

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on  
Monday 10th March 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

**1. Apologies.** Councillor C.A. Brooks. County Councillor Colin Horncastle.

**Present:** Councillor D. Allsop in the Chair. Councillors I.E. Milburn, N. Green, D.M. Bell & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson.  
Public: Richard Ferguson & Robin Turner. Northumbria Police: None: Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul.  
Community Trust: None. Slaley Notes: None.

Cllr. Allsop opened the meeting by recording the sad death of Cllr Brook's husband, Craig, and asked about the funeral arrangements. The Councillors requested that some flowers be sent to Cllr Brooks from her colleagues on the Parish Council.

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

None.

**3. Minutes of February Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 945 – 949 + appendix 1, page 950, appendix 2, page 951, appendix 3, page 952, appendix 4 page 953 & appendix 5 page 954).**

The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr. N. Green and seconded by Cllr. D. Bell. The minutes were dated and signed.

**4. Matters Arising.**

a) 4e 10/2/14; 19a 13/1/14: Village drains still blocked. Cllr. Green did contact Paul Turnbull and Mrs Green offered to spray paint the blocked drains for ease of identification. Meanwhile the Clerk was contacted again about the drain outside Rose Cottage still being blocked and this was also reported to Paul Turnbull by email on 15/2/14. Mr. Turbull replied that the second cleanse had not taken place and an investigation by an engineer had been authorised, however the demand for the vehicle was high due to the heavy rainfall in the County.

b) 4f 10/2/14; 19b 13/1/14: A hard copy reply from Dan Thomas, Vegetation Management of Northern Powergrid (NP) regarding the length of time that the power had been switched off on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Apparently there were 39 men plus 2 engineers on site carrying out the work so Mr. Thomas hoped that the number of workmen indicated the scale of the work carried out.

c) 8b 10/2/14: Amount of grant for Tynedale Hospice at Home was decided at £100.

**5. Public Participation.**

On Saturday March 1<sup>st</sup> Robin Turner reported to Northumbria Police on 101, unregistered motor cyclists near Ladycross Quarry - incident number (612 1/3/14). Police had attended Slaley Forest, found the unregistered riders and a warning had been given. Slaley Forest is full of people enjoying the countryside, walkers - some accompanied by dogs and young children, cyclists and horse riders, the latter being forced onto the footpaths to avoid the motorised vehicles. RT had witnessed a near miss with a racing motorcyclist and a young child.

Richard Ferguson detailed illegal activity on Sunday 9/3/14 when a complaint was made by a family at Springhouse, incident number (674 9/3/14), when 10 motor cross cyclists were racing throughout Slaley Forest and along the public road to Springhouse Caravan Park. The police did attend but were unable to find the bikers or their transport. A previous report from a lady who had also alerted the police on 101 after being intimidated by motor cyclists in Slaley forest was given to the PC – date unknown. Incident number unknown.

Both men felt that should 'they' drive without insurance and without due care for other road users on hard surfaced roads they would be dealt with accordingly. Unfortunately in Slaley Forest it appears that it is a free-for-all and that there are no limits to what is acceptable. It was agreed that the Area Commander of Northumbria Police and Forestry Commission Management be asked to attend a future PC meeting for a discussion with concerned members of the public.

## 6. Community Trust Report

- a) The Improved Broadband survey has been included in the March news letter, on the Slaley web page and through Slaley Notes.
- b) UK government has set aside £250m to improve broadband in remote areas. Local councils have one month to work out how to spend. Northumberland allocation is £0.65 million. Other providers than BT are being considered.
- c) Michael Elphick forwarded a copy of the survey to CC Colin Horncastle and Guy Opperman MP asking for any help they are able to provide.
- d) An update was received from ME and as of March 9<sup>th</sup> only 32 people had completed the survey. How to persuade the people of Slaley parish to complete the survey was discussed.

## 7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor:

None

## 8. Correspondence.

### Hard copy:

- a) Northumberland Residents' Festival Our people, our places. Free entry or reduced entry Booklets containing tickets to many of Northumberland top attractions 29-30 March 2014.
- b) Wicksteed playspaces; Campaign to Protect Rural England North East newsletter Spring 2014, Zurich Municipal Insurance quote offer; Clerks & Councils Direct March 2014 (*see letter on page 20 from the Clerk of Hampton Lucy in Warwickshire regarding the recording of RTI information of small Councils that pay there Clerks bi-annually. Relates to 8m above*)

### Email:

- a) 12/2/14: NCC Rob Naples: Town & PC Core Strategy Preferred Options Feedback Sessions. West Area, Monday March 10<sup>th</sup> at Bardon Mill 6 – 8.30 p.m.
- b) 17/2/14: Latest from Northumberland Knowledge.
- c) 17/2/14: RSN weekly digest
- d) 19/2/14: RSN RVS Broadband.
- e) 19/2/14: NCC Countywide Parking Consultation. Reply by 28/3/14 – Corbridge remains as being chargeed for 3 hours with ½ hour Free. Hexham all free but time restrictions enforced by a disc at Prospect House. **The Councillors had no concerns about the proposed new parking suggestions.**
- f) 24/2/14: RSN weekly digest.
- g) 24/2/14: A reminder from NCC Rob Naples: Town & PC Core Strategy Preferred Options Feedback Sessions. West Area Monday March 10<sup>th</sup> at Bardon Mill 6 – 8.30 p.m. (*see 8a above*).
- h) 25/2/14: NCC Richard Hall Public transport newsletter – does not affect our local service.
- i) 25/2/14: NHS Northumberland CCG out of hours procurement update. Cllr E Milburn (Slaley) agreed that no action was deemed necessary – out of hours will continue without disruption to patient care.
- j) 25/2/14: Lorraine Fife – Fact Board & School Organisation Officer – Changes to the Home to School Transport Policy. Several young people in the parish could be affected by this. **It was not known how best to inform these families.**
- k) 27/2/14: Mike Bird –Current Working and Consultation with Parish/Town Councils Presentation includes revision of The Charter at March West Area Meeting.
- l) 27/2/14: RSN Spotlight on the heart of the village.
- m) Reminder from John Harron at Thirsk Payroll (recommended by NALC) that there are late penalties for the late filing of submissions of (RTI) Real Time Information to HMRC. Clerk took the decision to ask Thirsk payroll to undertake the work for Slaley & Healey Councils. The Chairmen were informed. Telephone discussions on Thursday evening with John Harron. Email correspondence and form filling on Friday February 28<sup>th</sup> from 9.10 a.m. to 12.30 to have the basic information transferred. The outcome of

this means that the each Parish Council has to make monthly returns to HMRC detailing the Clerk's wage. The Clerk explained the set up at Slaley & Healey, however the minimum return expected by HMRC is quarterly. So each PC may have to pay its Clerk quarterly the cost of the submission to HMRC is £16 per quarter (?). This will be ongoing long after the current Clerk has retired. John Harron contacted the HMRC and started the process. We received our activation code through the post, this was sent by email to JH. The old system of logging on and reporting a nil payment is no longer recognised.

- n) 27/2/14: CAN e:NEWS
- o) 28/2/14: Gilbert Tamara: External Funding Bulletin NO 50.
- p) 3/3/14: Kerrie Riddell: Delivering Quality Together conference at Holiday Inn Seaton Burn, on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- q) 3/3/14: RSN weekly digest.
- r) 4/3/14: Mike Bird - West Area meeting 11/3/14 at Humshaugh – Superfast Broadband on agenda.
- s) 5/3/14: RSN ROB March 2104 – pages 3 & 4 an article on alternative Broadband (forwarded to ME).
- t) 6/3/14: RSN Manifesto an on-line survey about rural problems, which the RSN want to use before the 2015 General Election.
- u) 7/3/14: John Cooper via Carrol Hessey – iNorthumberland Update (6 pages). Circulation included ME.
- v) 10/3/14: RSN weekly digest – Slow broadband hinders rural education.

### **9.Financial Report.**

- a) Cheques to be signed

Cheque No 517 Slaley Commemoration Hall meeting venue charges £128.00

Cheque No518 Parish Council Clerk 6 months salary £1,650.00

No 518 Clerk's annual expenditure £ 304.40 = £1,954.40

No 519 Tynedale Hospice at Home grant (8b 10/2/14) £100.00

Proposed by Cllr. E Milburn, seconded by Cllr. D. Bell the cheques were signed

- b) Interim cheques issued

Cheque No 515 Webfusion Domain name .ORG.UK bi-annual £9.64

Cheque No 516 Unipart Dorman for Speed unit repair £491.35

- c) Balance as at March 10<sup>th</sup> circulated and attached as **appendix 1/100314, page 960.**

### **10.Current Planning Applications.**

**14/00515/FUL** Proposed first floor extension Spring House Cottage, Slaley.

**Support**

**14/00375/FUL:** Construction of single storey side garden room extension, construction of two storey side extension and conversion and extension of part of outbuilding to double garage. Hollies Cottage, Riding Mill.

**Pending**

**14/00249/FUL:** Proposed first floor extension over kitchen to create bedroom and en-suite. Rear extension to form utility and the addition of a sun room to the front. Comb Hills Farm (east) Michael Ogle.

**Pending**

**13/02715/CCM:** Proposed winning, working and processing of Sandstone at Ladycross Stone Quarry, Slaley. NE47 0BY

**Pending**

**13/03823/VARYCO:** Variation to condition 2 (approved plans) and 7 (rainwater goods) of application 13/01300/FUL – land north west of St. Mary's Church.

**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**

**12/03599/FUL:** Construction of two storey agricultural workers dwelling - land west of Dipton Foot Farm House, Slaley.

**Pending**

**Decisions from planning:**

### **11.Councillor Vacancy**

a) Email from Nicola Milne NCC stating she is point of contact for updating Councillors Declaration of Interests on NCC website.

Cllr. E. Milburn reported that Mrs Susan Dart had indicated to her that she was interested in joining the Parish Council. Cllr. Milburn was asked to check that this was still the case and inform the Clerk.

### **12.PC Representative on the Commemoration Hall Management Committee.**

a) Minutes of November 27<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Hall Management committee circulated and attached as **appendix 2/101314, page 961.**

b) Cllr. Nigel Green proposed as the Parish Council representative to join the CHMC

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

Catherine Lincoln, Ian Hancock & Eileen Tuohy have been asked to confirm that they are happy that they are the three contact names for any trouble on the school grounds outside of school hours.

Catherine Lincoln & Ian Hancock has replied yes. Eileen Tuohy has replied No and wishes for her name to be removed from the school information board. **It was agreed that a white strip be placed over ET's name and contact details rather than the cost of a replacement sign.**

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

a) Clerk met Ernie Coulson on Friday February 28<sup>th</sup> at Parks side he is sending a third quote.

b) Email from Kath Heard, Isos Housing 19/2/14 asking if the PC owned any land in the vicinity of Parks Side. Clerk emailed back and reported that the PC did not own any land apart from the small area around the Millennium Seat.

### **15.Fly Posting & Advertising Policy**

Draft two circulated. Adopted and attached as **appendix 3/100314, page 962** this will be forward to the following organisations: FOSS; Slaley School, Slaley Show, Bobby Charlton for the Native Breeds & Pony Club events, Slaley Leek Show, Commemoration Hall, Travellers Rest Inn, Rose & Crown Inn. Placed on the web site and its production alerted to through Slaley Notes and the News Sheet.

**16.Revised Northumberland Town and Parish Council Charter. Emailed 25/2/14. Please read and have any comments ready for discussion. At Healey PC it was felt that the comments were so general and vague that they could relate to anything. Cllr. M Anderton explained that there was an Action Plan, which would give 'meat to the bones' of the Charter. David Francis of NALC had made some comments and Cllr Anderton hoped that those comments would be circulated when available. Slaley Councillors decided to ask for a copy of the Action Plan.**

### **17.Annual Risk Assessment. Circulated and attached as appendix 4/100314, page 963.**

The last page of the Risk Assessment relates to the school field. (*see agenda item 13 above*) Eileen Tuohy removed as the neighbour contact No new name and number was decided upon although Cllr Allsop said his telephone number could be a replacement. Cllr. Allsop felt the Risk Assessment was outdated and a new format was needed. Cllr's Green and Milburn confirmed that their experiences of a Risk Assessment was colour coded boxes relating to the level of risk – Acceptable, Manageable, Serious, Very Severe with gradings such as Minor, Moderate, Serious and Major. Cllr Allsop & Cllr Milburn to discuss this and produce a revised Risk Assessment for consideration at a future meeting.

### **18.Annual Asset & Investment Register: Circulated and attached as appendix 5/100314, page 964.**

The purchase price of the 2013 solar powered sign was not available for the meeting once that has been included the Register was adopted.

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

- a) Dowsing event at Whitley Chapel on April 12<sup>th</sup> as part of the Dukesfield Smelters and Carriers Project.
- b) Heritage Cook Off on Easter Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> as part of the Dukesfield Smelters and Carriers Project. Cllr. Allsop suggested that the new chief at the Rose & Crown would be interested in taking part in this event.

#### **20. Joint Slaley & Healey Parish Councils Bingo fund raising for Village Hall.**

Cllr. C Johnston from Healey PC has volunteered to make biscuits/tray bake etc and help serve. Cllr. M. Anderton from Healey PC has volunteered her help at the event. Healey PC has donated a box of Thornton's chocolates and some fresh flowers as 'full house' prizes. Slaley PC had also donated a box of Thornton's chocolates (paid in the Clerk's annual expenditure). Cllr Bell donated a 50ml bottle of Avon Cosmetics 'Treselle' and Cllr. Green encouraged all the Councillors to donate prizes.

#### **21. AOB**

- a) YDGLA AGM notification on 12/4/14. Newsletter reports the Deregulation Bill and its usefulness. YDGLA also reports that activities have shifted from the local to the national. People were thanked for the reporting to the police of abuse or illegal motoring. Prosecutions do not automatically follow but the public must not give up on the time consuming business of reporting illegal green-lane motoring.
- b) P Rock reported raw sewerage running down the U8078 roadside drain, north of Holly Hill hamlet, east side of highway, to bottom of hill, then disappearing under ground. Reported to Highways on Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>.
- c) All parishioners received a letter from NCC regarding Garden Waste Collection Service – 2014 season

#### **22. Date of April 2014 meeting**

Monday April 14<sup>th</sup> 2014.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.