

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 20 OCTOBER 2008 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Cllrs present Mr Stephen Jones (SJ)-Chairman, Mr Peter Millard (PM), Mr Carl Willett (CW)
Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K), Mr Stewart Scothern (SS), Mr Julian Newbold (JN)
Mrs Andrea Johnson (AJ)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes (DB)

Also present for Open Forum:

City Cllr M Thomas, City Cllr S Rogerson, PC D Lowe, Mr R Greaves, Mr & Mrs I Catterall

1168 To receive and accept apologies for absence

County Cllr A P Jones

1169 To receive declarations of interest none

Standing Orders were suspended

Open Forum

Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting; PC Lowe reported that over the previous three month period five crimes had been recorded compared with ten in the same period of the previous year; three of the crimes had already been detected and dealt with. There had been four cases of unsocial behaviour (eight in the previous year). Some complaints about the parking of building workers' vehicles on Sunningdale Drive had been investigated and the situation continued to be monitored. Problems of inconsiderate parking in the afternoon at St Luke's School were reported to PC Lowe and this will be looked into.

- City Cllr M Thomas spoke about proposals by Lancashire County Council for the improvement of pedestrian safety on a section of Hest Bank Lane. This includes new footway construction and marking, priority build out and markings on the carriageway and erection of new signs. While it was agreed that there had been pressure to improve safety on the lane, a number of comments had been received from residents of Hest Bank Lane about this scheme and it was agreed that it would be sensible to have a meeting with all sides involved to discuss the issues arising from the proposals.

Representation had been made to the City Council regarding Coastal Road as a potential site for consideration for a mobile safety camera (a local resident had also contacted the parish clerk about this). These are considered by the Community Safety Partnership and Lancaster Locals and while Coastal Road is not on the present list because of not fulfilling the criteria, pressure will be kept up because the speed of vehicles in many cases is perceived to be too high.

Cllr Thomas also mentioned discussions that would be taking place linked with Morecambe becoming a town council and which could have a bearing on the Lancaster City Council precepting arrangements for rural areas. Further information is awaited.

- County Cllr A P Thomas was unable to be present at the meeting but he had been investigating the matter of the snicket which runs between Hest Bank Lane and Sea View Drive with a view to its possible adoption by County Council. However there are still a number of issues to be resolved.
- Mr & Mrs Catterall raised some issues over the proposed pedestrian safety scheme on Hest Bank Lane (see above)
- Mr Greaves raised issues over flooding in the area and suggested some methods of improvement. He also spoke about the protection of green areas and the need for greater involvement by residents. His points were noted.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

1170 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 September 2008 as a true record. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

1171 **Clerk's report** for information only

- North West in Bloom competition -Arden Close Residents Association received an Outstanding Achievement Certificate -one step up from last time- and congratulations go to them. Thanks for the Council's support had been received from the Residents Association
- Recreation field -the work on resurfacing under the swings has been completed, some reinstatement of the field has been necessary because of damage caused by heavy vehicles in the very wet conditions. Also work on demolishing the wall has been completed and the area tidied up.
- Foreshore -Network Rail contractor working at side of main line -the contractor claims that they had negotiated with the farmer for access but did not know they were going over Council land, assurances have been given that all the land will be reinstated and no further access will be required once work is finished.

1172 **Administration**

August meetings; following discussions at a previous meeting over whether to drop the August meeting from the yearly list of scheduled meetings a proposal was put forward to change Standing Orders to bring this about; the proposal was duly seconded and a vote taken on the resolution.

Resolution: to change paragraph 1 of Council's Standing Orders to:
Meetings of the Council shall be held on the third Monday of each month, except in the month of August, at 7.30pm in Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall unless the Council otherwise decides at a previous meeting.
The vote was unanimously in favour and the change was adopted.

1173 **Financial matters**

Resolution: to accept the half-yearly report of receipts and expenditure presented by the clerk.

Current Account £4002.98, Savings Account £31,106.97

Age Concern's request, for a donation towards the Carnforth shop's upkeep; a request had been made for evidence that the Carnforth branch is used by residents of the parish but the information was not so far forthcoming. No decision taken.

Support for Tennis Club's scheme to resurface courts; an enquiry had been made with reference to consideration of the Council paying for proposed work to be carried out by the Club and the Club then reimbursing the Council. This would be contrary to proper accounting practice and could not be done. However if the Tennis Club is in need of financial assistance, it was suggested, that it could make application to the Council and this will be taken into consideration during deliberations on the budget for the next financial year

1174 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolution: to transfer £5000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account

Resolution : to pay the accounts as listed

DD	Lancaster City Council	16.00	7 th instalment- burial ground rates
101095	A1 Supaskips	139.53	hire of skip for demolition of wall
101096	Lancaster City Council	150.00	burial ground- work on memorials
101097	Putt It Right	823.48	grass cutting- August invoice
101098	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	5457.88	balance of payment -new surface
101199	Lancaster & Morecambe College	324.00	printing village newsletter
101100	Mrs D Brookes	796.79	clerk's salary & expenses
101101	Petty cash	82.20	sundry items
101102	HM Revenue & Customs	288.58	clerk's NIC and PAYE
101103	Bannister Bates Solicitors	411.25	solicitor's fees -Bowling Club lease
101104	Mr F Foster (re. Hostway)	79.50	website hosting fee
101105	Lancaster City Council	31.14	play equipment inspection

1175 **Planning Applications**

Application No. 08/01085/FUL	erection of rear conservatory for Mr Strachan, 26 Hatlex Drive LA2 6HA	application returned
08/01019/ADV	erection of two illuminated fascia signs for Mrs Chong, 2 Marine Drive LA2 6EB	appears to be within planning guidelines, no objections raised
08/00860/ADV	erection of directional signs to front entrance for St John's Hospice, Lancaster Road, LA2 6ST	proposal for main sign seems to be within planning guidelines and no objections raised, however additional directional signs are considered superfluous and adding to street clutter and distractions
08/00990/CU	change of use from lodge/dwelling to office including new disabled access and introduction of two new car parking bays for St John's Hospice, Lancaster Road, LA2 6AW	appears to be within planning guidelines, no objections raised
08/0091/TPO	wish to fell or greatly reduce sweet chestnut tree, near Hanging Green Wood covered by TPO No.156(1989) for Slyne with Hest Parish Council	
Applications granted		
08/00923/FUL	43 Hest Bank Lane, LA2 6DB	
08/00967/FUL	31 Hatlex Lane, LA2 6EZ	
08/0091/TPO	Near Hanging Green Wood, Hanging Green Lane	

1176 **Memorial Hall**

Lease; some small amendments had been made to the draft lease and the Slyne with Hest Memorial (SHMH) Committee had indicated that it was now prepared to accept and sign the lease.

Resolution: to formally approve the final version of the lease and to accept this document as the agreement between the Parish Council and the SHMH Committee; to agree to the signing of the document by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on behalf of the Council.

Proposed alterations to the Memorial Hall by the Slyne with Hest Preschool; following Ofsted inspections the Slyne with Hest Preschool which operates from the Memorial Hall had put forward to the SHMH Committee a scheme for improvement of facilities for the children. This includes the creation of a door from the small hall to the outside area at the south of the hall, provision of external sunshades, resurfacing of part of the area to the south of the hall and installation of some play equipment. It is condition of the lease that any structural alterations to the hall need to be approved by the Parish Council and the SHMH Committee and Preschool are seeking this approval. The SHMH Committee had agreed to the scheme in principle, subject to a number of caveats.

Resolution: to agree in principle to the structural alteration and to trust the SHMH Committee's judgement over the details of the scheme.

1177 **Tennis Club Lease**

The solicitors acting on behalf of the Tennis Club had requested changes to the draft lease and these were given consideration.

Resolution: 1) to review the rent every five years not necessarily based on the retail price index; 2) to agreed to the inclusion of a break clause instigated by the Tennis Club giving the Parish Council six months written notice of their intention to vacate the premises; 3) to agree that the Tennis Club shall not be obliged to put the pavilion toilet premises or toilets in a better state of repair and condition than exists at the present time.

It was also agreed to supply a Land Registry compliant plan for attachment to the lease.

1178 **Burial Ground**

Appointment of groundskeeper; four people had responded to the advertisement and had been interviewed.

Resolution: to appoint Mr R McGuire as groundskeeper for 4 hours per week starting from 1 November 2008.

Improvements to entrance; it would appear that the architect is making progress with the plans but details are still awaited.

1179 Foreshore

Improvements to areas where cars are parked; a site meeting had been held and estimates obtained.

Resolution: to accept the estimated cost of reseeding two areas, each approx. 300m² at £658.30, work to be done during lengthsman's allocated hours, and in addition to employ a contractor for the heavier work at an estimated cost of £100, giving a total of £1417+VAT

The areas will be fenced for protection during the work and the regrowth period.

In addition Lancashire County Council has been approached about alleviation of the flooding of the highway and improvements to the crumbling highway edges.

Provision of a dog waste bin;

Resolution: to purchase a dog waste bin, of a design similar to the litter bins already in place, from Wybone at a cost of £308.78+VAT,

Overnight parking of camper vans; CW reported that there had been a few overnight campers in spite of notices displayed on the foreshore which prohibit overnight stays.

Resolution: to produce a warning notice to reinforce the message that camping and parking overnight is not permitted.

A notice can be placed on the windscreen of any offending vehicle.

Interpretive panel for the stone plinth; an estimate had been received from Pryor Sign of £381+VAT for a panel of suitable size, based on the provision of artwork in suitable format, plus £600+VAT for installation if required.

Resolution: to pursue the provision of a sign based on this information, to arrange a site visit with a representative of Pryor Signs to further discuss the format of the sign, also to investigate the possibility of obtaining some outside funding.

1180 Open Spaces

Review of cutting of grassed areas within the parish; the clerk had met with an officer from Lancashire County Council Highways section to look at the areas maintained by the County Council and which are cut for them on contract by the Parish Council. It appears that the County Council is itself likely to review its grass cutting contracts. A plan and full report had been promised but not yet received.

Purchase of bulbs for tubs; decision taken not to buy any this season

Purchase of Christmas trees for outside the Memorial Hall

Resolution: to purchase three trees, through Carnforth District Chamber of Trade, as in previous years.

Removal of tree from Hanging Green Lane wood (TPO 156) -see above -this has been agreed in the interests of safety. Replacement tree(s) will need to be planted

Resolution: to ask Mr P Walton to carry out work on the tree at an estimated cost of £140.

1181 Highways

Speed on Coastal Road and resident's request to consider applying for mobile speed enforcement -see Open Forum above

1182 Correspondence

Government Office of the North West -The North West England Plan Regional Strategy to 2021 -a report
Communities and Local Government -The Making and Enforcement of Byelaws -a consultation
both above circulated -any comments to be passed on through the clerk.

1183 Matters suggested by members for future consideration

for information only-no decisions can be made

JC-K -mirror to improve safety on bend on Hatlex Lane

1184 Date of next meeting Monday 17 November 2008 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.35pm