

**Minutes of Slaley Parish Council, Monday January 10th 2011,  
in Slaley Commemoration Hall.**

**1. Apologies:** Councillors S. Davison

**Present:** Councillor I.C. Hancock in the Chair. Councillors Mrs L. Norris, Mrs C. A. Brooks, Ms M. Palmer & Mrs A. S. Robson. Clerk Mrs P. Wilson. County Councillor: Colin W Horncastle. Public: Kevin Brown & Ben Dryden of Sadler Brown Architects. Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul. Slaley Notes: Michael Elphick. Community Trust: None. Northumbria Police: None.

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

CC Colin W Horncastle for agenda item 5a & 10.

**3. Minutes of December Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 656-659 + appendix 1 page 660, appendix 2 page 661 & appendix 3 page 662**

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

**4. Matters Arising.**

- a) 4b 13/12/10; 6c 8/11/10: Replacement Ladycross Sign at Parks Side bungalows – The result of the PC survey was given by letter to the CT.
- b) 9a 13/12/10: Thank You from GNAA for grant.
- c) 9a 13/12/10: Thank You for CAN grant
- d) 12c 13/12/10: Request to Zurich to quote for Play Area insurance cover – Email received 16/12/10 asking for information towards a quote for the PC's general insurance cover in which an addition would be the area at the school insured by the PC.
- e) 16 13/12/10: Winter Services – E-mail from Came & Co 23/12/10 with 6 pages on property Protection – Weight of Snow etc. **Forward a copy to Commemoration Hall Committee.**

**5. Public Participation.**

a) (*Brought forward from agenda item 10*) Kevin Brown & Ben Dryden of Sadler Brown Architects attended to discuss the planning application for Moorland View. With the help of A3 photographs and an explanation of the proposed plans and roof design, the Councillors were more able to understand what is proposed. The changed orientation will allow light to penetrate the interior and still keep the total floor space below the 33% limit for extensions. Some 27% has been added to the 1990's building. Identification of the boundary of the curtilage is to enable the differentiation between the garden and the agricultural green belt land. Tree retention and additional planning were described. The impact of additional rain water from the roof was questioned. The architects confirmed there were no plans to reuse the rain water internally in any way and that it would go underground to a tank for garden use. There being no further questions the architects were thanked for their attendance and left.

**6. Community Trust Report.**

None.

**7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor.**

The Chairman questioned the Precept timing and how it would work? CC Horncastle did not have the answer he said this was the question being asked by every parish council in

Northumberland. NCC has a legal duty to provide Statutory Services. However when the unitary authority was formed and the services from the District Council were amalgamated it was realised that most of the services were best provided at grass roots level. Therefore the suggestion now is that services should be given back to the parish and town councils. From the list of devolved services 'road signs' clarification was requested (*the suggestion was that we ask at the West Area Meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>*). Winter services were also discussed and the supply of salt, sand and grit. The problem is that the heavy snow and hard frosts since November 24<sup>th</sup> were unprecedented – weather conditions between now and spring will determine the level of highway care available – statements have already been issued that salt does not work at temperatures below –7 therefore grit and or sand will be used.

## **8. Correspondence.**

### **Hard copy:**

- a) NCC Invitation to next meeting – Stannington 2 p.m. 25/1/2011 – scanned & emailed 30/12/10
- b) NCC Provision of local services and the 2011/12 budget – scanned and emailed 30/12/10.
- c) The Royal British Legion – Great Poppy Party Weekend 10-12 June 2011. **The information to be printed in the News sheet and in Slaley Notes for anyone who wants to organise a party.**
- d) GNAA annual letter requesting financial support.
- e) ECONorth = making the Most of Your land for Wildlife and Education - Slaley PC does not own any land therefore the help offered is irrelevant.
- f) CPRE Overview Winter 2010; Prince's Trust, Winter 2010 catalogue; CAN News December 2010; Local Works + No Need for Nuclear information 4 page A3 leaflet; Clerks & Councils Direct January 2011

### **E-mail:**

- a) 14/12/10: NALC December Newsletter – Issue 4 – 4 pages
- b) 16/12/10: NCC Adam Keen - Refuse Collection During Period of Adverse Winter Weather – Map of possible collection lorries and time-table. Nothing for Blanchland, Slaley, Healey or Hexhamshire. Is the assumption that we should all get to Hexham Civic Amenity Site?
- c) 16/12/10: David Francis – Special NALC E-News on the subject of the budget cuts with a plea to councillors to try to attend their Area Committee meetings.
- d) 16/12/10: Hexham Courant – article in Tynedale Visitor – 2010 article circulated by e-mail and amendments requested + mention of new Hollybush Coffee Shop suggested (Cllr Hancock to edit and return to Clerk).
- e) 22/12/10: Sarah Martin – Hadrian's Wall Heritage Site 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference 3/3/11.
- f) 22/12/10: NORTH – selection of entries for Christmas card competition.
- g) 22/12/10: RSN – Weekly Rural Digest 20/12/10.
- h) 5/1/11: Regeneration Service Funding Bulletin Issue 1 2011.
- i) 5/1/11: DCM Play Surfaces (sent to play area group see agenda item 11 below).
- j) 5/1/11: Northumberland Fire & Rescue - Draft IRMP 2011-14. 28 pages.
- k) 7/1/11: NORTH – North East's Housing Leadership Conference 17/2/11
- l) 10/1/11: Area Committee West meeting 18/1/11 - 6 p.m. Hexham Mart (see 8b (hard) and 8a (email) below). **Cllr Hancock and Clerk will attend.**
- m) 10/1/11: RSN Weekly Digest January 10<sup>th</sup>

## **9. Financial Report.**

a) Cheques to be signed

No 428 NCC empty of dog bin £324.22 + empty of litter bin £324.22 Total £648.44

No 429 Travellers Rest 28 meals @ £12.00 = £336.00

Proposed by Cllr CA Brooks and seconded by Cllr. A, Robson the cheques were signed.

b) Interim cheques: None

c) Income received: Cheque from Healey PC for £50.00 in respect of web space

Cheques & cash totalling £336 for 28 meals @ £12 per head at Travellers Rest

d) Bank Statement: Balance at December 29<sup>th</sup> £5, 881.82

## 10. Current Planning Applications.

**\*20101040:** Part retrospective (raised timber structure to north elevation) and alterations and extensions to property including alterations to roof including 2 dormers and reformation of conservatory. Moorland View, Lead Road. (extension until 18/1/10 for comments).

\* Planning Officer Anna Hilditch informed the PC that an extension for comments to January 18<sup>th</sup> was granted to the PC. However, she had no access to the 1990 planning files.

*See 5a above* – after discussion the Councillors felt that the new planning application would make Moorland a more aesthetic house. The 1990's house was totally out of character with the open countryside, alterations made in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and early 21<sup>st</sup> century did nothing to influence the visual impact, therefore this new application could only improve the appearance. The current property is substantially elevated above the highway level and the highway is prone to severe flooding whenever there is rainfall. Therefore the only concern expressed by the Councillors is that rainwater and drainage is given careful consideration.

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

## Decisions from Planning Authority

**20100015:** Certificate of lawfulness for timber stable block/store. Moorland. **Granted**

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

a) Contacted the school and reported (by email on 15/12/10) that a meeting between Marge & Demelza was taking place on December 16th to discuss proposals. *No report of this meeting.*

b) Email sent to group 21/12/10 asked if Courant article of 17/12/10 had been read regarding Hexhamshire play park and the need for additional funding.

c) E-mail from DCM products for play surfaces circulated to group 5/1/11

d) No formal report from Catherine Lincoln.

## 12. Slaley Web Page Update.

a) £4.69 paid in cash by PC Clerk to Michael Elphick as repayment of his initial payment to Zen Internet.

b) Direct Debit forms completed by Clerk for an annual payment to Zen Internet. What is our Zen User Account login and user name? Two questions which Mr Elphick will answer. Councillors IC Hancock and CA Brooks signed the Direct Debit form, which was then passed to Mr Elphick for attachment to a letter.

c) Cllr Hancock asked where the new site could be viewed as it had been understood that the two sites would run in tandem for a while and then a decision could be made as to which site was the best. Mr Elphick explained that the text from the old site had been transferred onto a test site on his machine. He had not however been able to make it available on the web. Moving photographs between the old and new site is proving more difficult and will not be completed until sometime next month. The Clerk explained that the Webfusion account is due to be paid in

February and any delay in the change over could result in no site at all as happened in February 2010 when a new self-service Webfusion billing system came into force. Mr Elphick explained that he intends writing to all the parish groups for an introductory statement for the opening pages of the new site.

### **13. Travellers Rest Post-Christmas Meal for the Elderly – January 2011 Arrangements.**

- a) Friday January 21<sup>st</sup> - 28 meals have been paid for (one vegetarian meal) this has been confirmed to the Travellers Rest.
- b) Margaret Ward of Slaley Village Shop was awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours List. Proposed by the PC in May 2005. The Newcastle Journal has contacted the PC Chairman and asked him if the award will be celebrated in some way. The Post Christmas Meal was considered a good opportunity to make some sort of a congratulations statement. When Margaret arrives for the lunch Cllr Norris will say a few words and present Margaret with a card and a bottle of champagne. Cllr Hancock to inform the Journal and the Clerk will forward details to the Hexham Courant.
- c) Mr Elphick expressed surprise that the PC thought that its proposal for Margaret Ward to be awarded a National Honour had been successful because the CT had recently made an application. The letter of November 9<sup>th</sup> 2010 from the Cabinet Office to the PC was shown to Mr Elphick to prove that it was in fact the PC nomination which had been successful.

### **14. Parish Plan Action Plan January 2011 Update circulated as appendix 1/100111**

Slight amendments were made to the Update.

### **15. AOB**

- a) Large pot hole on C265 between Holly Cottage and Slaley Hall entrance reported by e-mail 30/12/10. *This has been filled.* Several more were reported although none causing great concern at the moment.
- b) Clerk spread a bucket of salt/grit on north footpath between Stanegarth and Tree Tops on Wednesday January 5<sup>th</sup> after complaints from parents who were forced to walk on the road due to black ice on the footpath. Clerk e-mailed Councillors and reported action morning of 5/1/11.
- c) (omitted from December minutes) During December Clerk reported by email to Northumbria Police a Ford Fiesta standing in Slaley village since the snow of Friday November 26<sup>th</sup>. Eventually a resident of High Clear who had been unable to get home and consequently had left it in the village between Meadow Rise and Slaley House claimed it.
- d) Clerk had spoken with Richard Stewart, Planning Enforcement Officer, and asked that he re-ask Slaley Hall for the Holiday Villas occupancy details for 2009 and 2010.

### **16. BOATs update.**

Graeme Ferguson has been appointed to the JLAF (Joint Local Access Forum) and he is monitoring the closed routes, taking photographs of continuing usage and damage and reporting them at the quarterly JLAF meetings.

### **17. Date of February 2011 meeting.**

Monday February 14th