

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2018 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mr Stewart Scothern -Chairman, Mr Stephen Jones, Mr Roland Stretch,
Miss June Cohen-Kingsley, Mrs Tracey Scott, Mr Eric Hamer

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

2526 To receive apologies for absence none

Open Forum

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

Present for the Open Forum

City Cllr S Rogerson

- Cllr Rogerson commented on the number of complaints that she had received about potholes in the roads. There seems to be a number of roads that need attention. Lancashire County Council is responsible for carrying out repairs.

The visitor left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated.

2527 To record Declarations of Interest none

2528 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18 December 2017 as a true record.

They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2529 Progress Reports (*for information only*)

- Coastal Road bus shelter -insurance claim for damage caused by a traffic accident; a meeting with a representative of the insurance company has been arranged
- Change of signatories on the Santander accounts; this has finally been approved
- Bus shelter window cleaning; the clerk is still trying to get clarification from Lune Cleaning Company on the frequency of the cleaning and the rate being charged.
- Lancaster City Council-Community Governance Review -further comments; the Council favours more opportunity rather than less being given to parish councils to act at a local level to provide services. The Council would not wish to see the coalescence of this parish with neighbouring ones and believes that councils should retain their individuality rather than being grouped into a body. Each parish has its own character and distinct issues to be dealt with, councillors are in touch with the electorate and matters can often be dealt with at a local level. Formal or informal contact can be made with other parishes when this is thought appropriate and cooperation should be possible between parishes on wider ranging issues.
- The election of a new County Councillor will take place on Thursday 15 February 2018
- Wall adjacent to the Crescent; concern about its safety has been raised by a resident. This has been passed on to the canal & river Trust and Lancashire County Council Highways.
- A letter expressing concern about children damaging nests and smashing duck eggs along the canal was noted

2530 Administration

Neighbourhood Plan; the Steering Group has put together a number of policies for possible inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan. These were discussed at a meeting of the Group on Monday 8th January 2018. Reference was made to the Lancaster Local Plan. A decision was taken on the policies selected and the details of these are being finalised. The deadline is the end of January.

2531 Financial matters

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

Current Account £5,127.67 Savings Account £55,968.63.

External Auditor Appointments; notification has been received that the external auditors appointed for this parish for 2017-2022 are PFK Littlejohn LLP.

Annual Review of Clerk's salary -discussions held in the absence of the Clerk

Resolution(i): to ask the Clerk to refer to the present agreed salary scales for clerks and within this criteria to increase the salary by a maximum of £30 per month from 1 April 2018.

Consideration of the quotation received from Envirocare for grass cutting and general grounds maintenance on council-owned land in the parish in 2018/19. This is on the same basis as in 2017/18 but also included the Manor Lane play area. Envirocare has provided an explanation of some of the problems of grass cutting and collection of grass clippings in the recreation field and other wet areas.

The quotation is for a yearly maintenance price of £8760 +VAT, invoiced on a monthly basis, for the period April 2018 to March 2019

Resolution(ii): to accept the quotation supplied by Envirocare.

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 2017/18 and projected receipts and expenses for 2018/19. A budget meeting was held on Tuesday 9 January 2018 at which the budget recommendations and therefore the precept requirement for 2018/19 were considered. Legal negotiations are still ongoing regarding a claim for compensation over the flooding issues at the recreation field. The Council already holds some reserves and a decision was made to include further funding in the budget for remedial work and development of the recreation field

Resolution(iii): to adopt the proposed budget for 2018/19.

Resolution(iv): to raise a precept of £60,000 to meet the expenses of the Parish Council in the financial year 2018/19.

The parish tax rate on a Band D property will be £46.00.

2532 Open Spaces

Recreation field drainage issues; the claim continues to be chased up with BLM who are acting on behalf of Penny Bennett Landscapes.

Recreation field play area -a safety inspection report has highlighted some issues with the play equipment and remedial work which is required. One of the small climbing frames is too close to the fence and the surface beneath both small climbing frames needs improvement. It was decided that these should be removed and the groundsman is to be asked to carry out the work. Also the surface of the board walk is slippery to walk on and chicken wire netting is to be fixed to improve the surface.

Further discussion on holding a consultation on the future development of the facilities on the field; it was agreed that the sports clubs in the village along with residents should have the opportunity to put their ideas for the recreation field to the Council and the Council will be looking to publicising this and holding meetings.

2533 Burial Ground

Concern about the condition of some of the memorials; the Clerk has spoken to Lancaster City Council's Cemeteries Manager and a meeting has been arranged with the Cemeteries Overseer for advice on how to deal with the memorial issues.

2534 Planning Applications

Applications received

17/01523/FUL 36A prospect Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6 HZ

17/01560/FUL 10 Rushley Mount, Hest Bank, LA2 6EE

No issues were raised on the above applications

17/01543/OUT Cote Farm, Strellas Lane, Slyne, LA5 8AB

No issues raised on the construction of the property provided that it is restricted to occupation by an agricultural worker and is not used for any other purpose.

Applications permitted

17/01232/CU	6 Coastal Road, Hest Bank, LA2 6HN
17/01266/FUL	23 Marine Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6DY
17/01294/FUL	7 Hanging Green Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6JB
17/01391/FUL	6 Hatlex Hill, Hest Bank, LA2 6ET
17/01456/FUL	7 Lonsdale Road, Hest Bank, LA2 6DZ
17/0160/TPO	St Luke's School, Shady Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6JL

2535 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolution; to authorise the transfer of £7,000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account.

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed

	DD	Eon	8.17	electricity bill -burial ground
Cheque	122107	Queensbury Shelters Ltd. <i>(replaces cheque wrongly dated in error and returned)</i>	4044.00	Hest Bank Lane bus shelter
	122108	Envirocare	876.00	grass cutting -October invoice
	122109	Mountainstone Forge Ltd	1950.00	surface under bus shelter
	122110	Mrs D Brookes	842.72	clerk's salary & expenses
	122111	Petty cash	16.04	stationery & postage
	122112	HMRC	327.71	NIC & PAYE
	122113	Neighbourhood Plan -petty cash	92.52	various expenses
	122114	Mr S Brade	150.00	groundsman's pay

2536 **Matters raised by members for future consideration**

Repair of fence on Hanging Green Lane

Increase of advertising by local firms in the Village Newsletter.

2537 **Date of next meeting** Monday 19 February 2018 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.35 pm