

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 21 APRIL 2008 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present Mr Stephen Jones (SJ) -Chairman, Mr Peter Millard (PM), Mr Stewart Scothern (SS),
Mr Julian Newbold (JN), Mrs Andrea Johnson (AJ), Mr Carl Willett (CW)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes (DB)

Also present for Open Forum: PC D Lowe, Mr J Stelfox, Mrs A Stelfox, Ms H Martin, Mr G Hearsey,
Mrs C Bell, Mr C Knowles

1082 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr J Cohen-Kingsley due to illness. Apologies noted and accepted

1083 To receive declarations of interest

Cllr S Scothern and Cllr C Willett as members of the Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall Management Committee declared interest in the Memorial Hall planning application and in the Memorial Hall Lease

Standing Orders were suspended

Open Forum

Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting; PC D Lowe reported the crime statistics for the previous month. Seven crimes had been committed, including, thefts and burglaries and damage to the Memorial Hall. There had been four instances of youth related anti-social behaviour. JN reported concerns about groups of youths congregating and drinking at the recreation field.

- C Knowles from Slyne with Hest Football Club, reported that the Club had moved into a new league and there would be a need to make greater provision for spectators and their safety during matches. Unfortunately it seems likely that the only junior team next season will be the U14s. This is due to the lack of coaches and adult help. The junior changing rooms on the field are no longer used. The summer grass cutting of the pitch will continue with the Council's new contractor and the Club will make their own arrangements for any other work that is required.
- J Stelfox reported that the Action Group concerned with flooding issues had a meeting pending with Geraldine Smith MP, representatives from Lancaster City Council and from United Utilities. Residents of Croft Avenue and others concerned about flooding were urged to get in contact with the Group.
- There was concern about the seemingly increasing trend for planning applications to demolish habitable properties and to replace them by larger, more intrusive dwellings. If taken to the extreme this could completely alter the character of the village. It was suggested that the Lancaster City Council Planning Officers should be made fully aware of the contents of the Parish Plan and Village Design Statement and consideration should be given to adding clauses to the Village Design Statement to try to discourage this type of development.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

1084 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17 March 2008 as a true record. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

1085 Administration matters

Review of the effectiveness of the internal audit; the Accounts and Audit (Amendment)(England) Regulations 2006 requires smaller bodies to undertake each year a review of the effectiveness of their internal audit. Members have considered the listed requirements for the review and along with the Financial Regulations in place and the Financial Risk Assessment procedure satisfied themselves that all necessary steps has been taken to ensure that the internal audit is carried out in a proper manner.

Bowling Club Lease; written confirmation had been received from Slyne with Hest Bowling Club that the committee has no further comments on the proposed lease.

Resolution: to ask the Council's solicitor to draw up the final version of the Lease ready for agreement and signature by both parties.

1085 Financial matters

Resolution: to accept the end of year report of receipts and expenditure presented by the clerk.

Current Account £2619.19, Savings Account £19,740.97

Parish Council Allowances Scheme; consideration was given to the changes to the Allowances Scheme proposed by Lancaster City Council.

Resolution: Not to make any changes to the present level of allowances and not to introduce an automatic increase in line with the Retail Price Index but to review the payments annually.

Annual Review of Insurance Cover: following last year's audit, on the advice of the Auditor, the level of Fidelity Insurance cover was increased to £100,000. Every member has been provided with information about the new renewal premium and the list of items insured with the level of cover for each.

Resolution: to accept the renewal summary giving the level of cover provided and to pay the renewal premium on the Allianz policy.

1086 Payment of accounts

Resolution: to transfer £1000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account.

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed;

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| DD | Lancaster City Council | 16.30 | 1 st instalment- burial ground rates |
| DD | Information Commissioner | 35.00 | data protection |
| 101043 | Lancaster City Council | 29.96 | monthly play equipment inspection |
| 101044 | Lancaster City Council | 358.08 | grass cutting 2007-final instalment |
| 101045 | Lancaster & Morecambe College | 252.00 | printing of Village Newsletter |
| 101046 | Olympia Cleaning Services | 23.83 | bus shelter window cleaning |
| 101047 | Mrs D Brookes | 757.20 | clerk's salary and expenses |
| 101048 | Petty cash | 3.37 | sundry items |
| 101049 | SHMH | 265.00 | contribution to planning application fee (ref 1077) |
| 101050 | Lancaster City Council | 203.46 | hire & emptying of eurobin at burial ground |
| 101052 | HM Revenue and Customs | 404.96 | PAYE & NIC payments |

1088 Planning Applications

Application No.

08/00226/FUL erection of a two-storey side extension
82 Main Road, Slyne, LA2 6AU
seems to be within planning guidelines, therefore no objections

08/00384/FUL erection of an extension and various alterations
Memorial Hall, Hanging Green Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6JB
The Council fully supports this application; it has liaised with the Committee during consultations and formulation of the plans; alterations will enhance facilities at the hall but not detract from the appearance and character of this Mawson style building; within Policy R17 of the Lancaster District Local Plan

08/00400/FUL erection of a replacement dwelling
6 Peacock Crescent, Hest Bank, LA2 6EW
concerns about the demolition and replacement of habitable properties
Peacock Crescent was built as a group of bungalows of similar style and it is thought that the proposed development with its larger size and elevated roof level could be seen to be contrary to Lancaster Local Plan Policy H7 and SPG 12, paras 4.16 and 4.18 as not fitting in with the surrounding properties

08/00408/FUL erection of a conservatory to the side and alterations to the roof to form first floor rooms

The Beeches, Hest Bank Lane, Slyne, LA2 6AH
seems to be within planning guidelines, therefore no objections

Applications granted

08/00032/FUL, 16 Manor Road, Slyne, LA2 6JY

08/00053/FUL, 16 Kirklands, Hest Bank, LA2 6ER

08/00259/FUL, 18 Bryn Grove, Hest Bank, LA2 6EX

Application refused

08/00056/FUL, 3 Coastal Road, Hest Bank, LA2 6HL

Application withdrawn

08/00217/FUL, Brantholme, Hasty Brow Road, Slyne, LA2 6AG

Village Design Statement (VDS); consideration of adding statements in relation to the demolition of habitable properties and their replacement (also see Open Forum above). It was agreed that it is important to ensure the correct wording of such statements. The clerk is to make enquiries about whether amendments to the VDS are permissible and will be adopted by the Lancaster City Council Planning Office in relation to the Lancaster Local Plan and planning policy guidelines and also to seek advice about the wording of the statements.

Resolution: provided that amendments can be made, to write additional statements into the VDS relating to the demolition of habitable properties and their replacement.

1089 Flooding issues

Also see Open Forum above. Letters had been received from Lancaster City Council in reply to points raised by the Council and by the Action Group following the recent flooding which outlined the LCC's perceived cause of the flooding and summarised findings from past investigations into flooding in the area. The clerk had also had a telephone conversation with the Emergency Planning Officer for Lancashire County Council with much the same outcome. A copy of the City Council's Emergency Plan for Flooding and Severe Weather had also been received. These were all given consideration but, as the Action Group's activities continue, it was decided to wait for further information from their meetings.

1090 Burial Ground

Entrance improvements; as there had been no further action on the architect's part regarding a revised planning application it was decided to reconsider the situation.

Burial Ground building; an on-site meeting had been held with a Planning Officer and as a result of this he has written to say that if the Council is minded to remove the roof from the building and insert a container they would have no problems with this solution; it would not require planning permission but they reserve the right to request an application should there be public concern. The other alternative, which he recommended, is to demolish the building, apply for permission to erect a new building, with temporary agreement to place a container on site.

Opening up of new section; consideration of the suitability of the adjoining field, it has a steep slope -it will need some paths, parking area for a hearse, as well as a road across from present entrance, possibly a pedestrian entrance at the top end, disabled access will also need to be addressed

Resolution: to dispense with the present architect and to employ a new architect to look at the development of the whole area as outlined above.

Memorial Inspections; issues arising from this -not all reports have been completed therefore deferred again.

1091 Open Spaces

Recreation Field -resurfacing of areas under play equipment; an on-site meeting had been held with a representative from Playdales Playgrounds Ltd and quotations for two options for resurfacing beneath the birds nest seat area and beneath the swings area had been received

Resolution: to agree in principle to the work being carried out subject to further enquiries regarding the robustness of the two options.

Hedge at the back of the field, removal of dead and damaged trees impinging on Hoggarth's field; agreed to ask the lengthsman to carry out any necessary work and to liaise with Mr Hoggarth.

Summer Task Force for tidying up and some improvement work prior to judging of the Lancashire Best Kept Village and North West in Bloom competitions; first meeting to be held on Wednesday 14th May, meet at 7.30pm outside the Memorial Hall. Clerk to put up notices and to ask the local press correspondence to advertise it in his column.

(Note: post meeting commencement date changed to Wednesday 28th May)

1092 Memorial Hall

Proposed lease for Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall Committee; clause 6 relating to the termination of the lease had been questioned by some members of the SHMH committee, claiming that it effectively only gave them a short term agreement. Advice had been sought from the Council's solicitor and it would appear that this is a standard clause applicable at the end of the twenty-five year term of the lease. Information to be conveyed to the SHMH committee.

1093 Highways

Concerns raised by a resident regarding the damage to the grass verge on Hest Bank Lane/Hasty Brow, also comments received from others about damage to various verges throughout the village; this is part of widespread problem of larger, wider vehicles using narrow lanes -situation being monitored; most of the verges are the responsibility of Lancashire County Council.

1094 Foreshore

Work required on gravelled areas; still waiting for specifications and quotations -deferred.

Dyke adjacent to Shorefield Caravan Park; information has still not been received from Lancaster City Council concerning the status of the dyke; still considering surveyor's report sent by Shorefield Caravan Owners Co-op relating to the redefining of the boundary.

1095 Matters suggested by members for future consideration

For information only

New litter bin at far end of foreshore

Provide seat and litter bin at bus shelter on Shady Lane

Reported that tractors stored at the compound on the foreshore had been removed but oil drums and other rubbish had been left behind.

Reported that the finger marker on Coastal footpath is broken.

1096 Date of next meeting

Monday 19th May 2008 at 7.30pm. This is the Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.