

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on
Monday 14th January 2013 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

1. Apologies. Councillor D. Allsop & County Councillor Colin Horncastle.

Present: Councillor I.C. Hancock in the Chair. Councillors C. A. Brooks, T. Henderson, L. Norris & A. S. Robson. Clerk Mrs. P. Wilson.

Public: None. Northumbria Police: None. Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul. Slaley Notes: None. Community Trust: None.

2. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.

None.

3. Minutes of December Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 838 – 841 + appendix 1, page 842, appendix 2 page 843, appendix 3 page 844 & appendix 4 page 7-845).

The Minutes were proposed a true record by Cllr. CA Brooks and seconded by Cllr. AS Robson. The minutes were dated and signed.

4. Matters Arising.

a) 6b 10/12/12: Confirmation from Dan Paul, NCC Head of Transformation, that NCC has received a nomination from Slaley Community Trust to list the Rose & Crown Slaley as an asset of community value.

b) 8b 10/12/12: Receipt for the PC's £200 grant to Tynedale Hospice at Home.

(c) Report from C. Cllr Colin Horncastle that the delay in provision of the new speed warning sign was due to the diversion of funds to a flooding emergency in Shotley parish.

5. Public Participation.

None.

6. Community Trust Report circulated and attached as appendix 1/140113, page 850.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor

None

8. Correspondence.

Hard copy

a) Local Transport Plan news

b) NCC Val Knowles – Funding for Outdoor sport and Play deadline for applications. **Cllr Hancock to contact CL about this correspondence.**

c) NCC Public meeting 17/1/13 at St. John's Church Hall, Snods Edge re Hoodclose Opencast planning application.

d) CAN News; Prince's Trust Winter newsletter; Clerk's & Council direct.

Email:

a) 12/12/12: Early Neighbourhood Plans.

b) 12/12/12: Mike Bird - Workshops for would-be Councillors on 24/1/2013 at Hexham. Cllr Robson confirmed that she had forward this to four interested parishioners who have indicated to her that they would like to become a Councillor.

c) 18/12/12: Kevin Tipple Notice of 6 week consultation on the LDP Core Strategy Preferred Options, and a Drop In event at Hexham Action Mart on 7/3/13.

d) 18/12/12: Richard Powell - Public Access Live - NCC not implementing complete electronic

consultation from January 2nd as previously indicated. A new document management system will have measuring and scaling tools added to electronic drawings. Large plans are being discussed and agents are being encouraged to use A3 and A4 drawings.

- e) 18/12/12 RSN weekly digest December 17th.
- f) 19/12/12: CAN News Winter 2012.
- g) 22/12/12 EFB No 32.
- h) 22/12/12 RSN Countryside hit hardest as government cuts council funding.
- i) 31/12/12: NP AONB Newsletter.
- j) 31/12/12: RSN weekly digest December 31st.
- k) 4/1/13: Whittonstall Action group update 1/1/13.
- l) 5/1/13: EFB No 33.
- m) 7/1/13: RSN weekly digest January 7th
- n) 10/1/13: Rachel Turnbull Northumberland LINK annual report.
- o) 10/1/13: NALC E:news January 2013.
- p) 10/1/13: Parish Online Get mapping newsletter - information about a commercial PC website system.
- q) 10/1/13: Clare Dodd payment of a non recurrent grant to compensate for a reduced tax base as a consequence of the Localisation of Council Tax Benefit.
- r) 10/1/13: Cllr Hancock - the CC spreadsheet - shows Slaley is well below the £100 threshold for adjustment of the precept.
- s) 10/1/13: Gareth Davies - Legal Opinion about Dispensations associated with setting the Council budget. + letter explaining dispensations and Application for Dispensation (6 pages).
Five Councillors were able to sign the application form.
- t) 10/1/13: RSN Rural Opportunities Bulletin January.
- u) 10/1/13: Will Smith re public meeting for Hoodsclouse opencast application on January 17th, also reported in Hexham Courant on January 11th.
- v) 10/1/13: Mike Bird – West Area Committee meeting Corbridge January 15th at 6 p.m.
- w) 11/1/13: Diana Carney asking PC's to check information on NCC web site – Clerk asked Chairmen to do this in light of her Mother's death. Chairman confirmed the information was correct, but suggested the CC website menu should explicitly mention Parish councils, to make PC information easier to locate.
- x) 14/1/13: David Pitt: Pennine Journey Supporters Club Newsletter No 1. Copied to Greg Finch to see if the September walk could be incorporated into the Dukesfield project.
- y) 14/1/13: RSN weekly digest January 14th

9. Financial Report.

- a) Cheques to be signed
Cheque No 484 Salary P Wilson £900.00
NCC inspection of Slaley School Play Area October – December £133.38
Proposed by Cllr L. Norris and seconded by Cllr AS Robson the cheques were signed
- b) Zen Internet confirmation of payment by DD of £57.46
- c) Bank Statement at 24/12/12 £8,842.33

10. Current Planning Applications.

12/03599/FUL: Construction of two storey agricultural workers dwelling - land west of Dipton Foot Farm House, Slaley. **No objections**

12/03467/VARYCO: Variation of condition 5 of planning permission 20110117 Installation of UPVC windows. Fernwood House, West Woodfoot. **Pending.**

12/03280/FUL: Construction of a new two story dwelling with garage in replacement of the

existing out buildings adjacent to West Orchard House, Slaley.

Pending.

12/02866/FUL: Conversion of conservatory to kitchen and associated external works. Mallard Cottage. West Woodfoot.

Pending.

12/013190/FUL: Constructing an agricultural storage building. Mallard Cottage. West Woodfoot.

Pending.

Decisions from planning:

12/02059/FUL: Single storey rear extension and alterations to existing kitchen to form new kitchen, dining room and utility. Ashlea, Slaley. No objection to planning however concerns over lack of parking provision are generally not addressed in village extensions. **Granted**

12/03296/FUL: Construction of proposed agricultural building. North Cocklake. **Granted**

11. Update games/play area within school grounds:

a) Inspection sheets 8/11/12 – 27/12/12 received and forwarded to school 4/1/13

b) Email from School 20/12/12 re removal of willow now completed.

c) Reply from CL on 21/12/12 indicating that Dodwell's had been instructed to remove.

12. Slaley entry into the 2013 Tynedale Visitor – 2012 text emailed to Councillors
Slight amendments were suggested and agreed.

13. BOATs update.

a) Espersields Inquiry scheduled for January 15th has been cancelled. The decision will be made by written representation.

b) January 11th Hexham Courant carried notification of DMMO for Footpath 29 in the parish of Blanchland at the south-west corner of Slaley Forest. Also Byway No 30 which joins Byway No 26 and Byway 31 which joins Byway 30, also Bridleway No 17 which joins Byway No 31.

c) Correspondence dated 11/1/13 from The Planning Inspector regarding BOAT No 36 (The Cleugh). Her final decision is that the route should be recorded as a Bridleway.

14. January Parish Plan, Action Plan Update

Deferred to February meeting.

15. Dipton Cut Highway problems

Email 31/12/12 from Cllr Henderson reporting the problems of running water at Dipton Cut. Clerk forwarded the report to Richard Hayes & Carrol Hessey on January 2nd 2013.

Reply from Amanda Cryer on 3/1/13 copied to Colin Horncastle.

Clerk forwarded this reply to Cllrs Hancock and Henderson.

Email reply 10/1/13 to Amanda Cryer from Cllr Hancock.

Email reply 11/1/13 from Amanda Cryer indicating that drainage engineer, Michael Banks, would be dealing with the Dipton Cut on his return from annual leave at the end of January.

It was agreed that the Clerk make arrangements for Cllr T Henderson to meet with MB and share his local knowledge with the highways engineer.

16. Mobile Post Office problems.

a) December 28th: Clerk made posters for Shop & Parkside -mobile Post Office van broke down Christmas Eve (December 24th) and not expected back on the road until Wednesday January 2nd.

b) January 4th Clerk made more posters saying that the mobile Post office van engine broken no post office service for foreseeable future.

c) Cllr Hancock emailed Councillors 9/1/13 with an update – Martin Nichol reported that the spare van was not available. Councillor Hancock made a formal complaint to Customer Service.

Kevin Storr, Customer Service Advisor, responded with a complaint reference number of 1-2385947807 and indicated that they were looking into the matter and a full response should be received within 10 working days.

d) Clerk downloaded copies of early discussions with Post Office Ltd beginning at January 2008. On October 12th 2009 Jane Briginshaw and Ian Carlton attended a PC meeting when Van breakdowns were discussed. Slaley PC was told that there was a backup vehicle for the north of England based at Darlington. The Councillors were told that if the normal vehicle was involved in an accident or would predictably be off the road for several days/weeks for some reason then the back up vehicle would be used.

e) It was agreed that a letter be sent to Guy Opperman MP quoting the above assurance and asking for an indication of other national problems with the mobile post office service and information on the level of backup available.

17. Mobile Youth provision taster session

Posters: Mg Weatherley given out onto Middle & High school coaches. Poster to Whitley Chapel YFC. Emailed the flyer information to community members at Blanchland, Healey, Shotley & Hexhamshire asking to spread the invitation. Slaley Notes, News- Sheet editors & Rosalind Saul have also been informed and both Hexhamshire and Slaley notes carried information in the Hexham Courant of January 11th issue. Posters have been placed around the area including Healey and Minsteracres notice boards.

18. Dukesfield Smelt Mill Arches Project Update.

a) Hexham Local History Society January meeting was Greg Finch presenting the project.

b) Slaley Local History Club February meeting subject is The Lead Road.

c) The steering group met on 7/1/13 where the Contract Brief for expression of interest in the role of Project Management was discussed and the professional recruitment websites where the part-time post would be advertised and through which potential contractors would be found, were identified.

19. AOB

a) Request for reporting street light failure – to be included in Slaley News sheet.

b) Request for an update from the illegal quad bike usage on public highways and especially by under age users. Clerk confirmed that N Police had made enquiries at All out Adventure who thought that the problem was probably the Time-share golf buggies not the quad bikes.

c) Cllr. Henderson questioned the leading Hexham Courant story of January 11th entitled “Villagers to go on speed patrol – Police hand over radar guns to catch motorists”. Apparently ‘Community Speed Watch’ has operated in the Alnwick area for some time and has been deemed a worthwhile exercise. The general opinion was not to consider it for Slaley although the Clerk felt that a radar gun could serve a purpose in slowing race-going traffic down when a meeting is held at Hexham.

20. Date of February monthly meeting.

Monday February 11th.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.