

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 21 MARCH 2016 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

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

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

2278 To receive apologies for absence Cllr Joanne Leeman

Open Forum

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

Present for the Open Forum: County Cllr A P Jones, City Cllr M Thomas

Apologies were received from City Cllr S Rogerson

- County Cllr Jones reported on a meeting set up by Mrs J Boland and chaired by himself which was attended by a number of Hest Bank Lane residents along with representatives from Lancashire County Council Highways, Lancaster City Council Planning, United Utilities and the Fire & Rescue Service. The flooding problems were discussed along with work required to alleviate the problem. This is to be brought to the attention of the Chief Executive of Lancashire County Council and a request made to prioritise the remedial work.
- Other matters raised and noted - a complaint had been made about the potholes in the road in Peacock Crescent and County Council Highways had attended to carry out some repairs. However, on inspection, it was considered that the whole road needed resurfacing and it is hoped that this will be made a priority.
Combined Authority for Lancashire - it was thought that this will have an impact on the County and City Councils but is unlikely, at least at this stage, to affect the parishes.

The Councillors left the meeting. Standing Orders were re-instated.

2279 To record Declarations of Interest none

2280 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 February 2016
They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2281 Progress Reports (for information only)

- Wenning Surfacing work on the burial ground drive and recreation field entrance should be completed by the end of March. There may be some delay in completing the work on the recreation field path because of the on-going flooding problem,
- Mr Mark Bartlett from Lancaster City Council is unable to attend the March meeting but will come to the April one to discuss community emergency plans.
- Natural England -Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary consultation; no comments forthcoming.
- LALC training information for councillors -no uptake
- Withdrawal of bus service subsidies- recent information noted. The effect on this parish will be the loss of some evening bus services.
- It was reported that a tree covered by a TPO at a property on Peacock Lane had been severely cut back. This was reported to Lancaster City Council Tree Protection Officer who has investigated the complaint and is considering what action to take.
- A complaint has been received about trees on the Memorial Hall field overgrowing adjacent gardens allegedly causing problems. The Council has some reluctance to reducing these trees and will review their impact over the summer months.
- Cllr Stretch has received a letter from a resident of Goodwood Avenue complaining that insufficient work that has been done on trees at The Lodge which are covered by a TPO. This is a matter for the contractors employed by The Lodge and Lancaster City Council to sort out between themselves.

2282 Administration

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NP); the formal consultation has now ended and at the meeting held

on Monday 7 March, comments from various authorities and other interested parties were looked at. Cllr Leeman has been in contact with Caton Parish Council and Wray Parish Council who are further ahead with their Neighbourhood Plans and gained valuable information about consultants. Cllr Brownjohn will make a brief report of a seminar held by CPRE.

An application for a grant for work on the NP is on-going but the money will not be available until later in the next financial year (2016/17). It was agreed that any interim expenses could be paid out of the £2000 written into the Council's 2016/17 budget to support the development of the NP.

Consideration of the payment of a cash float to the Finance Coordinator of the NP Steering Group, Mrs Janet Holmes, to cover out-of-pocket expenses.

Resolution; to make an allowance of £100 as petty cash. Any expenditure incurred must be reported to the Responsible Financial Officer at least every three months and recorded in the Parish Council minutes.

Although not listed on the agenda, by special resolution, a cheque for the £100 will be issued at this meeting and recorded in the list of payments.

Playground inspections; consideration of Lancaster City Council's offer of playground inspections 2016/17; the quarterly inspections will be free of charge and a written report issued. An allowance of £100 will again be made by the City Council towards the cost of repairs.

Resolution; to accept this offer and have the inspections carried out for the next twelve months.

Scout & Guide HQ Lease -consideration of a request for its modification and permission to contact the Council's solicitor; a solicitor has been looking at the lease on behalf of the local Scout & Guide Association and pointed out that rather than the lease being in the name of the Scout and Guide Hut Management Committee, as it is at present, it would be better put on a more permanent basis and registered with the Guide Association. This was agreed to in principle but it was thought that the cost of an amendment should be borne by the Scout & Guide Committee and this will need to be discussed.

2283 Financial matters

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

Current Account £4593.08 Savings Account £53,310.49

The Audit Commission no longer exists and external audit arrangements from April 2017 are being made by the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited which will make a recommendation of which auditor to appoint for each parish.

However authorities with income or expenditure exceeding £25k can choose to opt-out and appoint their own auditor.

Resolution; not to opt out but to remain within the scheme which is being put in place.

Noted: again this year there will be full small business rate relief on the cemetery and premises so the rate payable is zero.

To consider continued membership of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils and the payment of the annual subscription of £460.84.

Resolution; to renew the membership and review again in twelve months' time.

To consider the renewal of the membership of Fields in Trust and pay the subscription of £50.00.

Resolution; to renew the membership

2284 Open Spaces

Recreation field issues; waiting for further contact from JWK Solicitors and the surveyor, Mr Andrew Hill.

Recreation field -consideration of usage of the field; as this is a an area for recreation and used for children's activities it has been suggested that there should be some restriction on dogs being exercised on the field, for example, they should be on a lease at all times. After some discussion it was decided to leave a decision in abeyance until after intended work on the field has been completed. Attempts to raise the awareness of the problem and danger of dog fouling will continue.

Recreation field safety inspections; it is the parish council's duty of care to ensure that the children's play area and other parts of the field are fit for purpose. The play equipment is inspected quarterly by

Lancaster City Council (see above). However the clerk has attended a training course on playground safety at which, it was said, to comply with cover insurance, weekly checks should be carried out and recorded. A check list has been drawn up and arrangements are to be made with the M Ashton, lengthsman and S Brade, groundsman to have the inspections carried out.

It was resolved to give authority to the person carrying out the inspection, in consultation with the clerk, to take immediate action should any fault be causing a serious safety hazard, i.e. to repair a fault, remove a hazard or restrict access to a piece of equipment or an area. All actions are to be recorded and reported at the following parish council meeting.

Following the report of a child slipping from one of the stepping logs near to the pond, it was decided to cordon off this area of the recreation field for safety.

2285 Foreshore

Flooding of the highway and parking area; following the heavy rain there has been an issue of flooding at the western end opposite the café. Cllrs Jones and Hamer and the clerk met Mr Tony Cowperthwaite on site to look at possible remedial action. Mr Cowperthwaite is to investigate the state of the present drainage system and to supply a quotation for the resurfacing of the stoned area used for car parking. Deferred to next meeting.

2286 Highways

The concerns about safety outside St Luke's School on Shady Lane have been brought to the attention of Lancashire County Council Highways, however they do not consider the area as one of major concern as Shady Lane has a good safety record with no collisions resulting in injury in the last 5 years and therefore they cannot support the request for additional double yellow lines.

Footpath between Throstle Walk and Trrostle Grove; a complaint has been received about the amount of litter along the path with a request to install a bin in the area. This path is a Public Right of Way (PROW) and therefore is being referred to the Lancashire County Council PROW Officer. In the meantime, the lengthsman will be asked to tidy it up.

2287 Planning Applications

Applications received

16/00237/FUL 81 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6BS

Some concern about the dormer windows proposed in this application and lack of privacy for neighbours; also the proposed porch is in front of the building line of this row of properties.

16/00317/FUL 7 Slyne Hall Heights, Slyne, LA2 6EH

No issues raised

16/0024/TPO Barton Manor, 52 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6BS

Concern raised about the loss of the monkey puzzle tree which is covered by a Tree Protection Order but will leave the decision to the Tree Protection Officer; suggested replacement with a tree of the same species.

Applications permitted

15/00972/FUL Land adjacent to 2 Rosegarth, Slyne, LA2 6AT

15/01591/FUL Hillcroft Nursing Home, Throstle Grove, Slyne, LA2 6AX

15/01356/CU Brantholme, Hasty Brow Road, Slyne, LA2 6AG

15/01267/FUL Brantholme, Hasty Brow Road, Slyne, LA2 6AG

15/01551/FUL Ashton House Farm, Main Road, Slyne, LA2 6AZ

16/00084/LB Manor House Farm, 128 Main Road, Slyne, LA2 6BD

16/00253/PLDC 36 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6BT

16/0097/FUL 9 Hanging Green Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6JB

16/0024/TPO Barton Manor, 52 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6BS

Application refused

16/00150/FUL 6 Hatlex Hill, Hest Bank, LA2 6ET

2288 Payment of Accounts

Resolution: to approve the payment of the accounts as listed:

	DD	Eon	6.26	electricity bill-burial ground
	DD	BT	165.35	phone bill
cheque	101876	Signs Express	287.81	signs for open spaces
	101877	Weasdale Nurseries Ltd	369.12	purchase of trees
	101878	Travis Perkins Trading Company Ltd	14.74	maintenance, open spaces
	101879	P Walton Tree Services	217.50	tree work
	101880	Mrs D Brookes	853.29	clerk's salary & expenses
	101881	Petty cash	18.50	sundry items
	101882	Mr S Brade	120.00	groundskeeper -open spaces work
	101883	Printing Plus	236.65	village newsletter printing
	101884	Mr M Ashton	644.67	materials for erection of fence
	101885	LALC	460.84	annual subscription
	101886	Fields in Trust	50.00	annual subscription
	101887	Petty cash float	100.00	Neighbourhood Plan Steering
Com'tee				

2289 Matters raised by members for future consideration

Contact the Canal and River Trust about the damage to the canal bridges
 Consider provision of a footway along the edge of the Church triangle
 Replacement of the Bowling Club pavilion roof- grant application

2277 Date of next meeting Monday 18 April 2016 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.