

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2008 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present Mr Stephen Jones (SJ) -Chairman, Mr Peter Millard (PM), Mr Stewart Scothern (SS), Miss June Cohen-Kingsley (JC-K), Mr Julian Newbold (JN) from 8.00pm

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes (DB)

Also present for Open Forum: City Cllr M Thomas, County Cllr A P Jones, Mr J Stelfox, Mrs H Martin
Mr R Greaves, Mr M Ashton -parish lengthsman

1056 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr Andrea Johnson due to illness and Cllr Carl Willett due to illness
Apologies accepted

1057 To receive declarations of interest

none declared

Standing Orders were suspended

Open Forum

No Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting because there was no police presence.

Mr Stelfox and Mrs Martin brought to the Council their concerns about recent flooding which had occurred in the Slyne area and the apparent difficulties which they had experienced over communication with the authorities; also their anxiety about the possibility of flooding in the future and the steps which need to be taken to overcome this. They will be making contact with the Authorities concerned.

Heysham/M6 Link; this has now been approved by the Secretary of State; some of the possible implications for the parish were discussed.

County Cllr Jones reported that he would be putting forward applications received from the Scout & Guide Management Committee and from the Over Sixties Club for grants from the County Councillors' allowance scheme.

Mr Ashton explained his design and costings to build a boardwalk across the recreation field from the end of the existing path to the gate in the fence surrounding the play equipment. The boardwalk will be built to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act. It will also take into account the ground conditions

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

1058 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21 January 2008 as a true record.
These were duly signed by the Chairman.

1059 Administration matters

Code of Practice for Handling Complaints; a copy of the proposed Code of Practice, based on the NALC model, had been provided in advance for all members.

Resolution: to adopt the proposed Code of Practice

Revision of Financial Regulations; a copy of the proposed revised regulations had been sent in advance to all members.

Resolution: While approving the revised Financial Regulations, in principle, to defer the final agreement on the figures to be inserted until after further consideration.

1060 Financial matters

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

Current Account £1616.86, Savings Account £24,458.78

1061 Payment of Accounts

Resolution: to transfer £4500 from the Savings Account to the Current Account.

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed

Cheque No.

101026	Lancaster City Council	358.08	grass cutting 2007 -instalment
101027	Lancaster City Council	29.96	monthly play equipment inspection
101028	Olympia Cleaning Services	23.83	bus shelter window cleaning
101029	Rev P Bicknell	26.98	printing & laminating service sheets (\$137)
101030	B Green(Community Service)	20.39	additional materials for rec. field fence
101031	Tradesignz Ltd	52.88	signs for burial ground
101032	Mrs D Brookes	748.33	clerk's salary & expenses
101033	Petty cash	5.76	postage
101034	North West in Bloom	40.00	entry fee
101035	Bolton-le-Sands P C	3638.25	annual payment to lengthsman scheme

1062 Planning Applications

Application No.

07/01809/FUL	erection of decking and balcony to front 14 Sea View Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6BY	no comments
08/00032/FUL	erection of single storey extension to rear 16 Manor Road, Slyne, LA2 6JY	no comments
08/00053/FUL	erection of a two storey extension to the side and porch to the front 16 Kirklands, Hest Bank, LA2 6ER	no comments
08/00056/FUL	erection of a two storey side extension 3 Coastal Road, Hest Bank, LA2 6HL	no comments
07/0063/TPO	T1 and T2 -trim overhanging branches of beech trees on grass verge 28 Peacock Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6EN Planning Officers urged to take advice of City Council Tree Officer and comments of Tree Wardens when making a decision	

1063 Burial Ground

Cemetery building; slates and ridging tiles have been stripped from part of the roof and stolen; the Police have been informed; measures have been taken to temporarily secure the building and protect it from weather damage.

The building is in poor condition, with woodworm and dry rot; it is now used only for storage of wood and discarded materials; the cost of repair would be uneconomic.

Resolution: to demolish the building and to consider the provision of alternative storage provision.

Checks are to be made with City Council Planning Office regarding regulations for demolition of a building and also what permission will be required to erect a new structure.

Memorial seats; councillors had been supplied with a wide range of bench styles and prices from several manufacturers.

Resolution: to adopt 'Lister' as the supplier and to give a choice of two styles of bench 'Warwick' and 'Evesham'; the fee to be charged will be inclusive of the cost of the bench, the lease of the plot on which the bench stands, the fixing and the maintenance of the bench.

More information is to be obtained before the level of the fee is finally fixed.

An inspection of the burial ground had been made and suggested sites for the benches marked on the burial ground plan.

Provision of a litter bin at the burial ground; whether an extra bin is really needed and also the problem of who would empty it were discussed; decision - not to pursue this further.

Annual inspection and safety checks on memorials -list of graves and notes on inspection criteria had been prepared and were handed out to councillors.

1064 **Open Spaces**

Recreation field path; -see Open Forum above -Mr Ashton has considerable experience in building paths and boardwalks.

Resolution: to award the job to Mr Ashton and ask him to construct a path, in line with the specifications discussed, provided that tests are carried out on the ground and a report produced and minor changes to costings are submitted before the work begins.

Recreation field; consideration of other work which needs to be carried out; councillors were reminded of the schedule for improvements including better disability access. The next step will be the upgrading the entrance near to the telephone exchange on Hanging Green Lane and quotations are to be sought.

Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition;

Resolution: to enter the competition again this year and pay the fee of £15. (under S137)

1065 **Highways**

Canal bridges; Ordnance Survey had been contacted about information included on satnav systems with a suggestion that the alternative routes through the village avoiding the canal bridges should be put into the systems. However it would seem that unless there are warning signs at the bridges this will not be possible. The Lancaster City Council Canal Task Force is looking into the imposition of width restrictions on canal bridges in order to reduce the likelihood of damage.

Concerns caused by recent flooding -see Open Forum above- a recently received document regarding emergency planning was brought to the attention of the meeting -a copy will be circulated to members. The Clerk is to write to the Director of the Emergency Planning team requesting more information in relation to local issues.

Heysham/M6 Link; now that approval has been given, the Parish Council will scrutinise the implementation of the parts of the plan which affect the parish to assess the implications of the developments and the impact on residents and act accordingly to ensure the outcomes are in the best interests of the parish and its residents.

1066 **Matters suggested by members for future consideration -for information only**

Damage to verge on Shady Lane, also condition of one of trees

Felling of trees on highways by County Council - not being replaced

Railtrack fencing round compound and along embankment -visual impact -grey colour-could it be painted green to blend in with surroundings being close to SSSI site?- green fencing seen in other areas

1067 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 17 March 2008 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.