

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 19 JANUARY 2015 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mr Stewart Scothern -Chairman, Mrs Joanne Leeman, Mr Stephen Jones
Miss June Cohen-Kingsley, Mr Roland Stretch

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

2113 **To receive apologies for absence** none

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

Open Forum

Present for the Open Forum: City Cllr M Thomas, City Cllr S Rogerson

Apologies for absence; County Cllr A P Jones

The Councillors were informed that the application to English Heritage concerning the Mawson bungalow has now been made.

Concerns that had been raised by two residents about the potential increase in traffic and related safety matters after the completion of the new M6 to Heysham link road were noted. Arrangements are being made for Lancashire County Council Officers and representatives from Costain to attend the next parish council meeting to discuss this and other issues relating to the road.

The speed of some vehicles through the village is still a concern. Lancashire County Council Road Safety Initiative have posters on offer to emphasise the 20mph speed limit and it was thought worthwhile ordering some these.

The visitor left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

2114 **To record Declarations of Interest** none

2115 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 December 2014 as a true record. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2116 **Progress Reports** (*for information only*)

- An amendment to the Local Government Act that comes into force on 30 January 2015 allows the use of e-mail to send a summons to attend a meeting together with the agenda to any councillor that agrees to receive it in this way. The councillors with e-mail access were willing to accept this.
- An application has been made to English Heritage for the listing of the Mawson 'Bungalow'
- The poplar tree on the Memorial Hall field has been inspected by a tree specialist and as far as can be ascertained it is in good condition. Also the training of dogs on the field does not seem to be contrary to byelaws or Dog Control Orders provided that the dogs are in control and any fouling is removed. The person who raised these issues has been informed
- Tree planting on highways -County Highways is apparently encouraging this but guidance would need to be obtained from them. Funding would be up to the parish council.
- The Urban Saints Youth Group is planning to carry out some work in Bottomdale Wood as previously agreed and to erect bird and bat boxes that were made by children from Hornby School in 2014.
- L.A.L.C. is holding a chairmanship workshop -noted and details circulated
- Lancaster City Council -Draft Local Green Spaces Methodology Consultation -suggested that it would be worthwhile making a comment about the assessment of green space areas between parishes.
- Relocation of the cycle stands at the Memorial Hall; it has come to the attention of the Memorial Hall Committee, that due to the position of the stands, damage has been caused to vehicles reversing into them. The Memorial Hall Committee has proposed to remove the present stands and to provide new ones at the front of the hall. These would be fixed parallel to the front wall so that the cycles would be parked parallel to the building. It is the Council's view that this is not a suitable place and the stands would detract from the appearance of the building and that they should be located at the side of the building. This is to be conveyed to the Memorial Hall Committee.

2117 Administration

Confirmation of the date for the Annual Parish Assembly: it was decided to move the Annual Assembly meeting from April to Monday 11 May 2015 as this will be after the local elections and will provide an opportunity to introduce any newly elected councillors. The clerk is to enquire whether a Lancaster City Council Planning Office would be willing to attend the meeting to talk about Neighbourhood Planning.

Neighbourhood Planning; further information has been obtained about Neighbourhood Plans and been made available to all councillors. As a new Government scheme along with new funding is scheduled to come into force from April 2015, it was decided to wait until after this date before agreeing how to progress this.

2118 Financial matters

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

Current Account £1,973.29 Savings Account £48,588.76

Annual review the clerk's salary

Resolution: to make no change in the salary paid to the clerk for 2015/16

Review of the charges paid for electricity at the Burial Ground and consideration of the renewal of the fixed price electricity plan with Eon; the proposed charges are -standing charge 27p per day, normal units, 13.71p per kWh, discount of 4% for monthly direct debit.

Resolution: to accept Eon's fixed price plan offer for commencement on 24 April 2015

Consideration of the quotations received for grass cutting in the village in 2015; quotations have been received from Lancaster City Council Environmental Services, Envirocare and Distinctive Group for the cutting of the grass on land owned by the parish council. The cutting schedule is on a five working day basis with grassed areas mown, edges trimmed, cuttings not collected but not to be left on paths and surrounds.

Resolution: to accept the quotation supplied by Envirocare, the total of which is £7770 +VAT

Cllr Stretch offered to continue to empty the 'teddy bear' litter bin in the children's play area of the recreation field on a voluntary basis and this was accepted.

Budget -councillors had been provided with information on the current financial position of the council, an estimate of receipts and expenditure to the end of the financial year 2014/15 and projected receipts and expenses for 2015/16. A budget meeting was held on Monday 12 January 2015 at which the budget and therefore the precept requirement for 2015/16 were considered. Following much discussion, the Council proposed to increase the spending in 2015/16 in order to be able to carry out additional maintenance of the areas owned by the Council and to have funds available for remedial work at the recreation field to resolve the issues there.

Resolution: to adopt the proposed budget for 2015/16

Resolution: to raise a precept of £46,660 to meet the expenses of the parish council in the financial year 2015/16.

This is an increase of £14,850 (44.6%) on the 2014/15 precept. The parish tax rate on a Band D property will be £24.58.

2119 Open Spaces

Recreation field -football pitch, pond and wetland area; as had been requested, a written assessment of the condition of the football pitch and surrounding area has been received from Lancaster City Council Public Realm Manager. The file containing details of the recreation field project had been examined by Cllr Scothern and then passed on to Mrs Sarah Drake of FROGS. An independent report summarising the work, the contractual details of the project and the involvement of the contractors, Newground and the landscape architect, Penny Bennet has been produced. It was agreed that there would seem to be some discrepancies in what was expected and what was actually carried out and that the football pitch, as it is, is not fit for purpose. Mrs Drake had offered to put Cllr Scothern in contact with a solicitor who is willing to review the information and advise on what steps to take. It was agreed that this would be a way forward.

Mrs Drake has written to Costain to ascertain whether any funding for work on the field is likely to be available from their community fund.

Railings for round the play area: on collection of the railings from Yealand Redmayne Parish Council by

the lengthsmen it was found that there were three extra panels in addition to the sixteen already paid for.

Resolution: to purchase the extra three panels at £20 per panel.

Railings -consideration of purchase of posts, gates and more panels; deferred from the last meeting to obtain estimates for the cost to fix railings round three sides of the play area (not along the back edge).

Resolution: to accept the estimate from O'Connor Fencing of Whitehaven and to ask them to come to make measurements to give a quotation for the provision of the materials and installation.

2120 Foreshore

Consideration of placing boulders around the two presently fenced areas on the seaward side of the foreshore; an estimate had been made of the approximate number of boulders and therefore tonnage required to carry out the job. The estimated cost is 16 tonnes @ £30 per tonne, i.e. £480 +VAT. There will be an additional cost for hiring a machine to put them in place.

It was agreed to go ahead and have this work done.

Planting of trees on the foreshore area on the landward side of the highway, between the first pair of houses and the service road. Cllr Jones had compiled a list of trees suitable for the habitat along with the costs; £326 + VAT, plus delivery and cost of tree supports.

It was decided to order the trees from Weasdale Nurseries. Cllr Jones volunteered to plant the trees and Cllr Leeman offered to help.

2121 Burial Ground

M Ashton, the lengthsmen is working on an area for the planting of the hedge. Putting in kerbs along the edge of the drive was considered but on reflection it will probably be better to wait until a decision is taken on the re-surfacing of the drive.

Mr J Bradley, the surveyor, has indicated that the revised plan is now almost complete.

2122 Planning Applications

Applications received

14/01320/FUL 1 Hatlex Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6HA

15/00006/PAH 32 Peacock Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6EP

No issues were raised on the above applications

Notification of permission refused

14/01220/FUL 34 Prospect Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6HZ

2123 Payment of Accounts

Resolution: to authorise the transfer of £1,000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account.

Resolution: to pay the other accounts as listed

	DD	Eon	9.21	electricity bill -burial ground
Cheque	101769	Printing Plus	257.61	newsletter printing
	101770	Mr R McGuire	105.60	groundsman's pay
	101771	Mrs D Brookes	831.92	clerk's salary
	101772	Petty cash	47.40	sundry items
	101773	HMRC	456.96	NIC & PAYE payments
	101774	Yealand Redmayne Parish Council	60.00	purchase of 3 railing panels

2124 Matters raised by members for future consideration

Parking of vehicles outside St Luke's School and safety - yellow lines to impose restrictions.

2125 Date of next meeting Monday 16 February 2015 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm

