.

**4. Matters Arising.**

- a) 7f 12/1/15 Community owned Defibrillator; the insert for the February Parish News (300 copies) asking for public opinion on the purchase of a community owned was printed and folded by Clerk (*see agenda 11 below for response*). Copy of the letter attached as **appendix 2/090215, page 1053**

**5. Public Participation.**

- a) Mr. Oakley reported his concern over the hard standing for the mobile Post Office currently under construction at Parks Side. He had been unaware of the project until work started on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. He felt that a different site should have been found and that the PC minutes since 2009 were disjointed and inconclusive regarding the project. Mr. Oakley was shown the site plan and Cllr Brooks explained the loss of mobile phone service and the subsequent need for the mobile Post Office to park close to the plug in point to avoid trailing cables across footpaths which had been identified as a health and safety issue. There were already parking problems within Parks Side without the added pressure of the mobile Post Office and its customers. Over the years the project has been discussed in Slaley Notes, in

the Parish News, by editorials in the Hexham Courant and at every PC monthly meeting to which members of the public are always welcome and the PC Clerk is available to answer any questions that members of the public may wish to ask. Mr. Oakley concluded by handing a letter to the PC and requesting that its Communication and Engagement Policy is reviewed. Cllr Brooks suggested that Mr. Oakley stay for agenda item 11 to discover how the PC tries to communicate and engage with the parishioners.

b) Mr. Oakley also asked if the Riding Mill road could be gritted during frosty conditions. It was explained to him that the C275 did not qualify for winter treatment and a NCC winter services leaflet from the Commemoration Hall foyer was offered. A local contractor from Whittonstall had not dealt with the snowdrifts and this had been reported to NCC (*see 18b below*)

## **6. Community Trust Report**

Jim Bailey has agreed to editor the Parish News until the new Priest in Charge, Reverend Dr. H. Savage, takes up residence at the Slaley Vicarage

## **7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor.** None

## **8. Correspondence.**

### **Hard copy**

- a) Lord Allendale 10-year woodland plan for Dukesfield –Reply circulated and approved.
- b) Healey Estates 10-year woodland plan for High Kellas Woodland – reply circulated and approved.
- c) Askins & Little, Heritage Restoration Contractors catalogue.

### **Emails:**

- a) 15/1/15: NALC training for New Chairmen and Councillors at Morpeth.
- b) 15/1/15: NALC Roadshow March 12<sup>th</sup> at Bardon Mill 6 p. m.
- c) 15/1/15: RSN RVS rural broadband.
- d) 19/1/15: Copy of email from Michael Elphick to Ms Fay Cooper re broadband.
- e) 19/1/15: RSN weekly digest
- f) 23/1/15: NALC E-NEWS
- g) 23/1/15: Letter from Steena Steward to school apologising for disruption while building work under way adjacent to Treetops.
- h) 23/1/15: Ian Hedley summary of key points of demonstration.
- i) 24/1/15: Kyle Reardon, Finance Directorate – Tax base for 2015/16 Healey is £74.26 and Slaley £329.13
- j) 24/1/15: Gill Whatmough, Chair at Hexhamshire suggested that we pay the £48 and register with getmapping.com. **It was agreed that Google earth provided necessary plans.**
- k) 26/1/15: RSN weekly digest
- l) 26/1/15: East Accounts training £60 at Pegswood 24/2/15.
- m) 26/1/15: Ian Hedley conrcorrect email address in previous email.
- n) 29/1/15: RSN spotlight - rural health.
- o) 29/1/15: Healthwatch Northumberland Winter Newsletter.
- p) 29/1/15: Ian Hedley letter from Deputy Leader saying some T&P councils are continuing to use the Area Committee for questions.
- q) 1/2/15: NCDN monthly e newsletter
- r) 2/2/15: RSN weekly digest
- s) 3/2/15: Myra Jamieson Know Northumberland Bulletin 14
- t) 3/2/15: Nichola Turnbull West Area Committee meeting Feb 10<sup>th</sup> Stocksfield.
- u) 4/2/15: RSN ROB.

- v) 5/2/15: Geoff Paul Planning Review with comments by February 24<sup>th</sup> and a direct link to the Deloitte Report suggested that the Area planning committees are done away with and applications are considered outside the area without parish council input.
- w) 7/2/15: ADAPT Newsletter.
- x) 9/2/15: Hardrians Wall website offer of advertising.
- y) 9/2/15: RSN weekly digest

## 9. Financial Report

- a) Real Time Information: Thirsk payroll successfully submitted £283.33 payment on 15/1/15.
- b) Cheques to be signed:  
No 550 NCC Playground Inspections October – December 2014 - £177.84  
Proposed by Cllr. D. Allsop and seconded by Cllr. N. Green the cheque was signed.
- c) Interim cheques: None.

## 10. Current Planning Applications.

**14/04288/OUT:** Outline planning permission with some matters reserved except for access for construction of single storey agricultural workers dwelling. Land East of Flothers Farm, Slaley.

**Support the concept that dairy farmers need agricultural workers close by.** \* email from Cllr Dart asking for a letter of support – Clerk explained the system – Councillors felt that the correct level of support had been given at this stage.

**14/02887/FUL:** Proposed extension and alteration of existing property including demolition of existing single storey conservatory area/kitchen; demolition of existing two storey extension to rear elevation providing part kitchen area at ground floor level and bathroom at first floor; all to be replaced with new two storey extension providing new kitchen/utility at ground floor with third bedroom, en-suite, dressing room and new bathroom at first floor. - East Cornerfield, Slaley Hexham NE47 0BS. This replaces application 14/00749/FUL.

**Pending.**

**13/01130/FUL:** Retrospective: Extraction system on roof at rear of premises. R&C

**Pending**

**13/01131/LBC:** Retrospective: Listed Building Consent: Extraction system on roof at rear of premises. R&C

**Pending**

### Decisions from planning:

**14/04060/FUL:** Alteration and extension of existing dwelling to include construction of a replacement front porch, two storey extension and rear orangery. Ashtree House, Slaley. **Granted.**

**14/04143/FUL:** Proposed kitchen extension and new porch. Foresters Lodge, Trygill. **Granted.**

**14/04262/VARYCO:** Variation of condition 2 from application 11/01320/FUL (Construction of replacement garage). The Old School, Slaley. **Granted.**

## 11. Awareness Event and report from the insert into the Parish News seeking information on how many members of the parish are interested in CPR and will support fundraising towards the purchase of an iPad or similar machine.

- a) Not all the February Parish News had the insert delivered.
- b) 1 copy returned to the Village Shop.
- c) A verbal report was received in the Shop by a former hospital employee – “waste of money” – His comments mainly applied to hospital equipment rather than the fool-proof iPad being offered for the community to use.
- d) A telephone reply was received from a female parishioner, who had been saved 3 times by the Ambulance service using a Defrib – however she questioned a public machine being of any use in saving lives.
- e) Email replies have been received from Jean & Michael Elphick, who are in support of a community defibrillator and are interested in training as is Claire Holmes (Johnston).

- f) The Hexham Courant carried an editorial on Friday February 5<sup>th</sup> indicating that the cost of the Defrib would be £16,000 and not £1,600 + Vat. Rosalind was asked, and agreed to print a retraction.
- g) Both Margaret Rowell & Jim Bailey had questions they wished to ask because they were unsure of how the machine would work, if having the machine **would stop the ambulance crew from rushing to Slaley** and how it would be funded once in situ. Chris Oakley had not read the letter and was unable to comment. A total of 6 replies from 300 is a very poor response – 2% response is not good enough. Parishioners to be encouraged to reply by Slaley Notes, Margaret in the shop, a small editorial by Rosalind in the Courant when the correct cost is made public and by members of the PC encouraging their neighbours to complete the questionnaire.
- h) It was agreed that an Awareness Event was necessary to dispel some of the incorrect facts circulating through the parish. A weekday evening was the preferred time. Clerk to get some available dates and circulate.
- i) Funding event to raise the additional £1,000. Clerk suggested the following:
- a) Race night (*Jim Bailey informed the meeting that the Show were holding a race night*)
  - b) Car Rally (*generally very dangerous unless well off main roads*)
  - c) Northumbrian Night with Pipes & Fiddle (Andrew & Margaret Watchorn) + Comedian (Who) + Bar + Food (fish and chips or Pie & peas)
  - d) Cllr Allsop suggested an event in the R&C to include a set meal with tombola, raffle, darts and dominos. Apparently the Burns Night was very successful and the committee are looking at several ‘Saints’ evenings.

## **12. Jim Bailey’s request for a major parish fund raising idea. Councillors to table their individual suggestions and how achievable they consider the activity / event would be.**

Cllr Bell tabled her suggestion which was a major Car Boot Sale, held on the Showfield, on the Sunday after Slaley Show August 2015. Toilets are already there/ Marquees are already there if it rains. – Need to check with Keith Robson, the field owner that this is OK and with the marquee people for a different event, possibly need two new CLEAN loos? (*Jim Bailey reported that it took until 1p.m. for the show committee to clean up after the Show and he questioned if there was time to organise something new after 1p.m.*)

Clerk tabled the Garden Trail idea for June 2016. This suggestion had been put forward by Roz Doonan at the Commemoration Hall committee meeting on 28/1/15 and was being pursued by Roz & Pat W. Riding Mill held a Garden Trail during 2014 and Hexhamshire in June 2011 when over £3,000 was raised and its second is this year on June 14<sup>th</sup> 2015. (*Jim Bailey said he had not intended that all the organisations should benefit from a large event only those that are struggling.*) Margaret Rowell said she and others were concerned over safety with this type of event. Pat W said she and Roz intended taking part in the Hexhamshire event on June 14<sup>th</sup> and would report back.

## **13. Slaley Commemoration Hall Management Committee Minutes from September 17<sup>th</sup> 2014. A verbal report from January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

- a) Minutes attached as **appendix 3/090215, page 1054.**
- b) Of interest at January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting is the fact that the Chairman felt that the Defibrillator question was nothing to do with them it was purely a PC initiative. The previous minutes suggest that this stems from March 2014 when the Defibshop asked if the village hall could house a community machine (*see agenda 5f 5.3.14*)
- c) The committee asked if Cllr Green would hold another afternoon Bingo session? Cllr Green asked the Clerk to get some dates for agreement.

## **14. Update games/play area within school grounds.**

- a) S106 funding for Sport and Play information came in from Val Knowles. Area 6 Slaley/Hexhamshire Play £2,999.85 and Sport £2,923.75. Clerk telephone Slaley School and School

Clerk has confirmed that she has spoken with Val Knowles and the school will be making a bid for a roof to cover the Early Years area where children *and the community outside of school hours* and play.

b) Playground Inspection sheets weeks 46 – 52 Forwarded to School. It appears that the split log has swollen closed with the damp conditions.

### **15. Mobile Post Office Van parking Update.**

- a) Mr. M J Macgregor, Gibson & Co has confirmed that registration of our Lease for the mobile Post Office hard standing area has been completed at the Land Registry and the deeds have been lodged in the Gibson vault.
- b) There had been an issue between the mobile Post Office driver and a break down lorry that was trying to deliver a vehicle to Parks Side, this involved a Police presence. Clerk telephoned Martin Nichols (Stocksfield PO) for his version of events and Coulson Construction to see if the work was imminent and could be expedited.
- c) Clerk emailed 2/2/15 Ray Wealleans NCC Highways and gave him a breakdown of Highways permission for the hard standing work.
- d) Coulson Construction started on Tuesday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, and by Wednesday February 4<sup>th</sup> several inches of snow had fallen so the work was restricted. On Thursday the kerb stones between the new area and the remaining grass were laid and the two sections of footpath lowered, new kerbs fitted and footpath section covered in bitumen. Mr. Coulson hopes to complete the work on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> although he is waiting for the Bollards to arrive.
- e) It was reported in Slaley Village Shop that Fosters Landscaping were waiting to hear if they had the contract for the hard standing. Clerk emailed the firm and explained that no site visit had taken place and consequently no estimate had been received

### **16. Dukesfield Smelt Mill Arches Project Update.**

The walks leaflets will be distributed this week. The touring exhibition will begin during April.

### **17. Parish Plan, Speeding Review 2015 Update**

- a) Generally vehicles speed in the village especially when confronted with a long line of builders vehicles as is currently the case with building work adjacent to the churchyard, Ashtree House, adjacent to the R&C, Winter House, adjacent to the school and Viewlands.
- b) Mr. Oakley asked if Slow / Ice signs could be placed either side of Dipton Foot bridge on the C275 – traffic, he said, entered this section much too fast and consequently the bridge is frequently damaged.

### **18 AOB**

- a) Doreen Hall telephoned Clerk on January 24th to report the dangerous potholes on the U8079, these had previously been reported to Paul Turnbull on July 9<sup>th</sup> 2014. Ray Wealleans was emailed with the information and asked to repair the road.
- b) Nigel Pickering telephoned Clerk to complain that the C275 had not been ploughed or gritted. The drifts had been ridden over by tractors but the road was impassable by normal traffic. Mr. Pickering who used to have the contract for keeping the road open after blown snow had lost the contact to Martin Jewitt of Whittonstall some years ago. Clerk contacted Ray Wealleans who organised the gritter to go on Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup> and Nigel has now been asked to keep Ray informed if road conditions deteriorate on the C275.
- c) Joe Melvin of Holly Hill has made a formal complaint about the highway resurfacing work on the U8078. He had attempted to explain to the young man in charge what he was doing wrong on January 5<sup>th</sup> but was dismissed as merely being a member of the public. On Thursday February 5<sup>th</sup> the new bitumen is cracking where Mr. Melvin pointed out the problem on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Clerk suggested he report this to County Councillor Colin Horncastle.

- d) Complaint about double- parking in Slaley village again with a Pick up parked outside the Old Barn overnight immediately opposite another vehicle. It was agreed that letters be sent to Pinetops, Oaklea, Ashlea, The Barn & Overdale.
- e) Cllr Allsop reported that the dog bin was full. Clerk reported to Ray Wealleans who said he would look into why it had not been emptied and have it emptied
- f) Cllr Milburn reported substantial dog fouling on the village street – a reminder through Slaley Notes & Parish News.
- g) Potholes on the Lead Road between Holly Hill crossroads and B6306 crossroads
- h) Broken road sign at crossroads of B6306 and Lead Road C279/C265.
- i) Broken road sign on B6306 north of Shield Hall entrance and before Wooley.
- j) Motorised vehicles driving on Footpath 22 reported to NCC by RF.
- k) Large hole taped off on the south- bound carriageway at the crossroads of U8078 and the Lead Road C279 at the Holly Hill crossroads.
- l) A Stihl saw was stolen during the working day at Ashtree House, other reports have also been made of garage contents thefts.

**19. Date of March 2015 monthly meeting**

Monday March 9<sup>th</sup> Altered to Monday March 2nd

There being no further business the meeting finished at 10.05p.m.