

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL  
held on MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2009 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present Mr Stephen Jones (SJ)-Chairman, Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K), Mr Julian Newbold (JN), Mr Stewart Scothern (SS)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes (DB)

Also present for Open Forum: Pc D Lowe, PCSO Jon Dawes, City Cllr M Thomas, County Cllr A P Jones, Mr J Stelfox, Mr M Ashton, Mr R Greaves

**1228 To receive and accept apologies for absence**

Cllr P Millard -away on holiday -reason for absence noted and accepted

**1229 To receive and record declarations of interest none**

Standing Orders were suspended

**Open Forum**

- Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting: PC D Lowe introduced the new Police Community Support Officer Jon Dawes whose dedicated areas will be Slyne with Hest and Bolton-le-Sands. The total number of reported crimes for 2008 is 49, a decrease of 32% on the previous year and to date 35% of these crimes have been detected. In the previous month, seven crimes had been reported, compared with eight in the same period last year. These included vandalism at the Memorial Hall, theft from a vehicle and from a garden and a suspected attempt of burglary at a property. There had been three incidents of youth related antisocial behaviour, compared with eight last year.
- County Cllr Jones: objections have been received concerning Lancashire County Council's revised scheme for work to improve pedestrian safety on Hest Bank Lane. This will now be put to the Lancaster Locals committee for a decision.  
The question of whether a new drainage system to alleviate the flooding problems at Hest Bank Lane could be incorporated into works for the new M6/Heysham Link Road has been raised. Cllr Jones reported that he had been in contact with Officers at the County Council and Environment Agency and was hoping to arrange a consultation meeting with them and other agencies involved.
- City Cllr M Thomas passed on copies of the draft Slyne Conservation Area Appraisal document produced for the City Council along with an appraisal questionnaire
- Mr J Stelfox requested that the Parish Council considers what its response would be in the event of unlawful occupation of parish council land. This will be put forward as an item for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Mr R Greaves aired his views on his perceived lack of consultation with the residents of the parish over plans for the M6/Heysham link road and also some planning applications and the potential consequences for the Green Belt Area and future of the village.
- Mr M Ashton provided an explanation of the figures supplied to the previous meeting for the purchase and operation of a mower for grass cutting in the village as an alternative to employing a contractor to carry out the work. One of the main drawbacks is the secure storage of the equipment

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

**1230 Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19 January 2009 as a true record. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

**1231 Complaint against Councillor**

Cllr Newbold and Cllr Scothern gave a comprehensive report of their interview with an aggrieved resident and the issues which had been raised were discussed in depth. The Councillor concerned was given the opportunity to respond to the complaint.

The Council decided that, in this case, as a whole, it would take full responsibility for any misunderstanding and upset which may have occurred. It was reiterated to council members that any actions must be with the approval of the council, having been debated by them and after consultation with other authorities, if appropriate. Written notice of any action will be given before any steps are taken to resolve a problem. The complainant is to be informed of the decision.

1232 **Progress reports** -given by clerk, for information only

- Vacancies on the Council -notices have been posted on boards –the last date for the request of an election is 19 February
- A new printer/copier has been purchased -cost £34.03
- Renewal of Scout & Guide Lease; the next S & G Management Committee meeting is on Wednesday 25 February and members have been invited. As no-one is available to attend will suggest a separate meeting and arrange a date
- Carnforth Town Council's suggestion of a meeting with Lancaster City Council to discuss Special Expenses -agreed that representatives would be willing to attend.
- Grit bins -reply received from Lancashire County Council -they are unlikely to be able to fill and service any additional grit bins.
- The May Fair is to be held on Saturday 16 May.

1233 **Administration**

Change of signatories on Alliance and Leicester Accounts -minute ref 1213 -details of identification have been certified, details of proposed account holders and authorised signatories agreed and banking proposals accepted.

Village Newsletter

Resolution(i): to formally approve the newsletter to be published on 1 March 2009.

Resolution(ii): to accept the quotation supplied by Prontaprint Lancaster, to request them to approve the layout for printing purposes and to print 500 copies of the newsletter.

Resolution(iii): to purchase 10 plastic holders for the newsletters and to request pubs, retail outlets etc. in the village to display and distribute the newsletters.

Request made by Cancercare to use the foreshore for the finish of the half Marathon and Cross Bay walk:

Resolution: to agree to the request.

1234 **Financial matters**

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

Current Account £3,006.05, Savings Account £22,106.97

Lease for land on foreshore (minute refs. 1203 & 1217); Mr Graham has accepted the termination of the agreement from 1 April 2009 and requests the reimbursement of the balance of the rent that has been paid.

Resolution: to make a payment of £42.10 to Mr Graham.

Tenders for grass cutting 2009 season; the Council had been supplied with information of another tender which had been received after the closing date and it was agreed to consider it along with the one already received. See also Open Forum- discussion of purchasing a mower and carrying out grass cutting independently.

Resolution(i): to reconsider, next year, the possibility of purchasing a mower, having obtained further information and looked at options for secure storage of the equipment.

Resolution (ii): to accept the quotation of £3672 +Vat for grass cutting throughout the village, supplied by City Council (Direct) Services and to award them the contract for grass cutting in the 2009 season.

1235 **Payment of accounts**

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed

Chq. No. 101133	Lancaster City Council	30.48	monthly inspection of play equipment
101134	RBS Invoice Finance Ltd	25.66	bus shelter window cleaning
101135	Mr R McGuire	102.40	groundsman's pay

101136	Mrs D Brookes	772.25	clerk's salary & expenses
101137	Petty cash	85.99	printer, cartridge, OS plans, postage
101038	North West in Bloom Competition	40.00	entry fee (minute ref. 1223)
101039	Mr J Graham	42.10	reimbursement of rent (minute ref. 1234)

### 1233 Planning applications

Application No.

09/00096/FUL

18 Hatlex Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6EZ

demolition of detached garage and erection of a replacement extension

This seems to be within planning regulations, no objections raised.

Other applications published on Lancaster City Council website but parish council not informed, apparently this type of application is referred to the City Council's legal department & dealt with by them

09/00076/ELDC

Littlegarth, 6 Hasty Brow Road, Slyne LA2 6AQ

application for Existing Lawful Development Certificate for continuous use of land as part of residential curtilage

09/00077/PLDC

5 Greenacre Road, Hest Bank, LA2 6HD

application for a Proposed Lawful Development Certificate for the erection of a single storey extension to the rear

further enquiries to be made regarding the two applications above

Applications granted

09/0004/FUL

10A Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6DG

### 1234 Foreshore

Deed of Easement across Council land for access to West Cairn; (see minute ref.1221) the Council's solicitor has been consulted and her advice is to revert back to the residents of West Cairn and their solicitors to find out if and how they may wish to proceed. Clerk requested to send a letter.

Damage to land by contractors working with Network Rail; this has been reported and further communication is awaited.

### 1235 Highways

New bus shelter outside the Memorial Hall provided by Lancashire County Council; plans for the shelter had been passed to the Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall committee for their consideration because a small part of the shelter impinges on land leased to the committee. Some misgivings of that committee had been followed up and assurances given that there would be adequate space on the footpath in front of the shelter for pedestrians, pushchairs and wheelchairs and that the small encroachment on to the land in front of the hall should have minimum effect. The Council took this into consideration when examining the plans and the terms and conditions for the shelter.

Resolution: to accept the plans supplied by Lancashire County Council for the bus shelter, to accept the terms and conditions of the grant for provision of a bus shelter in partnership with Lancashire County Council and to accept responsibility for the energy charges in relation to this shelter from the date of connection.

Parked cars and traffic flow on Hest Bank Lane near to Throstle Grove; a letter had been received from a resident with observations on cars being parked partially on the pavement, some being left for a length of time and his concerns that they impeded traffic flow which on occasions led to hazardous conditions. It was suggested that he referred the matter directly to Lancashire County Council Highways Officers.

Request for improvements to pedestrian safety on Bottomdale Road, from its junction with the A6 to the cemetery and beyond; to be referred to Lancashire County Council Highways Officers with a request to see if any improvements can be made.

### 1236 Open Spaces

Recreation field play area -work on swings; -the monthly inspection reports have highlighted problems with the equipment (ref 1223) and a quotation for repairs has been obtained from City Council (Direct Services

**Resolution:** to accept the quotation of £129+Vat for repair of the swings and £99 +Vat for improvements to the bank slide and to have the work carried out.

Lancaster City Council's consultation on the introduction of Dog Control Orders (DCOs) -deferred from last meeting (ref. 122), since the last meeting Cllr Jones and the clerk had met with representatives from the R.S.P.B. to hear some of the problems they face with uncontrolled dogs on the foreshore disturbing the roosts of the bird populations. The problem has been increased recently because the changing channels have brought the majority of roosts further inland where they are more susceptible to disturbance. It had been agreed at the meeting and endorsed by the Council that support would be given to an initiative by the R.S.P.B. to explain to the public the sensitivities of the area and the use of the presently unused large notice board was offered to display information.

In respect of the Lancaster City Council's proposals for DCOs there was a divergence of opinion. However in response to the consultation, the Council was generally in favour of DCOs being applied to areas within the village but there were some misgivings as to how far these should be taken in certain areas and this has been made known to the City Council.

#### **1237**Burial Ground

Planning Application -further enquiries had been made but apparently the application has still not been submitted to Lancaster City Council Planning Office. An interim invoice has been received from the architect but the Council has declined to pay it until is assured that the application has been lodged with the City Council.

#### **1238**Correspondence

Notice received from Lancaster City Council's Allotments Task Force seeking information about sites for allotments -circulated to members.

#### **1239**Matters suggested by members for future consideration

*For information only-no decisions taken*

None

#### **1240**Date of next meeting

Monday 16 March 2009 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.55pm.