

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL held on MONDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2022 in the MEMORIAL HALL

Councillors present Mr Roland Stretch -Chairman, Miss June Cohen-Kingsley, Mr Stephen Jones,
Mrs Joanne Bateman, Mr Alan Connor, Mr Antony Obertelli

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

3200 **To receive apologies for absence** none

Standing Orders were suspended

Open Forum

Present: City Cllr K Budden, Mrs S Campbell

- Cllr Budden explained that he has raised concerns with Lancaster City Council Planning Department about the slowness in dealing with outstanding contraventions of planning applications. He has spoken to Lancaster City Council's Chief Executive about how refusals and appeals are dealt with.
- Cllr Budden had agreed to consider supporting the Slyne with Hest Football Club with their planning application after it had been refused but is waiting to hear back from the Club about how they intend to progress it.
- The Lancaster City Council's budget for 2023-24 is under discussion with a review of spending but a final decision will not be made until February.
- Concerns were raised about litter and the position of benches on the canal towpath near to the end of Rushley Drive. This is the responsibility of the Canal and River Trust and contact has been made with them with a request for an inspection of the area.

Cllr Budden left the meeting. Mrs Campbell remained at the meeting as she interested in becoming a parish councillor. Standing Orders were reinstated.

3201 **To record Declarations of Interest** none

3202 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17th October 2022. They were duly signed
by the Chairman.

3203 **Progress Reports**

- Foreshore Signs and other signs have been received and S Brade will fix them in place.
- A grant of £500 has been received from Lancashire County Council for Public Rights of Way works.
- Following the attendance at the last meeting of representatives from Slyne with Hest Football Club about the rejected planning application further contact has been made with them. A new advisor has been appointed by them and it is the intention to put in a further planning application. A letter of support from the Parish Council, as requested, has been forwarded.
- Thirty five people attended the new style Remembrance Sunday Service held outside the Memorial Hall. Two wreaths were laid.
- Network Rail has postponed the intended work at the foreshore until the New Year
- It was noted that December marks the centenary of the opening of the Memorial Hall by Thomas Mawson. To mark the occasion, the Local History Group is planning to put on a small exhibition about the hall, its history and development, at the community coffee morning on Saturday 3rd December

3204 **Administration**

Neighbourhood Plan; Neighbourhood Plan -the date for the referendum has been postponed -there is still a little more work to complete. The examiner of the Plan has stated that the Neighbourhood Plan cannot amend the Green Belt boundary and therefore the land west of Sea View Drive will remain in the North Lancaster Green Belt and cannot be built on.

Consideration of a request by the Bowling Club for permission for the positioning of new signs

It was agreed that the sign must have the wording 'Slyne with Hest Bowling Club' Permission was given for fixing of one sign to the central gate of the recreation field.

Three Christmas trees for outside the Memorial Hall are on order. Cllr Connor agreed to fix them in place with the help of Cllr Stretch. Arrangements are to be made for their delivery.

Vacancy for a parish clerk: this has now been advertised on the parish website, on notice boards and on various social media platforms. The closing date for applications is Friday 2nd December 2022 with interviews to be held in the week beginning 5th December 2022. Proposed interview panel Cllrs Stretch, Bateman, Cohen Kingsley, Obertelli.

An enquiry has been received from Lancaster City Council's relating to the National Non-domestic Rate status for the MUGA -further information is needed and nothing has yet been decided but the possible payment of rates needs to be kept in mind.

3205 Planning Applications

Applications received

22/01071/FUL Land west of Sea View Drive, Hest Bank

The Parish Council raised concerns about the proposal for building on this area as it is in the North Lancaster Green Belt and considered not to be appropriate for development It has been stated by the examiner of the Neighbourhood Plan that the NP cannot change the Green Belt boundary and houses cannot be built on this land. The Council does not agree that, as stated in the planning application report, special circumstances exist to justify inappropriate development in the Green Belt, relating to the proposal for 27 specialist bungalows for older people, especially due to the site location and nature. The Council cannot see that there is evidence to suggest that the number and type of homes proposed are required to meet an identified need within Slyne with Hest on this Green Belt site.

22/01320/PAC 2B Station Road, Hest Bank LA2 6HP

No issues raised on the application

21/01341/OUT Land east of Fulwood Drive, Morecambe -amendment

Slyne with Hest Parish Council reiterates the comments already made on this application. There is still considerable concern about the suitability of this land for a large number of dwellings due to the nature of the ground with serious flooding issues. Also due to the significant difference in land levels between the site and Fulwood Drive it is thought that a considerable amount of landfill would be required, the import of this having a potentially significant disruptive impact on Fulwood Drive and the surrounding roads. In addition, there is the pending application for the addition of a public bridleway which affects this area and this needs to be taken into consideration.

Applications permitted

22/00270/FUL Williamsland Farm, Hasty Brow Road, Slyne, LA2 6AE

22/00980/FUL Cote Farm, Strellas Lane, Slyne with Hest, LA5 8AB

22/01050/FUL 18 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6DB

22/01155/FUL 35 Sea View Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6BY

22/0175/TPO Land at Hanging Green Lane/Manor Lane, Hest Bank

3206 Financial Matters

Approval was given to the monthly summary of receipts and payments.

Account £210,734.37

On-line banking; -the first steps have been successful but there is still some work to do on it. Also a link still needs to be made to Gov.uk/VAT on line.

Further work required on the MUGA; it has become necessary to install a level base before the final top surface is put in place. The quoted cost for this is £11,900. Duncan Ross has offered to meet half of the cost and has asked the council if it will pay the rest. An extra meeting on Monday 31 October at the Church Hall was held to discuss this extra cost. A majority decision was taken not to offer to pay the extra cost but to offer to negotiate with Duncan Ross or to consider seeking quotations from other contractors.

The reluctance to pay the 50% was not accepted by Duncan Ross and members were asked to give it further consideration. By a majority the decision was taken to pay 50% of the cost

Resolution: to give this decision retrospective formal approval

Installation of an electricity supply to the recreation field: it was decided that the Council should have an independent supply; a quotation has been received from Electricity North West Limited (ENWL).

Resolution: To give retrospective formal approval to the acceptance of this quotation

It has been requested to have the work done as soon as possible but this will depend on whether road closures are necessary by County Highways. Eon has been contacted as the supplier and progress is being made with the application.

Consideration of the payment of the invoices received from Duncan Ross Ltd., three invoices had been received, One for construction work on the MUGA (£50,548.14), one for 80% of electrical work (£18,852.73) and one for further electrical work (£4,713.18). After much discussion it was decided to pay the first one and to leave the other two in abeyance.

Removal of the electricity supply at the burial ground -a quotation for the work had been requested from ENWL but not received by the meeting date. However a quotation of £1855.67 (inc. VAT) was discussed at the extra meeting on Monday 31 October 2022. Further enquiries are to be made and a decision was left in abeyance.

Donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal; two wreaths had been supplied for the memorials in the Memorial Hall

Resolution: to make a donation (Section 137 of the Local Government Act (1972)) of £125 to the RBL Poppy Appeal.

3207 Open Spaces

Construction of the MUGA; -Duncan Ross reported that the tarmac has now been ordered and work is expected to be done in the first week in December

At the extra meeting, a policy for the MUGA's use, risk assessment, management & insurance were discussed. It is noted that there are no gates at the entrances, however it was decided to wait and see how it is used. A risk assessment and policy is to be drafted by Cllr Obertelli for presentation to the council. Cllr Bateman is to make investigations about various management platforms. Enquiries are to be made about a warranty for the polymetric surface. It is suggested that extra litter bins may be needed and negotiations are on-going with Lancaster City Council

Consideration of a estimate from Westmorland Tree Care Ltd for work on trees requiring attention as highlighted in the recent report -fell dead sycamore and fell two ash trees with ash die back -£900 + VAT.

Resolution: to accept the estimate and have the work done

Planting of some replacement trees is also to be done

Trees for the Jubilee Orchard: further enquiries have been made; the recommended time for planting fruit trees is mid to late January.

Consideration of a quotation for repair and refurbishment works to the surfaces beneath two pieces of play equipment at the recreation field play area. A quotation of £9557.00 had been received. Two more quotations are to be sought.

Consideration of the repair/replacement of the gate on the Public Right of Way (PROW) at burial ground; severe damage to the kissing gate on the path between the burial ground and Bottomdale football fields has been reported. Enquiries are to be made about an inspection by the PROW officer and the possible cost of repair -no decision at this stage.

Concern has been raised about the condition of the area at the side of the canal close to the end of Rushley Drive. This has been reported to the Canal and River Trust as it is their responsibility and an inspection has been promised.

3209 Payment of Accounts

Approval was given for the payments due as listed:

Signs Express	201.92	various signs
Envirocare Maintenance Solutions Ltd	856.80	grounds maintenance-October
Viking	71.86	cartridges & diary

Mrs D Brookes	945.70	clerk's salary
Petty cash	18.33	sundry items
Mr S Brade	306.00	groundsman's pay
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	125.00	donation for poppy wreaths
Electricity North West Ltd	5131.45	electricity connection -rec. field
Duncan Ross Ltd	50548.14	construction work on MUGA

3210 **Matters for future consideration**

Vacancy for a Clerk-further consultation if required

3211 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 19 December 2022 at 7.00pm

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm