

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on  
Monday 8th July 2013 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

1. Apologies. County Councillor CW Horncastle at daughter's graduation.

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

**Public:** None. Northumbria Police: None: Courant Reporter: None. Community Trust: None.

2. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.

Cllr Allsop for agenda item 10, Planning No 13/01130/FUL & 01131/LBC.

Clerk for agenda item 19b – the wife of the Clerk's cousin.

3. Minutes of Interim Report April 9<sup>th</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup> (circulated pages 874 – 877 + appendix 1, page 878).

The Interim Report was signed as part of the official minutes. Cllr Brooks and Cllr Allsop considered the report to be a factual report of business between the April meeting and June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

4. Matters Arising.

a) 5. Chairman's Report APM 1/7/13: A loose wire from wherever the Post van parks to the new signal box. After a telephone conversation with Nigel Parry a meeting with Ian Iley (Post Office) has been arranged for Wednesday July 10th at 9 a.m. to look at options. Cllr Allsop & Cllr Bell may also attend.

b) 12a APM 1/7/13: Isos contract for grass cutting outside Parks Side bungalows. The Clerk emailed other Clerks asking if their parishes were dissatisfied. 3 have replied one suggests we can tender under Community Right to Challenge – (this is part of The Localism Act and can be quite expensive to activate). Stocksfield, Plenmeller with Whitfield & Tarsset & Greystead are not having any problems. Wylam PC has reported its Isos concerns through the West Area Committee and the service has improved. They think having Isos attend the joint NCC & Parish Councils meeting in October would be a good idea.

c) 13a. A.O.B. APM 1/7/13: Community Play & Sport on Slaley First School Grounds – there was confusion over the legalities over a possible accident out of school hours when the Clerk spoke with NCC insurance department therefore the Clerk contacted the PC's own insurance broker and immediately added the school play and sport equipment to its insurance policy. The public liability aspect was already covered. However an additional £116.40 (pro-rata until May 31 2014) was needed for the play and sport items valued at £28,000 to cover the cost of replacement. (see agenda item 9a below).

d) 13b AOB APM 1/7/13: The skip at Townhead has been removed in the past week.

e) Interim Report 1b, 3b 8/4/13; 4d 11/3/13, 13 11/2/13. Speed Unit at Townhead the PC is still waiting for an inspection report Clerk to try and discover what the problem is.

5. Public Participation. None.

6. Community Trust Report. Cllr Allsop gave a verbal report of The Rose & Crown Community purchase. Slaley Community Assets Ltd is currently interviewing prospective managers.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor. None.

8. Correspondence.

**Hard copy:**

a) NCC Notice of Resurfacing Works A695 west of Riding Mill between 24/6 – 28/6 delivered to every house.

b) House of Commons – Onshore Wind + Guy Opperman MP sending congratulations on taking your seats as Parish Councillor

c) Environmental Services Specialist – Paul West from Bearpark, Durham. The Prince's Trust Summer catalogue; Clerks & Councils Direct July 2013; CAN news Summer issue.

**E-mails**

Assorted emails regarding the by-election.

- a) 4/6/13: Mike Bird West Area Committee meeting at Allendale on 11/6/12.
- b) 4/6/13: RSN weekly digest June 4<sup>th</sup>.
- c) 5/6/13: RSN Rural Opportunities Bulletin June – included a New Childcare Business grant which the Clerk passed on to Jessica Bell at Muddy Puddles.
- d) 7/6/13: Tamara Gilbert: EFB No 43
- e) 9/6/13: John Renwick - Whittonstall Action Group update.
- f) 10/6/13: RSN weekly digest.
- g) 13/6/13: RSN Rural Vulnerability Service – Fuel Poverty.
- h) June: Copies of Slaley First School mail: Parents News Summer, Open afternoon and questions, Rose & Crown meeting, End of Term Tea Time Fayre, Breakfast Club on a Monday from September.
- i) 17/6/13: RSN weekly digest
- j) 22/6/13: Q Sat broadband – alternative Broadband.
- k) 25/6/13: RSN weekly digest.
- l) 29/6/13: Rebecca Baker, North Pennines AONB: Pow Hill & Carricks Picnic Site have been recognised as good stargazing sites. Event at Pow Hill in November.
- m) 29/6/13: Tamara Gilbert: EFB No 44
- n) 1/7/13: Mike Bird -West Area Committee Meeting 9/7/13 at Bellingham.
- o) 1/7/13: Mike Bird - Joint NCC & Parish Council meeting October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- p) 1/7/13: RSN weekly digest July 1<sup>st</sup>
- q) 8/7/13: RSN weekly digest

#### 9. Financial Report. & Audit Arrangements

- a) Cheques to be signed  
No 492 NALC annual subs £110.68  
No 493 Broker Network Insurance for play and sport equipment on school field £116.44 (see 4c above)  
Proposed by Cllr.N. Green and seconded by Cllr.M. Goldring the cheques were signed.
- b) BDO external auditors audit date is July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Internal Audit & Display notices June 10<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Records are available to the public from June 24<sup>th</sup> – July 19<sup>th</sup>.
- c) New signatory forms have been ordered and will be distributed to the Councillors on arrival with the Clerk. Cllr Milburn already has an account with Lloyds TSB so she will not need to provide proof of identity. The completed forms must be returned to the Clerk.
- d) Bank Statement balance up to May 16<sup>th</sup>. £9,450.59

#### 10. Current Planning Applications.

- 13/01297/FUL:** New build detached dwelling with detached garage/store on land south west of St. Mary's Church, Slaley. Unable to make comment.
- 13/01300/FUL:** Construction of two detached dwellings and one detached garage/store on land to north east of Slaley House. Unable to make comment
- \*13/01130/FUL:** Retrospective: Extraction system on roof at rear of premises.  
Unable to make comment
- \*13/01131/LBC:** Retrospective: Listed Building Consent: Extraction system on roof at rear of premises.  
Unable to make comment
- \*\*12/03599/FUL:** Construction of two storey agricultural workers dwelling - land west of Dipton Foot Farm House, Slaley. **Pending**
- \*\* Hearing on June 19 at 6 p.m.**
- 12/03280/FUL:** Construction of a new two storey dwelling with garage in replacement of the existing out buildings adjacent to West Orchard House, Slaley. **Pending.**
- Decisions from planning:**
- 12/03467/VARYCO:** Variation of condition 5 of planning permission 20110117 Installation of UPVC windows. Fernwood House, West Woodfoot. **Granted.**

#### 11. Update games/play area within school grounds.

- a) A letter from the PC informing parents about the new equipment in the school grounds was circulated by the school via Parent Mail circulated to Parents 8/7/13. The PC Clerk forward this parent mail to Councillors. Slaley notes editors have also been asked to put something in the Courant for Friday July 12<sup>th</sup> to update the wider community. The Community Agreement (CA) – Michael Elphick confirmed that the CA was on the web site. **It was agreed that new wording to incorporate the tennis storage equipment needed to be added to the December 2011 agreement. The Clerk is to draft something then circulate for approval to School, Northumbria Police, CT members & Councillors.**
- b) Installation inspection with ‘Play Inspection Company’ as circulated by email on July 4. £295.00 + Vat. Last installation inspection was £250.00 and was part of the annual inspection paid 6/1/12. **It was agreed to accept this.**
- c) Annual inspection with ‘Play Inspection Company’ as circulated by email on July 4. £59.95 + Vat. Last annual inspection was £250.00 and was part of the installation inspection paid 6/1/12. **It was agreed to accept this.**
- d) Equipment weekly inspections received from May 16<sup>th</sup> – June 27<sup>th</sup> a bolt was reported missing from the climbing frame, the Clerk is checking if David Robson has replaced it. The new equipment has been reported to the inspection team and an updated price will commence from week ending July 5<sup>th</sup>.
- e) Email correspondence from Catherine Lincoln re financial records from phases 1 and 2 of the community play and sport installation. Clerk suggested these were delivered to Margaret Weatherley.
- f) PC Clerk ordered and paid for a tennis equipment storage unit, after agreement with the school, from Argos for £103.94 the cost to be reimbursed from The CT funds for the play and sport.

12. Northumberland Core Strategy – Settlement Services and Facilities Audit Update. Councillors were asked for their suggestions – the deadline is July 26<sup>th</sup> and is part of the Northumberland Core Strategy Preferred Options and related to housing, employment and Green Belt. This was circulated by email on 20/5/13 from NCC Helen Dorman of the Spatial Policy & Delivery and recorded in the Interim report under agenda item 2y.

Cllr. Brooks & Cllr. Goldring produced a reply for approval, which was agreed by the Councillors. The Clerk will forward the updated Services and Facilities audit.

13. Parish Plan – Heritage Review (June agenda item brought forward **2012 copy circulated 4/6/13**). Amendments and updates were made for the 2013 Report **attached as appendix 1/080713, page 886**.

- a) The Clerk to contact Hollybush Nursery to ask if the village planters at Parkside could be filled - it was agreed that the PC could be charged for this in future.
- b) The Clerk to contact Ian Hancock and report that the Trygill Art Trail is very overgrown again

14. Parish Plan – Dog Fouling Review (June agenda item brought forward)

It was generally felt that the area between the 30 mph signs was relatively free of dog fouling.

15. Parish Plan – Action Plan July Update. **Circulated 4/6/13**

The Action Plan was updated. Cllr. Bell had some information on the keep Slaley Lively Section. The updated version will be circulated and **attached as appendix 2/080713, page 887**.

16. Dukesfield Smelt Mill Arches Project Update

- a) The second phase archaeology has happened July 3 – 8 and the evidence for the flues chimneys has been much more than expected.
- b) Email update on 8/7/13 by the Project Manager.

17. Commemoration Hall Management Committee Representative AGM Report.

- a) Report from June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting circulated and **attached as appendix 3/080713, page 888**. The Management Committee is asking (under agenda item 11b of the report) if the PC will consider funding the cutting the Hall grass as part of its community grass-cutting programme?

After discussion the Councillors felt that one or both of the grassed areas would be better done away with and converted into much needed parking space. They also suggested that anchor points could be placed in the car park surface for those wishing to have tents and marquees at the Hall. The Councillors also suggested that funding from the PC would be assured if this route were taken.

b) Also attached is the financial report for 2012/13 and the shortfall of income against expenditure is £1,760.10. **Attached as appendix 4/080713, page 889.**

18. BOATS update.

The Espershields route continues to rumble on - there will now be a site visit in August.

19. AOB

a) Japanese Knot weed growing south of Flothers bridge on the C275 reported to NCC highways by email 19/6/13. Acknowledged and given reference number 101002112665

b) Child knocked over Friday July 5<sup>th</sup> at 8.55 a.m. by a vehicle coming out of a village drive. Message sent to Slaley Notes asking if parishioners could be asked to take care and parents be asked to alert children to the dangers of running past driveways. The road safety officer is talking to the school children on Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup>.

c) Overhanging trees and shrubs reported. Villages asked through Slaley notes to make sure their greenery does not obstruct clear passage of the village footpaths. It was agreed that the Clerk should drop a note to Slaley House and Stanegarth.

d) Cllr Allsop asked why PC meetings were always held on a Monday it spoilt weekends away. Bookings are made one year in advance and for years the second Monday has traditionally been the PC meeting date altered only for Bank Holidays and the Clerk's annual holiday. Other parish activities have the remaining days for their activities.

20. Date of August monthly meeting (12<sup>th</sup>) walk about?

It was agreed that on Monday August 12<sup>th</sup> the Councillors would meet at Slaley Commemoration Hall as usual at 7.30 p.m. then walk to the Rose & Crown and look at the extraction fan. Overhanging tree branches and shrubs will be checked, pavement parking will be noted and finally the new equipment on the school field.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.50 p.m.