

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

Councillors present Mr Peter Millard (PM) -Deputy Chairman, Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K),  
Mr Stewart Scothern(SS), Mr Julian Newbold (JN), Mrs Beverley Melici (BM)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

**1346 To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Stephen Jones In the Chairman's absence, Cllr Millard chaired the meeting

**1347 Declarations of interest none declared**

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

**Open Forum**

Present for the Open Forum; PCSO J Dawes, City Cllr M Thomas, City Cllr S Rogerson, J L Robinson, K Robinson, J Davis, G Van de Sand, K V Senar, J Boland, R Greaves. Apologies were received from PC D Lowe.

- Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting; PCSO J Dawes reported that in the previous month three crimes had been committed and three instances of anti-social behaviour reported. all had been dealt with or were being investigated.
- Request for allotments by a group of residents; suitable land has not yet been identified, Cllr Thomas is pursuing some possible City Council housing land, the Council will consider contacting local land owners and it was suggested to the residents that they too look for land. The residents will be kept informed of progress.
- Mrs Boland raised a number of matters relating to the Orders which have been issued by Lancashire County Council in respect of the proposed M6/Heysam Link road and spoke of the disruption it could cause to lives of people living in the village. The Council is to look at the issues raised and consider its response to the Secretary of State for Transport.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

**1348 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting**

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

**1349 Progress reports (information only)**

The following were noted:

Trees in Hanging Green Wood -application has been made for permission to carry out work.

The wall at the pound has been rebuilt.

The work on the boardwalk at the recreation field has been completed.

Standing Orders para 12, -councillors were given a copy of amended page.

Mr J Leach is compiling a business directory for the parish for publication on the parish website. This was welcomed but it was suggested that it is made clear that this is for information only and the Council does not endorse any of the businesses.

**1350 Administration**

Allotments -see Open Forum -identification of suitable land to be pursued -clerk to write to local landowners -also to seek advice from various sources about setting up a scheme, funding, insurance, allotment associations.

**1351 Financial matters**

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

Current Account £1792.64 Savings Account £31881.59

A half Yearly inspection of the Council's records was carried out by a member of the Independent Audit Group on 14 October 2009. The systems of internal controls were considered to be appropriate. Recommendations are that, at the Annual General Meeting of the Council, the following should be re-adopted, Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Statement of Financial Procedures and the Responsible Financial Officer re-appointed and salaries reviewed.

Resolution: to accept the Independent Internal Auditor's report and recommendations.

Grant Awarding Policy; it has been recommended that the Council has a Policy for awarding grants along with formal procedures for the application for grants. While the Council has powers to fund a wide range of activities, it is also able to use the Local Government Act 1972 Section 137 (as amended) in cases where it has no specific powers to provide funding, for example, for grants to support local organisations. A draft grant awarding policy and a format for an application form were presented by the clerk.

Resolution: to adopt the Grant Awarding Policy and application form as presented.

Consideration of payment of Lancaster City Council's final invoice for grass cutting; a schedule of the cuts had been received from City Council Direct Services but this did not completely tie in with the nine recorded dates when grass cutting had taken place. There was some concern and dissatisfaction regarding the service that had been provided during the season.

Resolution: to withhold payment of the invoice and to write to Contract Services stating that it is felt that the total payment demanded for grass cutting for the season should be commensurate with the level of service received.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, payment for wreaths and donation to appeal.

Resolution: to make a donation (£137) of £55 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for the supply of two wreaths. (Note: subsequent to the resolution a cheque for £50 was mistakenly drawn up and this has been sent to the RBL appeal).

North West Air Ambulance -request for monetary support and positioning of clothing banks for textile recycling;

Resolution: to make a donation of £50 to the appeal (£137) but to turn down the request for re-cycling banks as there is no suitable site.

#### 1352 Payment of accounts

Resolution: to authorise the transfer of £3000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed (payments marked\* are retrospective)

DD	Lancaster City Council	17.00	8 <sup>th</sup> instalment- burial ground rates
Chq 101219*	Thomas Graham & Sons Ltd	87.73	materials for recreation field boardwalk
101221*	Lister Lutyens Company Ltd	392.15	purchase of seat (proforma invoice) minute ref 1325
101223	M D Hanafin & Sons Ltd	50.57	materials for recreation field boardwalk
101224	Mayoh Press Ltd	86.25	printing of letterheads
101225	Lancaster City Council	677.39	grass cutting & play equipment inspection
101226	Mr F Foster	91.43	website hosting fee
101227	Mr R McGuire	473.60	groundsman's pay
101228	Mrs D Brookes	811.07	clerk's salary & expenses
101229	Petty cash	57.19	sundry items inc. Remembrance Service (£137)
101230	Viking Direct	102.82	stationery
101231	The R B L Poppy Appeal	50.00	donation (£137) for poppy wreaths
101232	Lancaster City Council		<i>payment withheld</i>

Three invoices had been received after the publication of the agenda, but as the work had already been approved and completed they were paid. Agreement to pay them will be recorded retrospectively in the December minutes

#### 1353 Tennis Club Lease

A final draft of the lease had been received from the solicitors. The amendments and all the previously agreed terms had been written into this. The draft had been checked by the chairman and deputy chairman

Resolution: to approve the lease as now written and its formal signing by the Deputy Chairman and a council member.

1354 Highways

Planting of replacement trees on highways; County Council Officers had reiterated their policy of not replacing trees as they are seen as a potential accident hazard and also roots may undermine carriageways and footpaths. However, taking this into consideration they would still be willing to consider sites for trees if any suitable ones can be identified and advice is taken on the most suitable tree species for the location. The City Council Tree Officer would be willing to provide this advice. The Tree Wardens are to be asked to suggest suitable sites. Also several residents of Peacock Lane are keen to have felled trees replaced. The Council will give further consideration to planting trees at its own expense and entering into agreement with the County Council once sites are known.

M6/Heysham Link Road-see also Open Forum above- the Council considered a number of points referred to by Mrs Boland. The following are of concern:

- the loss of a swathe of the Green Belt, the potential for 'planning creep' and possible development within the Green Belt, including a Park and Ride site,
- the increase in traffic levels on the A6 and other commuter routes and on roads and lanes within the village with the increased potential for delays and accidents,
- flooding issues in Slyne and any impact that the road could have on these.

The Council does not have a clear mandate from the electorate to either support or oppose the proposed link road.

Resolution: to write to the Secretary of State for Transport about the issues outlined above.

1355 Open Spaces

Improvement to surface beneath slide unit on recreation field -quotation still being actively pursued but not yet received -decision deferred

Consideration of a complaint about the state of the paths on the recreation field, near to the Bowling Club - the improvement of all the paths on the recreation field will be in the next phase of development which, weather permitting, will commence soon, however in the mean time the clerk will contact the lengthsman and groundskeeper to see if some work can be done on the ones causing concern.

Consideration of grass cutting and open space maintenance for 2010 season; looked at what costs have been this season, also looked at figures Mike Ashton produced last year for purchase of a mower and cost of a groundsman's time. Letters of tender have been sent out for grass cutting for the 2010 season and quotations should be available at the next meeting. No decision taken and deferred to next meeting.

Flooding in the Hest Bank Lane area -a meeting has been arranged for Friday 20 November to further look at some of the issues and to receive reports which have been being prepared. Representatives of the County Council, City Council and Environment Agency are expected to attend to discuss matters with residents. The clerk was thanked for her work in making the arrangements.

1356 Foreshore

Information Plaque- Mr David Mowle has carried out a lot of work to produce a drawing of a panorama of the Bay as seen from the plinth on which the plaque is to be placed. This was given approval and is to be sent to the designers. Thanks are to be sent to Mr Mowle for all his work.

Repair and improvement of the hard standing parking areas -a quotation of £510 had been received from M Ashton, this includes materials and the hire of a digger for one day.

Resolution: to accept this quotation and to have the work carried out.

1357 Burial Ground

Position of new seat -by the hedge along the top path and approximately in line with the middle path which runs east-west - agreement given. M Ashton to be asked to carry out the fixing.

1358 Planning applications

Applications dealt with under Standing Order 20

Application No.

09/00928/FUL 79 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6BS

09/10136/FUL 14 Coastal Road, Hest Bank, LA2 6HN

09/01023/FUL 6 Sunningdale Crescent, Hest Bank, LA2 6DE

09/01043/FUL Folly Farm, Folly Lane, LA2 6AB

No issues raised on any of the above

09/00941/FUL Beaumont Grange Farm, Green Lane, Slyne, LA2 6BG

The Council has referred to planning policies and has concerns about further development on this site which is within the Green Belt. If permission were to be granted the Council is anxious that the use of the building is strictly for the stated purposes and no other future use.

Planning permission granted

09/00465/OUT West Sheen, 2 The Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6DQ

09/00928/FUL 79 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6BS

Planning permission refused

09/00834/FUL West Cairn, The Shore, Hest Bank, LA2 6HW

1359 **Matters suggested by members for future consideration**

Pursue inspection of trees on the land between Shady Lane and the service road.  
New notice for dog waste bin on canal towpath and check emptying schedule.

1360 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 21 December 2009 at 7.30pm

Date of budget meeting Monday 11 January 2010 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.