

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 16 JANUARY 2012 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mr Peter Millard(PM) Chairman, Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K)
Mr Stephen Jones (SJ) Mr Stewart Scothern, Mrs Joanne Leeman

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes(DB)

1689 To receive apologies for absence none

1690 To record Declarations of Interest none

Open Forum

The meeting was adjourned for the Open Forum -Standing Orders were suspended

Present for the Open Forum: PC I Nickson, City Cllr S Rogerson, Mr B Parker, Mr D Ruddick, Mr R Greaves.
Apologies were received from County Cllr A P Jones

- Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting: PC Nickson reported that in the previous month 7 crimes had been dealt with, including burglary, thefts from property and vehicles, possession of drugs and an assault on a cyclist. No incidents of anti-social behaviour had been reported. During a recent Rural Crime Operation covering the Morecambe and Carnforth areas thefts from static homes and caravans, theft of metal, driving of uninsured vehicles and drink driving had been dealt with. The Police had received several phone calls about a suspicious vehicle seen in the area and this is being investigated. PC Nickson emphasised the importance of reporting anything unusual or suspicious as this can greatly help the Police in their enquiries. The new non-emergency police contact number is 101.
A resident had enquired about the use of a radar speed gun, operated by volunteers, to check the speed of vehicles in the 20mph zone in the village, with the suggestion that it would provide ammunition for the Police to carry out official speed checks later if necessary. PC Nickson offered to look into the possibility of the loan of a speed gun and the training for its use by volunteers.
- Mr Parker enquired whether the rubble left in Hanging Green Wood is to be removed. He was assured that this would be done when it is needed as either infill for the recreation field development or work at the burial ground. Mr Greaves has removed his wheelbarrow and tools and the chestnut paling fencing is to be removed. Also Mr Parker had concerns about the safety of the well as he claimed that the cover is often removed. This will be looked at and the safety aspect monitored.
- Mr Ruddick was thanked for his work on the new Village Newsletter. It is hoped that in the future the newsletter will be expanded as more organisations submit information about their activities. The newsletter will be distributed through local retail outlets, the churches and the memorial hall.
- Mr Greaves expressed concerns about safety on the southern end of Hest Bank Lane where a farmer has opened up a gate into a field and on occasions the movement of tractors to and from the lane is a hazard to traffic.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

1691 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19 December 2011
They were duly signed by the Chairman

1692 Progress Reports (for information)

- Damage to the wall at the Burial Ground -repairs have still not been carried out
- Lengthsman scheme -a meeting has been arranged for 17th January with Tarja Wilson from Lancashire County Council along with representatives from the other parishes in the scheme.
- Cross Bay walks -Mr Sledmore has been asked to make a formal request for parking on the foreshore concerning the three large walks planned for 2012

- Information about the Lancashire County Council's new 'Connect2Buy' procurement portal has been circulated to councillors. It was suggested that if the Council has occasion to make use of this it should be on a 'call-off' contract basis.
- North West Air Ambulance appeal -consideration of making a donation will be an item on the next agenda.
- Flooding at some houses in Hanging Green Lane -no information has yet been received from Lancashire County Council.
- Notification has been received of closure of the Crescent/Hest Bank Lane, in late February & early March to allow work to be carried out to remove a gas main from across the canal bridge

1693 Administration

Jubilee Beacon; further consideration was given to registering to have a beacon to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June. Morecambe Bay Partnership had indicated that they would not be able to co-ordinate a scheme for beacons round the Bay. Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council is to be consulted to see whether it is considering a beacon. However it was felt, that as the village is already marking the occasion with a Jubilee lunch, another event would put a burden on the organisers and the idea is likely to be dropped.

Village Newsletter; a new version of the newsletter has been published. Formal approval was given to the newsletter. It is intended to publish newsletter quarterly.

Flying lanterns; a letter has been received from Lancashire County Council informing of some concerns that have been raised about the safety aspects of these lanterns, including the damage to crops and livestock and their potential to cause fires. It was felt that the use of these lanterns was irresponsible and should be discouraged.

1694 Financial matters

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

Current Account £9,453.84 Savings Account £38,548.46

Annual review of clerk's salary

Resolution: to make no change in the salary paid to the clerk for 2012/13

Mileage allowance for the clerk and councillors engaged on council business; the minimum rate for casual users recommended by the National Joint Council for Government Services is 46.9p per mile

Resolution: to adopt this figure for future payments.

Budget -councillors had been provided with information on the current financial position of the council, an estimate of receipts and expenditure in the financial year 2011/12 and projected receipts and expenses for 2012/13. A budget meeting was held on Wednesday 11th January 2012 at which the budget and therefore the precept requirement for 2012/13 were considered. Resulting from discussions at the meeting, a proposed budget was presented to the full Council.

Resolution: to adopt the proposed budget for 2012/13

Resolution: to authorise the request of the precept requirement of £30,700 from Lancaster City Council to meet the expenses of the parish council in the financial year 2012/13.

This is an increase of 1.90% on 2011/12. It equates to a Council Tax rate of £23.02 for a band D property in the parish,

1695 Payment of accounts

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed:

Chq No.	101463	Lancaster City Council	42.50	discharge of planning conditions
	101464	All the B's Surveys Ltd	108.00	survey work at burial ground
	101465	C'forth & District Chamber of Trade	60.00	supply of 3 Christmas trees with lights
	101466	Slyne with Hest Football Club	286.20	50% of grass cutting costs (as per lease)
	101467	Mr R McGuire	108.80	groundsman's pay
	101468	Mrs D Brookes	776.47	clerk's salary
	101469	Petty cash	16.47	sundry items
	101470	HMRC	419.12	NIC & PAYE

1696 **Open Spaces**

Recreation Field Project; a grant of £2000 has been received from Fields in Trust from their programme to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

A conditional offer of £40,000 has been made by LEF to the May Fair Committee for its part of the project.

Consideration of the quotation received for grass cutting in the village in 2012; a quotation has been received from Lancaster City Council, Environmental Services for the cutting of the grass on land owned by the parish council. The cutting schedule is on a nine working day basis with grassed areas mown, edges strimmed, cuttings not collected but not to be left on paths and surrounds.

Resolution: to accept the quotation supplied by Lancaster City Council Environmental Services of £3188+Vat for grass cutting throughout the village and including the cemetery and to award them the contract for the 2012 season.

1697 **Highways**

Heysham to M6 Link Road: the planning application has been accepted by the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) and the next stage is an examination into the proposals. To submit views on the proposals to the IPC, registration is necessary before the 20th February 2012. A copy of the County Council's application and accompanying documents, plans, maps and sections is held by the Parish Council and may be viewed on request. It was felt that although the Council does not hold a mandate to either support or oppose the proposals, a response should be made to the IPC.

Resolution: to register with the IPC and forward a comment to them.

Speed checks in the 20mph zone: see Open Forum above.

1698 **Burial Ground**

Improvements to the entrance: an application for the discharge of conditions attached to the approved application 09/00226/FUL has been submitted to Lancaster City Council.

1699 **Planning Applications**

No applications had been received in the previous month.

Notification of permission granted

10/00941/OUT

Beaumont Grange Farm, Green Lane, Slyne

11/00993/FUL

3 Goodwood Avenue, Slyne, LA2 6LA

1700 **Matters suggested by members for future consideration**

For information only

Foreshore -consideration of repair or removal of fencing around some of the grassed areas.

Use of A-boards to advertise community coffee mornings

1701 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 20 February 2012 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm