

Minutes of Slaley Parish Council on
Monday 9th December 2013 7.30 p.m. in Slaley Commemoration Hall.

1. Apologies. Cllr. D. Allsop, & D.M. Bell & County Councillor CW Horncastle.

Present: Councillor C.A. Brooks in the Chair. Councillors I.E. Milburn, C.E.M. Goldring, N. Green, & Clerk Mrs P. Wilson.

Public: None. Northumbria Police: None: Courant Reporter: Rosalind Saul. Community Trust: None. Slaley Notes: None.

2. Declaration of Interests and Hospitality Record.

Discussing planning application 13/03431/LBC: Alterations to Rose & Crown Inn, Slaley. –Cllrs N. Green & C.E.M. Goldring.

3. Minutes of November Parish Council Meeting (circulated pages 912 – 917 + appendix 1, page 918 & appendix 2, page 919).

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

4. Matters Arising.

a) 4c 11/11/13; 4f 14/10/13; 4g 2/9/13; 6c 12/8/13: Lloyds Signatory Form needed yet another signature from Cllr Brooks. This was completed.

b) 4e 11/11/13; 13 14/10/13 Our Views on challenges for rural communities were presented by M. Darrington at a conference at Alnwick Castle on 27th November. If anything interesting results from the event M. Darrington has offered to pass it on to the PC.

c) 9b* 11/11/13: The cheque No 510 for Slaley Commemoration Hall grant of £1,000.00 and its accompanying letter caused some concern among the Hall Management Committee with some members taking it as a personal slur on their ability. The PC letter in question was circulated to the Councillors before the cheque was presented. Alterations were made and it was agreed by comments of “Spot on” by Cllr Green. “That is perfect” by Cllr Bell. CHMC Chairman, took personal offence at the letter and circulated a response to CHMC with a copy to the PC - this was replied to by personal correspondence from Cllr Goldring. The Councillors felt that the Chairman’s reply was out of context.

d) 9b 11/11/13: Joint Parish Council Fund Raising for Slaley Commemoration Hall.

Slaley PC has agreed to hold a Saturday afternoon Bingo session during March (Saturday March 29th?) to raise money for Slaley Commemoration Hall. Healey PC members agreed to help in promoting the event to the wider public and on the day. Cllr Johnston volunteered to co-ordinate the Healey PC involvement and reported that she had some bingo cards. **Cllr Green to confirm that the Date is OK.** No offer of prizes from CHMC these will need to be taken out of our income.

e) 12 c 11/11/13 Thank you from Mr. Brooks for his bottle of wine.

f) 13 e 11/11/13 Marion Mitchinson at No 5 Parks Side refused any payment for electricity used by mobile post office. A box of chocolates was delivered as a thank you and a card has been received thanking the Councillors for this token of their appreciation.

g) 17a 11/11/13 Mess made by the school buses on the grass at Parks Side - Cllr Bell reported that it was repaired on November 19th.

5. Public Participation.

None.

6. Community Trust Report

Report circulated and attached as **appendix 1/091213, page 925**

7. Matters for Discussion with County Councillor: None

8. Correspondence.

Hard copy.

- a) NCC – Steve Mason -Local Government Finance Act 1992: Parish Precepts and Council Tax 2014/15. Precept forms must be received at NCC by January 17th 2014. The impact on the localisation of council tax benefit for Slaley is £325.77.
- b) Hadrian’s Wall Trust - conservation, education and development projects across the Hadrian’s Wall frontier- adopt a turret or help maintain the Hadrian’s Wall Path and world heritage site. (*see also email 8k & 8t plus Courant and Journal articles*) **The Councillors agreed that they would adopt 10 stones at £3 each.**
- c) NCC Carrol Hessey - Winter Services leaflets.
- d) Advertising leaflets from Wicksteed; Proludic play ground equipment,

Emails:

- a) 13/11/13: RSN RVS – Transport.
- b) 18/11/13: RSN weekly digest.
- c) 20/11/13: RSN RVS – Broadband.
- d) 26/11/13: RSN weekly digest
- e) 26/11/13: NCC Declan Langan: Commissioning Voluntary & Community Sector Support Services – deadline for survey extended to December 5th.
- f) 26/11/13: Myra Jamieson - Population & Household projections for Northumberland.
- g) 27/11/13: NALC E-NEWS November.
- h) 29/11/13: NCC Vicki Flint – reminder for number of people sleeping rough in Parish. Clerk replied that there were NO known rough sleepers in either parish.
- i) 29/11/13: Myra Jamieson – Information on children in Northumberland from the 2011 Census.
- j) 29/11/13: Tynedale Sports Council, Carole Smith: Invitation to the Sports Awards evening on Sunday 15/12/13.
- k) 29/11/13: Hadrian’s Wall Trust: November E-Newsletter (5 pages).
- l) 29/11/13: NALC Chairman Briefing re Council Tax Benefit Support Grant.
- m) 1/12/13: CAN e:NEWS.
- n) 1/12/13: Gordon Stewart – development of website & social media platforms.
- o) 1/12/13: Updated NALC report on Council Tax Benefit Support Grant (4 pages).
- p) 2/12/13: RSN weekly digest.
- q) 3/12/13: West Area Meeting, 10/12/13, Queen’s Hall, Hexham. Combined Authority on agenda. Slaley Councillors felt that the Clerk did not need to attend this, as Parish Councils were not consultees.
- r) 4/12/13: RSN ROB December issue.
- s) 4/12/13: Forwarded from Cllr Anderton. North East Leadership Board – Consultation on a Combined Authority. Consultation is on line ending on January 2nd 2014. (*see 8q above*).
- t) 4/12/13: Hadrian’s Wall Trust – Adopt a Stone fundraising campaign – (*See hard copy 8b*)
- u) 7/12/13: RSN Spotlight on Rural Health.
- v) 7/12/13: Tyne Rivers Trust newsletter.
- w) 9/12/13: RSN weekly digest.

9. Financial Report.

- a) Cheques to be signed £30 for 10 stones @£3
- b) Thank you letters for the grants issued in November have been received from CAB, GNA, CAN & Slaley Commemoration Hall

c) Income: A cheque for £50 has been received from Healey Parish Council for space on the Slaley web site.

10. Current Planning Applications.

13/03431/LBC: Grade II listed building: Alterations to rear elevation to provide accessible entrance in addition to internal refurbishment works to include installation of disabled WC, new male WC and new staircase. Rose & Crown Inn, Slaley. **No objections**

13/03352/FUL: Loft conversion including two dormers to front and one dormer to rear and construction of a new entrance porch. Viewlands, Slaley **Support.**

13/01130/FUL: Retrospective: Extraction system on roof at rear of premises.

Pending

13/01131/LBC: Retrospective: Listed Building Consent: Extraction system on roof at rear of premises.

Pending

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

Pending

***12/03280/FUL:** Construction of a new two storey dwelling with garage in replacement of the existing out buildings adjacent to West Orchard House, Slaley.

Pending.

* Site visit at 10 a.m. on Monday 9th December.

Decisions from planning:

13/02684/FUL: Demolition of existing barn /workshop/store and erection of replacement of barn /workshop / store at Wooley House, Wooley road.

Granted

11. Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy: Housing, Employment and Green Belt Preferred Options. 31/10/13 – 2/1/14.

a) March 2013 response circulated by email on November 12th and **attached as appendix 2/091213, page.926.**

b) Draft reply by Cllr M Anderton for possible use by Healey PC was circulated by email on November 29th. This was discussed by Healey PC on December 4th and agreed as the Healey reply for consideration by Slaley PC.

c) Comments earlier this year by Michael Quinn were considered.

d) The report was gone through question-by-question and answers agreed. Cllr Brooks will cut and paste the combined reply. **A copy is attached as appendix 3/091213, page 927.**

12. Update games/play area within school grounds.

a) Equipment inspections sheets were received on November 20th for 3/10/13 – 14/11/13; a copy has been forwarded to Slaley School. Reports record a bolt missing from the new basketball net. Clerk questioned how this had been resolved as it was not mentioned on November 7th or 14th.

b) David Robson, the inspector reported by email on November 22nd that someone had put a new nut and bolt into the basketball net. So the equipment was fine. We do not know who did the fixing.

13. Mobile Post Office Van parking Update.

a) Emailed quote from Debmart Surfacing Limited of Ryton for a graded surface course of 117 m² £7,288.00 they are able to install the required dropped kerb. Clerk to request an Eco grid or similar product quote.

b) Clerk met Dean from Hollybush Landscaping on site and although he is not able to lower kerbs he has quoted for the job. Material £2,420 + vat Labour £1,350. His insurance has to include a roadside indemnity clause of £?m. A request to NCC highways has been made to lower the kerb

and ask about the insurance. Amanda Cryer replied that a highways engineer should get back in the next two weeks.

c) Joyce construction replied that this type of job was much smaller than they normally undertook and that to pull men and machinery from a large construction site at Newcastle or elsewhere would NOT make quote cost effective.

d) Fosters Landscaping has not quoted.

e) Clerk to email Kath Heard (Isos Housing) and Ruth Barnes (Post Office) with the various quotes and ask if they have any preference for infill of green tech or similar. The Councillors voted 2 grass, 1 gravel 1 unsure.

f) The mobile Post Office van failed its MOT on Saturday November 16th and was once again off the road until Wednesday November 20th.

g) A draft letter to Post Office Limited was circulated and amended by Cllr Brooks. This has now been forwarded to the other Clerks in the mobile Post Office circuit. Clerk will forward the letter to Post Office Ltd before Christmas.

14. Litter Bin at Townhead.

a) 15/11/13: Correspondence from Keith Gray.

b) 18/11/13: More information from Keith Gray.

c) 29/11/13: Adam Keen re overflowing bins.

d) The Councillors looked at all this information and samples. A second dog bin was considered and rejected. Finally it was agreed that the Litter Bin at Townhead be removed and see what the reaction is. If litter starts to accumulate then a re-think will be necessary. Without a litter bin people using the seat will have to take their litter away.

15. Dukesfield Smelt Mill Arches Project Update

a) Topping Out Ceremony on Friday November 22nd was recorded through the pages of the Newcastle Journal on and in the Hexham Courant of Friday November 29th.

b) There will be several community activities due to start in the New Year including “Who do you think you are?” Photography workshops, Print making workshop, Art club, A heritage cook off, schools involvement and continuation of the documentary research.

16. Precept for 2014 – 15 (circulated by email on 14/11/13)

Clerk to ask GMS for a quote on cutting the grassed areas at Slaley and Strimming the bicycle track at the First School. Clerk to circulate an updated version and attached **as appendix 4/091213, page 928.**

17. AOB

a) Circulated by email the minutes from September 25th Commemoration Hall Management Committee as agreed on November 27th 2013. **Attached as appendix 5/091213, page 929.**

b) An invitation circulated by email on 20/11/13 inviting members of the Parish Council on Monday December 16th to the leaving presentation of Headteacher, Demelza Ross.

c) Email request from Cllr D Allsop for the Parish Council to request a glass recycling unit for placement at the Rose & Crown. History of Parish Council glass recycling attempts 2006 – March 2010 circulated and attached **as appendix 6/091213, page 930.** The Clerk had spoken with Adam Keen and asked about the quartet of glass recycling bins that had been offered in 2009. Adam explained that these were only used in the Tynedale corridor of the A69 and to place them outside this corridor emptying on a fortnightly rosta would not be economical. A copy of correspondence from Slaley residents in 2009 was tabled for the meeting. One Councillor abstained from making a decision about the offer of a glass recycling skip positioned at the rear of the Rose & Crown Inn.

The remaining Councillors rejected the offer because they felt that a glass recycling skip was not for Slaley village. A shareholder of the Rose & Crown reported that a glass recycling skip would not improve the appearance or attract people to park their cars and go inside to eat. The actual position of the unit was questioned - in a fairly tight parking space people reversing in (or out) with their glass was not something that guests either to the Inn or to the B&B facilities would appreciate. One shareholder of the R&C also questioned access for the collection lorry. An agreed reply will be sent to both Cllr. D. Allsop and Adam Keen and will be **attached as appendix 7/091213, page 931.**

d) Burglaries at or near Slaley: Attempted at Moor Gair garage and Holly Hill studio. East Burnside Christmas presents and a vehicle were stolen.

e) State of First School Building. The Clerk emailed Councillors on November 13th asking them to look at the state of repair. After several replies including that of the County Councilor the Clerk emailed the School on November 20th asking if there was any help the PC could give. School replied that there is £5,000 in the budget for building work and estimates are currently being sought to replace the southern windows with plastic. **The councilors felt that there were a lot more problem areas than the southern aspect and that the school would probably need financial help in 2014.**

f) Clerk emailed Stefan Bell (NCC) Karen Bibby & Harry Newbould of Unipartdorman to ask for an update on repairs to our activated speed sign at Townhead.

18. Date of January 2014 meeting and agree dates for 2014.

Monday January 13th 2014 – the dates for 2014 were all agreed.