

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on
Monday 10th August 2015

The annual walk about which this year was an inspection of the village drains with Ray Wealleans, Neighbourhood Services Area Manager. Beginning at Townhead the Councillors walked down the village looking at all the footpath drains and the roadside gulleys. At Townfoot the group was joined by Mrs L. Joyce who has made frequent complaints to NCC, Kris Westerby & Ray (and their predecessors) about flooding inside Townfoot entrance. Footpath drains, blocked highway gulleys and agricultural vehicles have all been blamed for the blockage inside Townfoot entrance. The discussion continued back at the Commemoration Hall for the monthly meeting

1. Public Participation.

- a) Mrs Joyce said she had suffered 8 years of complaints to NCC highways and wished to record the money wasted by NCC on sending workmen out who sat in their van informing her that they did not know where the drains were that were causing the flooding. Mrs. Joyce had several photographs on her tablet showing the extent of the flooding and when requesting help from NCC has been accused of harassment. She asked how often the manholes were lifted and inspected each year and if the repairs carried out over three days last week had solved the problem.
- b) Ray Wealleans explained that Steve is Divisional Manager for the North East. Inspectors are responsible for work in each area. Kris will bring up the DVD of the CCTV footage which will show the evidence from work carried out last week. Ray agreed that the footpath drains/ road gulleys have not been cleared and Mrs Joyce's photographs proved there were serious issues. Manholes could be lifted a maximum of twice each year, however Slaley has no evidence of flooding – Ray has a county map that shows red, amber and green areas of flooding. (12 or more instances of flooding each year).
- c) Ray agreed to set a complete clean in motion, first the sweeper to come, then the roadside gulleys cleaned out and the footpath manholes lifted and the drains cleaned out. Once this is undertaken the area should be monitored by the PC. Cllr N. Green requested that before this is undertaken Slaley PC Clerk must be informed and any vehicles normally parked in the village over the gully grills can be asked to keep the area clear. This was agreed.
- d) Cllr Hutchinson has asked that Ray Wealleans be informed that stock is getting out of Low House owned fields on the B6306 west of Lawn House to the Wooley road, because roadside saplings have damaged the boundary walls. Previously reported 7a 8/6/15 & 18c 13/4/15 minutes. Copy of the email given to Mr. Wealleans.
- e) Cllr Michael Kennedy from Blanchland reported several areas needing attending to at Blanchland these included verge grass cutting and overhanging trees. Cllr D.M. Bell was able to provide Mr. Wealleans with a map that showed the areas discussed by Cllr M Kennedy. Clerk to provide email addresses of MK and Blanchland PC Clerk.
- f) Roadside grass cutting in Slaley parish was also questioned. Mr. Wealleans explained that funds allow for this on the A68, and other A roads. Highways savings mean that the B, C & U roads will not be cut unless a specific request is made where sight lines are causing a danger. Ray to drop off a copy of the county map with the Clerk where dangerous sight lines can be marked.

2. Apologies. County Councillor Colin Horncastle. Slaley Councillors R.W.H. Hutchinson, & E. S. Dart. Will Smith Shotley Low Quarter PC, Gill Whatmough Hexhamshire PC.

Present: Councillor D. Allsop in the Chair. Councillors N. Green, D. M. Bell & I. E. Milburn & Clerk P. Wilson. Invited guests: Ray Wealleans, NCC Neighbourhood Services Area Manager & Michael Kennedy Blanchland PC. Public: Liz Joyce.

3. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record. None.

4. Minutes of July Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 1083 – 1088 appendix 1, page 1089 & appendix 2, page 1090).

The Minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr. D.M. Bell and seconded by Cllr. I.E. Milburn.
The minutes were dated and signed.

5. Matters Arising.

- a) 7b 13/7/15: Flooding at Townfoot Old Farmhouse – flooding problems continued during July resulting in three days of work on the drains at Townfoot. *See introduction.*
- b) 8a 13/7/15: NCC Local Transport Plan Programme 2016- The Linnels Bridge safety work has been agreed according to the Hexham Courant. Signs saying “Don’t take any notice of your Sat Nav see Road restrictions” would not be legal although the Parish Council could put up a notice as long as it was located outside the highway. **It was decided that drivers would take no additional notice of this and would therefore be a waste of PC resources. Work on the bridge is programmed to begin on October 5th 2015 and the bridge will be closed for 5 days.**
- c) 17c 13/7/15: Report that garden refuse had been dumped on the footpath between the east wall of the churchyard and Slaley Village shop. This has now been verified by the Councillors and a letter to be sent to Slaley Village Shop, Slaley Churchyard maintenance crew and the property adjacent to path.

6. Community Trust Report

Cllr Allsop verbally reported that there had been no further CT meetings or correspondence from interested members of the community interested in becoming members of the CT.

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor

See report above with Ray Weallans

8. Correspondence.

Hard copy

NCC letter “Home Compost scheme leaflet” and Compost Bin Special Offer leaflets.
Marmax products recycling plastic bottles catalogue.

Emails circulated

- a) 14/7/15: Came & Company (Insurance) – Important Client Announcement - joined Stackhouse Poland Ltd – introductory letter from Jeremy MG Cary Executive Chairman.
- b) 15/7/15: RSN RVS rural broadband.
- c) 17/7/15: Iain Hedley Annual Town & Parish Council Conference 24/9 electronic reply.
- d) 17/7/15: Ian Hedley Second annual T&PC Conference at West Hartford Fire Station.
- e) 17/7/15: Northumbria Police- Fraudsters pretending to be police officers.
- f) 19/7/15: Northumberland Healthcare Update
- g) 20/7/15: RSN weekly digest
- h) 23/7/15: Lorraine Hindhaugh – Dysart Plans for redevelopment of Hexham Bus Station.
- i) 23/7/15: RSN RVS fuel poverty
- j) 23/7/15: Dave Blackburn - Removal of Eyesores
- k) 23/7/15: Frances Wilkinson: Presentation from July 9th emailed to all Councillors.
- l) 27/7/15: RSN weekly digest
- m) 27/7/15: Carole Smith - Sport Tynedale request for donation – Accompanying letter from Edward Heslop the Chair of Sport Tynedale reported “*We only give grants to people from organizations that have paid their annual subscription, therefore is you would like people in your parish to be eligible for a grant we need to receive a donation from you*”. Several Councillors did not like this blackmail type approach.
- n) 30/7/15: RSN spotlight on rural health.
- o) 30/7/15: CAN e:NEWS July.

- p) 1/8/15: Planning Strategy CRM: Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy Publication and consultation on the **Pre-Submission Draft. October 14th – November 25th – Needs to go onto November agenda.**
- q) 1/8/15: F&H Pitt – Pennine Journey Supporters Club Press Release.
- r) 3/8/15) RSN weekly digest.
- s) 3/8/15: RSN UPDATED weekly digest
- t) 5/8/15: RSN RVS rural transport
- u) 6/8/15: Andrea Perrett one day training workshop in Hexham on 14/10/15 “working with Survivors of Rape and Sexual Assault.
- v) 6/8/15: NCC Grant Davey – Departure of Barry Rowland as Executive Director of Local Services.
- w) 9/8/15: NALC E-NEWS – mentions Freedom of Information – suggests that policies and procedures are up-to-date. (Note 1b 8/6/15 minutes when Making Better Places contacted the Clerk who provided a copy from our annual booklet and the web site). *In March 2014 we changed the Risk Assessment and pages 2 & 4 were lost in the process. A copy of FoI and Community Use of school grounds last agreed in March 2013. An emailed copy of these was forwarded for approval to be renamed as Policies and placed on the agenda for adoption in September 2015.*
- x) 10/8/15: RSN weekly digest.
- y) 10/8/15: NCC Funding e:Bulletin.

9.Planning Protocol

- a) Emailed from Bart Milburn (23rd July) re Planning Protocol included: Covering letter entitled Consultation on Draft Planning Protocols (3 pages). Pre Application Advice Protocol July 2015 (7 pages); Protocol on section 106 Planning obligations (12 pages); NCC Pre Application Fees (4 pages) ; Powerpoint slides on major developments.
- b) Second correspondence received by email 31/7/15 from Bart Milburn informing PC that any comments received after August 22nd will only be reported verbally and will not appear in the schedule of comments and proposed changes.

After discussion the Councillors agreed to support the changes proposed in the protocols.

10.Financial Report.

- a) Real Time Information: Thirsk payroll
- b) Cheques to be signed.
Cheque No 565 The Play Inspection Company Ltd £75.00 for annual inspection.
- c) Interim cheque No 564. NCC - playground inspections April – June 2015 £177.84 signed by Cllrs E Milburn & D Bell
- d)) Lloyds Bank change of signature form completed twice and posted. Third correspondence received asking for third set of papers be countersigned.
- e) Audit date was July 20th – Clerk received an email on July 27th asking for clarifications on the £2899 added to the Asset Register. Three additional pages were forwarded and then a telephone conversation with Rhianne Butler when it was stated that unlike the second speed activated sign which we could not place on our asset register because we the PC had not paid for it. In this instance the full amount of the mobile post van parking should be placed on the register and not only the portion the PC paid. I asked why there was no consistency about the system and Rhianne laughed. **Cllr D. Allsop understood the reasoning behind the decision.**
- f)) The Pensions Regulator – staging date for SPC is 1st August 2017. Nominate a contact by 31/8/15 **Cllr D Allsop volunteered to be the contact.**

11.Current Planning Applications.

15/01490/FUL: Proposed side extension to the west elevation at Townfoot Farm Bungalow, Slaley Village. Applicant Mr. Thomas Scott. **Objections:** Different sized garage doors looked odd. Ridge height extension is too high in relation to the single story building.

- 15/02280/FUL:** Proposed sun room extension and new garage block at Townfoot House, Slaley. Applicant Justine Moody. **No objections.**
- 15/02146/VARYC:** Planning application variation of condition 2 (approved plans) from application 14/02051/FUL (Construction of new dwelling) Rookhope Cottage. **Pending**
- 15/02062/LBC:** Listed Building Consent for removal of existing conservatory; construction of new garden room; partial removal and reconstruction of existing porch; Installation of roof-lights to kitchen. Stanegarth, Slaley. Applicant Mr. & Mrs McKendrick. **Pending**
- 15/02062/FUL:** Proposed removal of existing conservatory; construction of new garden room; partial removal and reconstruction of existing porch; Installation of roof-lights to kitchen. Stanegarth, Slaley. Applicant Mr. & Mrs McKendrick. **Pending**
- 15/01554/ADE Amended June 24th:** Resubmission: Advertising Consent: 2 no non-illuminated timber gallows style hanging double sided signs in Traditional style Street Sign, Slaley. Applicant Mr. David Allsop. **Pending**
- 15/010125/FUL:** Proposed kitchen extension to rear. The Old Barn, Slaley, Hexham. **Pending.**
- 14/04288/OUT:** Outline planning permission with some matters reserved except for access for construction of single storey agricultural workers dwelling. Land East of Flothers Farm, Slaley. **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**

Decisions from planning:

- 15/02181/NONMAT:** Non material amendment to application 14/04060/FUL (inclusion of four Velux windows to proposed extension pitched roof and one Velux to front roof slope of original dwelling, with omission of proposed landing window to front elevation) at Ashtree House. **Approved**

12. Defibrillator Update

- a) Adele Young commissioned the Defib on Friday July 17th and on confirmation from Cllr Allsop that the cabinet was ready the Defib machine was placed inside its cabinet and the ambulance service informed of that so that 999 calls could tell people about the availability of the Slaley Defib if it was needed. **Cllr D. Allsop reported that he had not as yet received an invoice for the work so was unable to say if more than the £128 raised was needed.**
- b) Emergency Life Support training on Monday July 27th by Mags Bower, Adele Young & Grant, a Community Resuscitation Training Officer, report. Twenty three members of the public attended and all thanked the Parish Council for taking the lead in acquiring the Defib and organising the life saving training. The Ambulance service took away all the training equipment and the DVDs to establish if they could be of help to us.
- b) Who will be the person responsible for doing a weekly check to make sure the small screen on the front of the Defib is working OK and not flashing indicating a problem. **Cllr D. Alsop volunteered.**
- c) Where will the spare parts for the Defib be kept? **It was agreed that for the moment they would be kept at the home of the PC Clerk. This may be altered to a safe location at the Village Hall at some time in the future.**

13. Update games/play area within school grounds.

- a) Play Inspection Company carried out the annual inspection on July 28th. 18 page report circulated to Councillors August 4th. Clerk to get a quote from TUC Plant Hire for replacement work.
- b) Order Form for 2016 inspection maintaining 2015 prices

14. Dukesfield Smelt Mill Arches Project Completion

The project has been short listed for the 2015 Heritage Angel Award. Seven members of the DSG are going to London for the awards ceremony on September 7th. All the Councillors have been asked to go on line and vote for the Dukesfield project.

15. Slaley Commemoration Hall Management Committee AGM revised date July 15th

- a) The minutes from April 15th meeting were approved and have been circulated to the Councillors. Attached as **appendix 1/100815, page 1096**. Cllr Green reported that the guttering needs repairing. Some members of the management committee wish to see it repaired in cast iron as per the original while others are happy with a much cheaper UVPC, especially on the rear of the building. The Chairman is currently scouring reclamation yards.
- b) Financial report at the AGM was approved by the management committee.
- c) Fund raising for 2015 is an illustrated talk on Friday September 4th by Will Nichols of Haydon Bridge.

16. AOB

A Cllr Milburn reported a piece of iron sticking out the ground beside the road sign at Townhead. Councillors saw this and bent it over, they think it is part of an old highway sign. Cllr N. Green will make safe.

17. Date of September 2015 monthly meeting

Monday September 14th

There being no further business the meeting ended at 10.10 p.m.