

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2014 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mr Stewart Scothern(SS)-Chairman, Mr Stephen Jones (SJ)
Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K), Mr Roland Stretch(RS), Mrs Joanne Leeman(JL)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

2089 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 M Thomas, County Cllr A P Jones, 4 Officers from Lancashire County Council involved with flood risk management, 14 residents

- The Officers explained the flood alleviation scheme which is being prepared for the southern end of Hest Bank Lane and along the A6 road. The drainage will be improved by the installation of much larger drains and improved field drainage which will have the capacity to remove much more surface water and therefore overcome the flooding problems that have been experienced in the past in this area. The County Council has received a grant from DEFRA to undertake the works and will be working alongside the building of the Slyne section of the M6 to Heysham road to link up with the Slynedaes culvert being installed. This is a new and separate system from the foul drainage system. The scheme involves major work and it will be necessary to close the southern end of Hest Bank Lane from the end of February to the end of June 2015 while it is carried out. The residents were given assurances about access to their properties and all aspects of safety.
- Cllr Thomas mentioned the Lancaster Local Development Plan and consideration being given to the development of a local neighbourhood development plan. The Council's concerns about the impact of the new link road on the village and the potential for development of housing and light industry along its corridor were discussed. Concerns also include erosion of the Green Belt, the potential for urban sprawl and the loss of a distinct boundary between the parish and Lancaster and therefore the unique identity of the parish
- With regard to matters linked with the new bypass, County Cllr Jones suggested a meeting with Mr Anthony Crowley the public liaison officer for Costains, the road builders, and offered to contact Mr Crowley.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

2090 To record Declarations of Interest none

2091 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20 October 2014 as a true record. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2092 Progress Reports (for information only)

- The large gates at the recreation field have chains and combination locks on. The clerk and lengthsman know the code and it is available from them if access is required. It is the intention not to widely publicise the code for security reasons.
- A new litter bin is now in place by the Peacock Lane bus stop.
- It has been suggested to the Urban Saints Youth Group that they might like to consider putting up the bird & bat boxes made by pupils of Hornby School.
- Memorial Hall field - the declaration for the registration of the field with the Land Registry has been signed and returned to the solicitor. Letters have been sent to households that border the field explaining that although it is designated an open space there is no right of access and right of way across it.
- Slyne Post Office -no changes will be made and the branch will continue to operate as it currently does.

- Gates at the side of the Memorial Hall -these would appear to be the responsibility of the Memorial Hall Committee/Preschool and were discussed at the SHMH Committee meeting but no progress has yet been made on making improvements to them.

2093 Administration

Vacancies on the Council- the new vacancy has been advertised but nobody has come forward to request election to the Council. The Council is now at liberty to co-opt two councillors.

Variation of Standing Orders; due to new legislation, clause 16 of Standing Orders, Admission of Press and Public, needs to be updated. The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 has been amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and provides that a person may not orally report or comment about a meeting as it takes place if he is present at a meeting of the parish council but otherwise may a) film, photograph or make an audio recording of the meeting: b) use any other means for enabling a person not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later: c) report or comment on the proceedings in writing during or after a meeting or orally report or comment after the meeting.

Resolution: to amend clause 16 of Standing Orders to comply with the requirements of the legislation.

Christmas trees and new energy efficient lights for them- erection of 3 trees outside the Memorial Hall as in previous years and the purchase of new LED lights and cables for the trees -cost £102.93. In the long run this should result in a saving as they use less energy and should last for years without replacement of the bulbs. The cost is very competitive as they will be part of a large order made through Carnforth Town Council.

Resolution: to approve the purchase of the trees and lights.

Neighbourhood Planning; Cllrs Leeman and Jones had attended the Neighbourhood Planning event organised by Lancaster City Council and found it very informative. It was generally agreed that if the parish has power to develop a neighbourhood plan it should use it and consider the writing of a plan, perhaps focusing on one aspect at once, for example, boundaries and the Green Belt. Input from individuals and local organisations will be needed and it was agreed that a mention of this should be made in the forthcoming village newsletter

2094 Financial matters

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

Current Account £2022.64 Savings Account £56,588.77

Hosting of the website; this is done by Host Global Limited and the fee of £95.40 has been paid by Mr Ruddick , the webmaster.

Resolution: to continue with the hosting contract, to accept the fee and to reimburse Mr Ruddick the fee paid.

Donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal; two wreaths had been supplied for the Annual Remembrance Service at a cost of £34.00

Resolution: to make a donation (Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972)) of £60 to the RBL Poppy Appeal.

Deed for a plot in the Garden of Remembrance purchased by Mrs P B Jones; due to a change of circumstances a request has been received to revoke the Deed and to reimburse the fee of £150.

Resolution; to accede to the request

2095 Open Spaces

Recreation field- issues with Groundwork Pennine Lancashire (formerly Newground), the project contractors. An explanation from them has been received by e-mail in which they claim that on the football pitch they used an overseeder mounted on a lightweight propagator to spread 40 ton of topsoil and sports grass seed across the pitch, £1000 worth of the work being at Newground's expense, the site was hand raked by operatives and left level. This type of application was decided upon because they were aware that any heavier machinery would create ruts and make the playing surface more uneven. They feel that rolling the pitch would not have resolved the unevenness and a heavy roller would cause disturbance to the ground condition. They forwarded photographs which appear to indicate that a third

party has run a heavy machine over the pitch and created ruts and disturbed the area where the seeding has yet to establish. Newground states that they left the field in good condition and the majority of unevenness had been removed. They feel that they have undertaken sufficient works to try and resolve the issues faced, have incurred substantial costs to do so and cannot now return to undertake any further work.

The Council is of the opinion that the work has not been finished to a satisfactory standard and the surface of the football pitch is unsafe for play. LALC is to be contacted for advice. Also as, Penny Bennet, landscape architect and designer of the project, was acting as overseer it is felt that she could be at fault in not directing Newground correctly and making sufficient checks on the work. It was decided to find out about the professional body to which she belongs and its complaints procedure.

Railings -consideration of the purchase of posts, gates and more panels -it has been decided to use the railings to replace the wooden fencing that encloses the children's play area -needed are posts to fix the railings already bought, approx. 87m of additional railings with posts and 3 self-closing gates. Some prices had been obtained but further ones were requested -a decision was deferred.

Work on landscaping the pond and wetland area -a site meeting has been arranged with Barton Grange Landscapes.

An update has to date not been received from FROGS, the action group for the development of recreational areas in the village.

2096 Burial Ground

Planting of the copper beech hedge the -trees have been ordered but some preparation of the ground is necessary. It has been suggested that while work at the side of the drive is being done to prepare for the hedge, including edging kerbs being installed, at the same time it could be worthwhile having the drive tarmaced.

No decision made on the tarmacing and it was left in abeyance.

A revised plan of the burial ground has been received from Mr Bradley but some amendments to it will be required.

2097 Foreshore

Consideration of further work to alleviate flooding at the western end near to the café and replacement of the fences around the small grassed areas by boulders. A quotation for the flood alleviation work had been obtained from Mr Cowperthwaite but it was decided not to take any action at this stage.

The cost of large boulders for round the small grassed areas, to make these similar to others areas on the foreshore, is to be investigated.

2098 Planning Applications

None received this month

Notification of permission granted
14/00866/FUL 10 Raikes Hill Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6DA

2099 Payment of Accounts

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

Resolution : to withhold payment of the Mr Cowperthwaite's invoice and to seek a further explanation about the cost of materials used.

Resolution: to pay the other accounts as listed

	DD	Eon	9.36	electricity bill -burial ground
Cheque	101749	Bannister Bates Lawyers	40.00	registration of Memorial Hall field
	101750	Mrs P B Jones	150.00	Burial ground Deed revoked -fee reimbursed
	101751	Travis Perkins Trading Co. Ltd	29.20	materials for open space maintenance
	101752	P Walton Tree Services	280.00	felling and cutting back of dead trees
	101753	Wybone Limited	190.03	purchase of new litter bin

	101754	Viking	114.44	stationery & printer cartridges
	101755	Lancaster City Council	1101.60	grounds maintenance Sept & Oct
	101756	Lancaster City Council	819.60	grass cutting, pitches at Bottomdale field
withheld	101757	T Cowperthwaite	2555.18	work on foreshore
	101758	Mr R McGuire	137.60	groundsman's pay
	101759	Mrs D Brookes	831.72	clerk's salary & expenses
	101760	Petty cash	35.07	postage & remembrance service expenses
	101761	Mr D Ruddick (for Host Global)	95.40	website -hosting fee
	101762	Mr M Ashton	601.67	various maintenance materials & equipment
	101763	R B L Poppy Appeal	60.00	donation for wreaths (S137)

2100 **Matters raised by members for future consideration**

Replacement of damaged litter bin at Manor Lane
Overgrowing hedge -Prospect Drive

2101 **Date of next meeting** Monday 15 December 2014 at 7.30pm.

Date of budget meeting Monday 12 January 2015 at 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.50pm