

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2014 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

Councillors present Mr Stewart Scothern(SS)-Chairman, Mrs Joanne Leeman(JL), Mr Stephen Jones (SJ)
Miss June Cohen-Kingsley(JC-K), Mr Roland Stretch(RS)
Mrs Moyna Hargest(MH) (left at 9.30pm)

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

2063 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, Mr J Leach

- There was no Police presence at the meeting and therefore no report
- Cllr Thomas commented on Lancaster City Council's Polling Districts and Polling Stations Review. No changes are proposed for this parish.
Cllr Thomas was made aware of the Council's concerns about the planning applications 14/00894/FUL and 14/00906/FUL both of which contain proposals for the demolition of property on the foreshore which was built and lived in by Thomas Mawson. Cllr Jones explained that, as an individual, he has written to Lancaster City Council requesting the listing of the buildings because they are considered to be of architectural and historic importance.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated

2064 To record Declarations of Interest none

2065 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21 July 2014 and the report of financial activities and planning matters between the July and September meetings as true records. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2066 Progress Reports *(for information only)*

It is with great regret that the death of Mr David Mowle is recorded. He had been a stalwart of many village associations for many years.

- Removal of the fence at 1 Sunningdale Avenue -the enforcement has partially been complied with.
- Problems with overgrowing trees on Shady Lane have been reported to Lancashire County Council but to date no action is apparent.
- The hedge along Manor Lane which was obstructing site lines has been cut back by Lancaster City Council.
- The problems of overgrowing hedges on Throstle Grove and Pointer Parrock are being pursued by the Council.
- Reports that on several evenings young people have parked cars on Manor Lane and then been seen going into the wooded area at the back of the recreation field are being investigated by PCSO A Hall.
- Notification has been received of proposed changes to the Post Office at the Londis store including an increase in opening hours.
- Invitation to Lancaster City Council's Neighbourhood Planning Event on 29th October -several councillors expressed an interest in attending. Cllr Leeman had attended a LALC meeting at which there had been considerable discussion relating to Lancaster City Council's local plan issues and land allocation consultation. Each local authority is required to produce a Local Plan. These issues included neighbourhood local planning and proposals for the future supply of housing, managing development throughout the district, use of 'brownfield' sites, changes to and protection of the North Lancashire Green Belt and protection of AONBs. If some powers are to be given to Parish Councils expertise and knowledge will be important.

- Proposed meeting with the Canal & River Trust and Lancaster City Council to discuss the possibility of reopening the toilet block by the canal at Hest Bank -several councillors expressed an interest -further details are awaited.

2067 Administration

Vacancy on the Council and the co-option of a councillor; so far not much interest has been shown

2068 Financial matters

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

Current Account £2,157.53 Savings Account £59,917.78

Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2014 -the audit has now been completed by BDO LLP.

No matters were raised by the Auditors which require attention by the Council.

Resolution: to approve and accept the audited Annual Return.

A notice of the conclusion of the audit is displayed on the main council notice board, as required.

Consideration of the Council's insurance for 2014/15; two quotations have been received, one with Aviva through Came & Company, Insurance Brokers, and one from Zurich Insurance. A comparison of the cover provided by each along with the premiums quoted for both one year and three year agreements was circulated to all councillors.

Resolution: to accept the terms provided and to take out a policy with Zurich Insurance and to agree to pay the premium for the one-year cover.

2069 Open Spaces

Repair of the handrail at Sea View Drive snicket -a complaint had been received about a minor injury caused by the state of the handrail -this has been taped up for safety. The handrail is not on Parish Council land but because of the lack of any claim on ownership of the snicket the Council has taken responsibility for its upkeep over a number of years. The cost of replacement of the handrail is estimated at £80-£100. However it was decided to prioritise work carried out by the lengthsman and the repair was left in abeyance.

Litter bin at Peacock Lane bus stop; this would appear to have been damaged and has disappeared. A variety of types to replace it were considered.

Resolution: to purchase an open top circular slatted bin from wooden slats, light oak from Wybone at £142.27 + delivery + VAT.

Recreation field project; there is still a great deal of dissatisfaction with the contractors, Newground (Groundworks) because the football pitch is still deemed to be unplayable and what attempts Newground have made to rectify it are insufficient and unsatisfactory. This is after numerous meetings, e-mails and phone calls and has been going on for over twelve months. Cllr Stretch offered to compose a letter to be sent to Newground stating the Council's displeasure and imposing a deadline for the completion of the work. Legal advice is to be sought from LALC.

It was felt that the pond and wetland area should be retained but with an upgrading of the pond (Cllr Jones had sought out information on this), more adequate maintenance of the whole area and time given for it to develop as planned. It was decided not to install a fence at this stage (although one is still under consideration) until much of the work has been completed as otherwise if access is difficult there could be a tendency for the area to become neglected and overgrown. It was felt that in the past insufficient work has been done in maintaining some parts of the field and that the Council will need to increase the amount of money spent on the field. Contractors are to be sought to carry out work on the pond and work on cutting back some of the overgrowing trees and vegetation.

An action group, FROGS, has been formed by some residents of the village with the aim to provide more facilities at the recreation field. A meeting is to be arranged with them to discuss their ideas and offer assistance and support as appropriate.

Safety inspection of trees on Parish Council land; this would need to be carried out by a fully qualified arboriculturist -no decision was taken and the matter was left in abeyance.

Meanwhile a large beech tree close to the middle entrance of the recreation field has been identified as being in poor condition and there is some concern about safety. As it is covered by a Tree Preservation Order an application is to be made to Lancaster City Council for permission to fell or reduce it.

2070 Burial Ground

Proposed new burial area; the new plan is almost complete but Mr John Bradley, the surveyor, is having problems sourcing the special paper that Blackburn Diocese requests it is printed on. Some preparation work on the area was carried out during the summer but some further attention is now needed and the lengthsman will be requested to carry out work.

A request for amendments to the planting scheme which formed part of the granted planning application has been approved and it is intended to plant a hedge along the side of the new area. Prices of various suitable tree have been sought and all were in favour of a copper beech hedge. Mr P Walton, tree specialist, is to be asked for advice on the actual number and size of trees required.

2071 Foreshore

Following drainage and restoration work done by Mr Cowperthwaite on the foreshore car parking areas he is to be asked for an itemised bill for the work as some doubt was cast by Cllr Stretch on the quoted price and the amount of work carried out.

At the request of the Council, Mr R McGuire, groundsman, has carried out work strimming the grass and vegetation on the foreshore. His strimmer has broken down and is beyond repair. After much discussion it was decided that the Council is not in a position to buy a replacement as one of the terms of Mr McGuire's contract is that he supplies his own tools and equipment. He will be given the option to renegotiate his contract if he so wishes.

2072 Planning Applications

Application No.

14/00894/FUL Islay, The Shore, Hest Bank, LA2 6EQ

14/00906/FUL Seaways, The Shore, Hest Bank. LA2 6EQ

These two properties form the bungalow and music room that were built and lived in by the renowned, Edwardian architect, Thomas Mawson and for this reason are considered to be of historic and architectural importance. Each of the applications is to demolish the building and to build, as a replacement, a two storey house. The Council decided that it would support Cllr Jones' personal application to Lancaster City Council for the listing and preservation of the buildings. Also the Council has concerns that the building of two modern, two storey houses in this position on the Hest Bank foreshore would seem to be contrary to the aspirations of policies E3, E4 and E5 and H8 of the adopted Lancaster and District Local Plan and various other local and government policies relating to the development of the coastline. A development of this nature on the foreshore could have a significant adverse impact on the 'seacape' along this shoreline and not be appropriate to the surroundings in terms of siting, scale and landscaping as is required in policy E5.

14/00783/FUL 44 Manor Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6JE

No issues were raised on this application

Notification of permission granted

14/00491/FUL 11 Prospect Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6HZ

14/00577/FUL 18 Manor Road, Slyne, LA2 6JY

14/00697/FUL 6 Throstle Grove, Slyne, LA2 6AX

14/00695/FUL 17 Sea View Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6BY

14/00750/FUL 2 Hatlex Hill, Hest Bank. LA2 6ET

2073 Payment of Accounts

Resolution: to authorise the transfer of £2,000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account.

Resolution: to pay the accounts as listed

Cheque 101732 Travis Perkins Trading Co. Ltd 78.52 materials for open space maintenance

101733	Lancaster City Council	550.80	grounds maintenance- August invoice
101734	BDO LLP	360.00	audit fee
101735	Mr R McGuire	281.60	groundsman's pay
101736	Mrs D Brookes	835.47	clerk's salary & expenses
101737	Petty cash	74.88	sundry items
101738	J Stewart & Son	556.80	purchase of gates for recreation field

2074 **Matters raised by members for future consideration**

A meeting is to be held to consider the winding up of the May Fair Committee

M6 to Heysham Link; it was felt that this could bring about significant changes to the village particularly in increased traffic flow and possible safety issues and also in the potential for urban creep in its vicinity and the Council needs to keep alert to any advances.

2075 **Date of next meeting** Monday 20 October 2014 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm