

**Minutes of Slaley Parish Council, Monday December 13th 2010,
in Slaley Commemoration Hall.**

1. Apologies: Councillors Ms M. Palmer & Mrs A. S. Robson.

Present: Councillor I.C. Hancock in the Chair. Councillors Mrs L. Norris, S. Davison & Mrs C. A. Brooks (for part of meeting because of altered school carol service). Clerk Mrs P. Wilson. County Councillor: None. Public: Keith Robson & Pat Goodwin representing Slaley Commemoration Hall, Richard Ferguson. Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul. Slaley Notes: Apologies. Community Trust: Catherine Lincoln. Northumbria Police: None

2. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.

Clerk for part of discussion under agenda item 5a.

3. Minutes of November Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 650-654, & appendix 1 page 655).

Proposed as a true record by Cllr.CA Brooks and seconded by Cllr. I.C. Hancock. The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising.

a) 4d 8/11/10; 13 11/10/10 Post Christmas meal at The Travellers Rest – 11 meals confirmed.

b) 6c 8/11/10: PC wrote to the 12 residents of Parks side bungalows about a replacement Ladycross stone sign. From the replies one house remains unoccupied and has done for several months; one was against, one was unavailable, two don't mind and seven said Yes.

c) 13a 8/11/10: Reply emailed from Slaley Commemoration Hall Treasurer with a 10-year breakdown of profit and loss without the PC grant. The PC's Standing Orders means that the issue cannot be re-looked at this until early next year. *See 5a below*

d) 13d 8/11/10; 4f 11/10/10: Slaley Show balance sheet received and circulated by email. Because the current funds stand at £15,497.31 it was agreed that no grant would be given.

5. Public Participation.

a) Mr. Robson & Mrs. Goodwin representing Slaley Commemoration Hall wished to record their great disappointment at the PC's decision not to award a grant to Slaley Commemoration Hall. The six-month rule in the PC's Standing Orders was understood, however, an explanation of why no grant has been awarded was requested, especially when £2,100 had been set aside for grants according to the minutes. Why had a grant to Core Music of Hexham been given yet no grants been given in the parish? What was the anticipated use of the unallocated grant money? Cllr. Hancock pointed out that CH reserves currently stand at £10,000 and in the present economic climate it would be wrong of the PC to award a grant when it was not needed. Most of that reserve, it was pointed out by Mr. Robson, was restricted for capital projects and not the day-to-day running costs. The PC grant meanwhile had been given to protect hire charges for local people, groups and committees. Many small groups were struggling to keep going, their members are dwindling and increased hire charges could be the final straw – the Parish Plan had stressed the importance of these local groups in our society. Hire charges were last raised in 2008. Mrs. Goodwin pointed out that were it not for a dedicated band of people who give their time free of charge for Hall maintenance the day to day running costs would be much higher. A lengthy discussion followed which ended by Cllr Hancock saying that everyone in the parish, including the PC, valued the CH and the PC would financially support a specific capital project.

b) Mr. Ferguson reported a “high seat” placed on footpath 22. These high seats are used for deer culling and placing the seat on a public footpath infringes fire-arms law. Clerk to report to David Brookes and Police.

6. Community Trust Report

No progress to report on the Rose & Crown or the play area. The school has been pressed for a reply on the project management front but as yet no answer has been received. The CT subsidised the Christmas Pantomime “Beauty and the Beast” on Saturday December 11th in Slaley Commemoration Hall. A donation of £75 has been made to the Mother and Toddler Group to support them in becoming more financially secure. **PC Clerk to telephone School and ask Mrs Ross if she can give the go-ahead for Mr. Murrell to co-ordinate the project.**

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor.

None.

8. Correspondence.

Hard Copy:

- a) Tynedale Sports Council Awards Evening 6/12/10 – emailed information 25/11/10
- b) War Memorials Trust November 2010 Bulletin.
- c) NCC -The planning portal e-consultation hub has been withdrawn from 12th November, NCC planning service is currently in the process of acquiring a new computer system, which will include the provision of a similar service for electronic consultation.
- d) NCC: Achieving more through partnership. Reducing risk and preventing harm: partnership between Children’s Services & Fire and Rescue in Northumberland – letter, poster & DVD.
- e) NSP: Invitation to comments on the final draft of the revised Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Northumberland by 31/1/11 – letter and a 27- page draft document.
- f) NCC Additional grass cutting service 2011/12 (parks service) e-mailed 30/11/10
- g) Playgrounds 10% discount advertising leaflet; Sturdy Swings from Streetscape advertising brochure; Glasdon Local Council products advertising brochure. Arien Signs: Park Range

Emails:

- a) 12/11/10: Northumberland & North Tyneside Registered Trader Scheme. Councillors suggested that a copy of the Slaley Business Directory should be sent by e-mail.
- b) 16/11/10: Weekly Rural Digest 16/11/10
- c) 16/11/10: Regeneration Service Funding Bulletin No 44.
- d) 18/11/01: Wellbeing Party change of date for festive parties
- e) 18/11/10: Saving Rural Communities – affordable housing
- f) 22/11/10: Local Works – Sustainable Communities Act - proposals made under the act will be dealt with before Christmas or the end of January 2011 at the latest.
- g) 22/11/10: North Tyneside PCT: Consultation on assessment of pharmacy needs ends 26th.
- h) 25/11/10: NCC Regional Flood Information – request for local flooding issues within our area.
- i) 26/11/10: Came & Company information about Parish Council gritting responsibilities
- j) 27/11/10: NCC Contaminated Land Strategy to view on line.
- k) 27/11/10: NCC Local Transport Plan to view on line.
- l) 29/11/10: Regeneration Service Funding Bulletin *Issue No 46*.
- Lb) 30/11/10: David Francis – third draft Local Transport Plan
- m) 1/12/10: West Area Partnership – The West’s Housing Offer (reminder)
- n) 1/12/10: West Area meeting at Ponteland 9/12/10

- o) 2.12.10: NCC Getabout Car Scheme – sharing your vehicle with those less fortunate. (4 page attachment “Plea for Volunteers”).
- p) 2/12/10: NCC People & Places December Newsletter.
- q) 2/12/10: RSN December parish newsletter.
- r) 2/12/10: VoiCeS Northumberland - UTS events to help people improve the writing of funding bids and applications.
- s) 6/12/10: Weekly Rural Digest December 6th
- t) 8/12/10: Regeneration Service Funding Bulletin *Issue No 47*.
- u) 8/12/10: RSN – Analysis of RSN call for evidence – building the Big Society

9. Financial Report.

- a) Cheques to be signed
GRANTS as agreed in November & December:
No 425 Great North Air Ambulance service £150.00
No 426 Community Action Northumberland £20.00
No 427 Slaley Churchyard maintenance £50.00
Proposed by Cllr.L. Norris and seconded by Cllr. S. Davison - the cheques were signed.
- b) Interim cheques: None

10. Current Planning Applications.

20100585: Double garage to south elevation at 52 Slaley Park Pending

Decisions from Planning Authority

20100566: Construction of a micro wind generator - Wooley House (unclear decision)
A letter received from Sadler Brown Architecture wishing to contact the Parish Council about revised alterations and extensions to planning permissions earlier this year at Moorland. The Councillors agreed to invite them to the January meeting.

11. Special Meeting held on 22/11/10 to discuss proposals that Groundwork North East produce a concept drawing of a design for the sport play area within the First School grounds. (notes taken at the meeting attached as appendix 1/131210 page 660).

12. Update netted games/play area within school grounds.

- (a) Report of Playground training event on 17/11/10 attended by Cllr IC Hancock & Clerk attached as appendix 2/131210 page 661.
- b) Quote from Came & Co for public liability £135.45 + 6% Premium Tax.
- c) Correspondence from Zurich

13. Slaley Web Page Update.

- a) Email from ME dated 29/11/10 revised fee (from £120 + £40 in January 2008) to £200 to upgrade web site. Chairman acknowledged that the £40 additional charge was acceptable.
- b) Email from ME 11/12/10 set up account with Zen Internet for hosting installed WordPress on the server and carried out a trial transfer.
- c) Healey PC agreed to remain with the Slaley web for at least a further 12 months. The £50 cheque for web space will be submitted by January 2011.

14. Precept.

Balance sheet as at 13/12/10 and Precept for 2011/12 attached as appendix 3/131210 page 662.

15. BOATs update.

a) E-mail to DB & Sergeant Cockburn 22/11/10 regarding a delivery lorry using the closed BOAT using Satnav to Viewley. DB thought that Satnavs would not recognize these routes. RF confirmed that the wedding vehicles were intending to use High Clear Lane from Holly Hill to Slaley Church.

16. Winter Services (clearing Parks Side Bungalows, Village Footpaths etc). See email: 26/11/10 from Came & Company with information about Parish Council gritting responsibilities.

- a) Email on 26/11/10 to Mel & Kevin about lack of salt down Riding Mill C275 road
- b) Salt heaps in Slaley parish are needed at the following locations: Glen crossroads, Holly Hill bank, Rye Hill bank, Curlew Cottage bank.
- c) Mr. Ferguson wanted to record his appreciation to Nigel Pickering for keeping the U8078 passable during the recently heavy snow. He asked about someone on a tractor with a small gritter type trailer and where he was working.
- d) The clearance of Forestry roads during the recent arctic conditions was questioned. Apparently the Forestry Commission has contracted someone to keep the paths open because of timber operations and the closures of some routes that are classified BOATs.
- e) It was suggested that Mel Richardson be asked to attend a meeting to discuss winter services.

17. AOB

- a) Email to Mel Richardson 22/11/10 (before snow) about flooding on U8080 from a field gate. Sharon Stoddard has tried to clear. Cllr Norris to see if it is cleared.
- b) Extra spaces at Parkside first requested April / May 2010. Reminder sent 22/11/10 – Dale Rumney taken over from Dick Second reminder sent 13/12/10.
- c) Margaret Henderson of Corbridge Middle School asked for help on the school's 50th birthday.
- d) Slaley Village Shop reported bags of dog dirt being placed in the shop litter-bin and public litter bin next to the telephone kiosk. Clerk to write something for Slaley notes.
- e) Cllr Brooks reported a large swelling under the tarmacadam on the B6306. Traffic lights are presently in place until highways can investigate. The theory is that an underground spring is causing the problem.
- f) Clerk was contacted to complete a Northumbria Police telephone survey. A special web site which has information on meetings between the general public and police officers and telephone number (03456 043043 none emergency) was discussed and the Clerk suggested to Northumbria Police that Cllr Brooks be given this information for the News Sheet; Jean Elphick for the Slaley Notes and Michael Elphick for a link to the Slaley web site. Telephone numbers and e-mail addresses were given.

18. Date of January monthly meeting.

Monday January 10th 2011.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.