

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council, Monday June 13th 2011, in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

1. Apologies. Councillor I.C. Hancock & S. Davison.

Present: Councillor C. A. Brooks in the Chair. Councillors, L. Norris, M Palmer, A.S. Robson & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson. County Councillor Colin W Horncastle for part of meeting.

Public: None. Northumbria Police: None: Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul. Slaley Notes Michael Elphick. Community Trust: Catherine Lincoln & Stewart Murrell for part of meeting.

2. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.

County Councillor for agenda item 10.

3. Minutes of May Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 694 - 696)

Proposed as a true record by Cllr. A.S. Robson and seconded by Cllr. M. Palmer. The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising.

a) County Councillor's Report received and circulated by email on 13/5/11.

b) Cllr Norris's Highways report received but not Cllr Davison's. Much of the repair work has been undertaken since the earlier parts of the report were made so a decision was made to send the report as it currently was.

c) 6e 9/5/11: Parish Council Insurance. The long-term agreement signed on a new 3-year agreement and the new insurance policy received.

d) 6t 9/5/11: New long distance footpath the 'Pennine Journey'. Support is not financial but written support for the footpath. David Pitt left a message on telephone Friday asking me to telephone 01931 716861. He incorrectly thought Slaley was the area between Blanchland and Hexham and assumed that walkers would find accommodation food etc at Slaley should the Lord Crewe be full. I explained that accommodation at Slaley was quite a distance from the route and gave him Brian Massey's telephone number. **It was agreed to write a letter of support and promote the local B&B & eating establishments.**

e) 9f 9/5/11: One Councillor had checked the information board and thought dampness was getting inside the damaged surface. The Clerk had not thought there were any signs of deterioration.

5. Public Participation.

A request from Jean Elphick to congratulate Mr Evison on how well the landscaping around the parish seat near the Wooley road looks. It looks tidy and well cared for. The Councillors voiced their agreement for all the areas looked after by Mr. Evison.

6. Community Trust Report

CL reported that The Community Trust would like to discuss ideas of celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June 2012. **Agenda item for July.**

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor

a) Charges for planning advice between Parish Councils and the West Area Planning Department with the £20 per application advice charge for each application. The 6-page leaflet entitled 'Introducing Pre-planning Application Advice' tabled by the Clerk was not recognised by the County Councillor.

b) NCC draft Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. See 8n & 8o below. CC to make enquiries.

c) Slaley Hall Holiday Villa occupancy details not been received for 2009, 2010 and now 2011. RS on holiday until July 5th CC Horncastle volunteered to speak with another member of West Area Planning. (See agenda item 10 below)

8. Correspondence.

Hard Copy

a) Planning Training Event for Parish Councils – Newton & Bywell Community Hall, at 6 p.m. on 29/6/11 Chairman and Clerk intend to attend although both will be late. (**Email 8e below.**)

b) NCC: Glen Sanderson – Invitation to meeting 21/6/2011, 6 p.m. Corn Exchange, Morpeth. Discussions include wind farms and service provision. Notification sent by email 2/6/11 (see emails 8m below)

c) Northumberland Theatre Company Grant Aid 2011/12 & Statement of Intent.

d) NCC letter & 5 copies of an A5, 6 page, folded, full colour, brochure, on ways to compost garden waste. Postage was 44p.

e) NCC letter + 2 achievement nomination forms. 1 x A4 full colour poster and 2 x A5 posters. Postage was 55p (Closing date Friday June 24th) See Email 8q below.

f) NCC Diversion of Public Footpath No 10. (Peel Flatt) Order Confirmed on May 26th 2011

g) NCC Customer Satisfaction Survey letter, grounds maintenance survey sheet, personal info sheet + SEA. (Postage 55p)

h) NCC: Review of Polling Stations. Any amendments by 29/7/11. Slaley & Healey at Slaley Commemoration Hall.

i) Age Concern: letter, 5 x A5 leaflets, 5 x business cards – services and contact telephone numbers.

Emails

a) 12/5/11: Fields in Trust – protecting outdoor recreational space - £1m fund available from June.

b) 12/5/11: RSN Weekly Digest.

c) 12/5/11: Elaine Jaggs - Guided walk around Cresswell.

d) 18/5/11: Cllr Hancock confirmed to Brian Massey that Slaley would be glad to support a 6-Parishes Community Forum letter of support to Shotley LQ PC's concerns with the opencast mining application at Whittonstall.

e) 24/5/11: Planning Training Event for Parish Councils – Newton & Bywell Community Hall, at 6 p.m. on 29/6/11 **Both Chairman & Clerk have confirmed LATE attendance.**

f) 24/5/11: Historic Towns Forum - May Update.

g) 24/5/11: Russell Play – Sustainable designs for play. **Circulated to Play group**

h) 24/5/11: RSN weekly Digest.

i) 24/5/11: RSFB No 19 (17 pages)

j) 24/5/11: North Pennines AONB Partnership Annual Forum on 18 July + vacant 'open seats'.

k) 25/5/11: Derwent Cycle Ride. Sunday June 19th - road closures - circulated to notes

l) 25/5/11: Kath Spires - Stakeholder event Group Work feedback from May 16th circulated to Chairman asking if this needed to sent by general circulation.

m) 3/6/11: Sean Nicholson – More info on 21st June meeting (see hard copy 8b above)

n) 5/6/11: NCC draft Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – 8 sites identified in Slaley/Healey parish although the text on page 3, 6.3 indicates that it is extremely unlikely that the LDF will countenance such sites. Emailed to Chairmen only – 36 pages available to read if Councillors wish to see a copy.

o) 5/6/11: from Monica Gibb (Healey) re NCC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) Consultation on website. Chairman & Clerk have looked at this – ‘drop in sessions’ with planning department later in June at Hexham. **CC Horncastle was not certain about these ‘drop in sessions’ but Hexham Mart came to mind and he intended to make further enquiries.**

p) 5/6/11 NALC E-News June 2010 page 3 indicates that there are financial problems ahead for NALC which gives the legal and operational support for local councils. CAN meanwhile supports the voluntary and community sector.

q) 7/6/11: NCC Local services Group, Carrol Hessey – Love Northumberland Awards 2011 letter and nomination form. (see hard copy 8e above)

r) 7/6/11: Lynne Nelson Public Consultation ends on 17/6/11 re Newcastle College & Northumberland College Merger.

s) 7/6/11: NCC Gareth Davies – West Area Committee 14/6/11 at Bellingham.

t) 7/6/11: RSN weekly digest 7/6/11 highlights Localism Bill & ‘right to build’.

u) 7/6/11: The Journal of Local Planning - Neighbourhood Planning.

v) RSB No 21

w) Margaret William Clerk Stocksfield PC wanting info on Cycle Club forwarded to Brian Massey asking if this could be Ted Liddle and asked Brian to reply.

x) Andrew Skelton of Smart Office Systems offering FREE Digital office Equipment for £10 per month.

9. Financial Report. Including Audit Arrangements

a) Cheque No 438 Alex Evison - May cut £97.80 + June cut £97.80 = £195.60

Cheque No 439 NALC Annual Subs £114.57

Proposed by Cllr. A.R. Robson and seconded by Cllr. L. Norris the cheques were signed.

b) Interim Cheques: None

c) Audit: Section 1 ‘Accounting Statements’ were approved by the Council (page 2) and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

d) Audit: Section 2 ‘Annual Governance Statement’ was approved by the Council (page 3) and signed by the Chairman of the meeting

e) Audit date July 22nd 2011

Display Notice 6 June – 19 June is presently displayed in Notice Board

Records Available to Public 20 June – 15 July

10. Current Planning Applications.

***11/00302/CLEXIS:** Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of 48 Slaley Park as a dwelling house. The Clerk thinks this is one of the original 17 dwellings that slipped through the planning rules. It does however highlight the need to keep on top of Villas occupancy.

11/00505/CLRROP: certificate of lawfulness for proposed garage

20110117: Subdivision of dwelling into 2 with construction of new porch. Installation of photovoltaic solar panels to roof & separate driveway. Fernwood Hse, West W/foot. **Pending Decisions from Planning Authority.**

* Email sent to Richard Stewart reminding him that the Holiday Villa occupancy details for Slaley Hall have not been received for 2009, 2010 and now 2011. RS on holiday until July 5th CC Horncastle volunteered to speak with another member of West Area Planning.

11. Update netted games/play area within school grounds

- a) Telephone message from Val Knowles asking for an idea of when the application for funding from the HDF could be expected. Clerk circulated to Catherine Lincoln.
- b) E-mail from Catherine Lincoln 13/5/11 informing the PC that she has spoken with Val Knowles to inform her that an application is nearly ready.
- c) Email 24/5/11: Russell Play – Sustainable designs for play. Circulated to Play group
- d) Email dated 1/6/11 from CL circulated with a draft plan. Clerk forwarded on to Little Badgers Staff who have not been consulted and are running a business with use of the school grounds.
- e) Cllr Hancock's comments circulated by email to CL & PW.
- f) RFB No 20 emailed to CL (page 2) Grants of between £20k and £50k for improvements to playing fields etc. Application deadline for round 1 is 4th July 2011
- g) 13/6/11 Email from Lappset Play Equipment circulated to CL & CAB
- h) 13/6/11 17.53. Revised drawing and text. CL brought copies to the meeting.

A discussion took place about the position of the Ball Wall, this has still to be agreed with the School. The surface under the play equipment was considered. School and Cllr Hancock have rejected sand. Bark is cheap. Matting and other permanent surfaces are expensive. CC Horncastle said his grant could be used for surface material. Deadline for (11f) above is too short to help fund surface material. Because the Parish Council will have responsibility for maintenance after completion the emphasis should be on getting the right surface on installation. CC Horncastle took a coloured copy of the map for presentation to West Area Planning to ascertain if the £20 Pre Application fee was needed and/or other planning was required. It was agreed to invite near neighbours to an informal meeting with both the CT and the PC on Monday June 20th between 7.30 & 8.30 p.m. to look at the final sketch. Climbing equipment was discussed with the more robust, none maintenance heavy wood preferred. The actual position on the field still to be agreed with the school

- i) The four Parish Councillors present agreed to approve the sketch submitted 13/6/11 and to support its use in the Application to the Housing Developer Fund subject to a satisfactory conclusion of talks with the First School regarding the positioning of the Climbing equipment and Ball Wall.

12. Written Report by Cllr Hancock on services meeting at Blanchland – Wed. May 11th

- a) Cllr Hancock's report circulated 11/5/2011.
- b) E-mail from Susi Goncu with a copy of NCC minutes from meeting with Roger Styring.
- c) Cllr Hancock's discrepancies between his report of the meeting and Susi's was emailed to Susi for clarification on June 5th. An amended copy was duly sent to Cllr. Hancock.
- d) CC Horncastle confirmed that there would be no repayment of invoices previously paid by PC for the empty of litter and dog bins. Some of the larger parishes like Allendale and Stocksfield had several dog and litter bins.

13. Bus Service from Consett – Hexham Update

- a) Report that because of road closure service bus is not using Slaley village – Townhead pick up/ drop off only. An enquiry about this was telephoned to Ian Coe's mobile and email expecting it was a blunder.
- b) Telephone & Email reply from Ian Coe 24/5/11 12.42 – Slaley village not served (Tuesday) route to be checked.
- c) Letter dated 27th May 2011 from Ian Coe – Go North East could not serve Slaley village without a reversing manoeuvre which according to their health and safety policy they were not willing to do. **County Councillor Horncastle reported that health and safety issues could not be argued against. We would need to bring this up again at the review.**

14. Bus Shelter building.

a) Request made to NCC Highways, Mel Richardson regarding the grass outside Orchard House as a possibility. E-mail reply from MR saying no objections in principle then Margaret Fielding, NCC reported she was investigating requirements under licenses for works on the highway. Margaret contacted the Clerk today and said the PC needed to speak with Dick Phillips, network manager, and get a section 50 approval. **County Councillor Horncastle reported that this again was a health and safety issue.**

b) The suggestion of placing the refurbished bus shelter inside school grounds has not been formally discussed with Slaley School, however, Catherine Lincoln reported that she did not think it would be appropriate at this time.

15. Parish Plan: Dog Fouling Review

a) Note the comments from Services discussion with NCC Roger Styring and Cllr Hanocck. 'Dog Dirt will now be treated as litter and can be placed in normal litter bins'. Cllr Robson reported that village dog dirt was not an issue at present as in other reviews.

16. Parish Plan Heritage Review circulated and attached as appendix 1/130611 page 702.

Comments from last year incorporated into the review and a new category of 'Power generated by wind or sun' was introduced.

Ladycross Nature reserve organised a clean up of The Trygill Sculpture Trail on April 23rd 2011 starting at 9.30 a.m.

17. Report from meeting on 25/5/11 by representative on the Commemoration Hall committee.

Copy of March minutes circulated and **attached as appendix 2/130611, page 703.**

The Parish Councillors noted the ongoing request for a Secretary for the Management Committee. Had this been advertised? Some Councillors had not noticed the previous requests in Slaley Notes. Michael Elphick will put something in again and Cllr Brooks agreed to make a request through the News Sheet.

18. BOATs update.

None.

19. AOB

a) Webfusion email 27/5/11 & again 3/6/11 informing us that our 'hosting account is still active' and the small account of £7.94 which we paid on March 30th was still outstanding. Clerk checked with ME this is correct but from January 2012 will be through Zen.

20. Date of July monthly meeting.

Monday July 11th – Apologies Cllr Robson.

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