

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2021 in the MEMORIAL HALL

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

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

3052 To receive apologies for absence Cllr T Scott

The members had been saddened to hear of the death of Cllr Stewart Scothern and sent their condolences. The Chairman paid tribute to Cllr Scothern who had been a member of the Parish Council since April 2005 and had held the post of chairman from 2014 until May this year. He had worked for and given much support to the parish.

Tribute was also paid to Paul, Cllr Scott's husband, who was a member of the Community Emergency Group.

Standing Orders were suspended for the Open Forum

Open Forum

Present for the open forum Mr Martin Bateman and his son and daughter, City Cllr Malcolm Thomas

- The two young people expressed concerns about the state of some of the equipment on the recreation field play area. It was explained to them that it was unfortunate that some individuals chose to cause some damage but the council does its best to keep all the equipment safe and in good order with regular inspections and work carried out when necessary. It was also said that they would like some more equipment and facilities for older children and teenagers. There is a Community Development Group which intends to consult the public including young people about what is desired for the recreation field as it is being developed and improved. It was also pointed out that the refurbishment of the play area and provision of new facilities will cost a considerable amount of money. The young people said that they had ideas for fund raising and their interest and ideas are to be encouraged.
- Cllr Thomas reported on several issues that had been discussed at Lancaster City Council meetings as they are trying to address concerns post Covid;
 - provision of primary care, especially in Lancaster, as although not the Council's responsibility, there have been a lot of concerns raised about getting GP and other medical appointments and the effect on health issues in the general population;
 - the general appearance of the district's open spaces, weeds in gutters and grass not being cut. The City Council adopted a policy not to cut many open space areas and to plant some with wild flower seeds to provide wildlife meadows with habitats and food for a range of creatures. However there is opinion that this along with weeds being left to grow in the gutters along many roads is adding to the unsightly appearance of the area and it is questioned whether in the long term it will be worthwhile and any money will be saved;
 - the City Council is taking steps to reduce emissions and to move towards being carbon neutral, electric vehicles have been introduced and its waste collection rounds and days have been amended to reduce the number of miles and hours needed;
 - although the City Council is trying to help the district to get back to normal from the Covid pandemic there is still concern about a tendency of complacency about Covid and the public is reminded that Covid cases are rising again and transmission prevention measures still need to be observed.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated.

3053 To record Declarations of Interest

none

3054 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20 September 2021

They were duly signed by the Chairman

3055 Progress Reports (for information only)

- The information screen at the Londis store is up and running and several notices have been posted on it.
- The 'passing place' sign for the shore road is on order. Also a litter bin for this area is on order.
- There has been a break in at cemetery building and two old lawnmowers and a can of petrol stolen. A new padlock has been fixed on the door. Also at the cemetery a wasp nest was reported next to a grave that had been opened. Lancaster City Council pest control service has attended to it.
- The poor condition of the boardwalk along the path by Reanes wood was reported to Lancashire County Council some time ago. This has now been inspected however there may be some delay in any action being taken depending on funding available.
- Following concerns raised at the September meeting about safety on Hest Bank Lane and the need for the renewal of the white line safety markings, County Cllr. Stuart Morris was contacted. An inspection was carried out and the repainting of the lines has been promised. Photographs of the section of Hest Bank Lane causing speeding concerns were requested and duly supplied with consideration being given to the temporary instalment of a speed indicator device (SPID) to increase awareness of the 20mph limit and to try to reduce the speed of vehicles.
- There are frequently unsolicited posted on the Parish Council notice boards. It has always been the council's policy that the notice boards are for parish council notices and those of village and local charitable organisations. It was agreed that a message should be placed on the boards to make this clear.

3056 Administration

Neighbourhood Plan; the Steering Group has held further consultations with Lancaster City Council, letters confirming acceptance and agreement as required from the Parish Council have been sent to City Council and the Plan is progressing towards the consultation stage.

Website; there is concern about the delay in getting the set-up completed; Tech Hub have been contacted on several occasions and they are waiting for confirmation about setting up a new parish website in a new name as agreed.

'Facebook'; a parish council page has now been set up, who has access and can paste posts on the site needs to be confirmed and a password supplied to the relevant people. A meeting is to be arranged to provide guidance.

3057 Financial Matters

Approval was given to the quarterly summary of receipts and payments

Current account £7460.38 Savings account £183,726.13

Santander Bank Account; despite contact being made with Santander and issues being resolved (see reports in previous minutes), letters had been received stating that both the current account and the deposit account had been closed and cheques to the value of the funds held in the accounts had been received. Further long telephone conversations with customer services had not provided any help or explanation. As a result of the closure a number of cheques and direct debits have not been paid nor bank transfer payments received.

Further enquiries had been made at high street banks and building societies. Several are not opening new business and community accounts at present and in all other cases these accounts need to be opened on-line.

Resolution; to open a new account with NatWest Bank in accordance with all required resolutions and to comply with all the mandates required for this purpose. Four authorised signatories are to be appointed with any two able to authorise payments or give instructions. Any information required to be circulated to the signatories. The Council to be kept aware of any decisions needed and taken.

-unanimously agreed.

One of the conditions is that a signatory must already hold a NatWest personal account and this is confirmed. The clerk will take the necessary steps to open the new account.

Review of the leases and rents for the Tennis Club, Bowling Club and Football Club; the current leases were set up in 2007/08 and need to be reviewed at intervals.

Further consideration to the rents is to be given at the budget meeting and left in abeyance until then.

3058 Open Spaces

Recreation field; further work on the drainage and the boardwalk has still not been completed and the Chairman is to 'phone Duncan Ross Ltd for an explanation and to arrange for the work to be done as soon as possible. Otherwise, if this is not possible, it was suggested that other contractors may need to be considered for the work. Quotations for the MUGA are being sought and a meeting has been arranged with a representative from Fawns.

Play area report; the annual inspection report of the recreation field play area has been received from Lancaster City Council. There were no major safety issues reported. The risk assessments and recommendations will be dealt with and work carried out as necessary.

Maintenance of roads and paths over parish council land; concerns have been raised about the poor condition of the surface of the road off Marine Drive leading to properties and the former VVV Leisure Centre. The ownership of the land and therefore the road has been investigated. Only a part of the road crosses parish council land and it would seem that the council is only responsible for maintenance of that section of road, the rest being the responsibility of the other land owner.

3059 Planning Applications

Applications received

21/01173/FUL 4 Hatlex Hill, Hest Bank, LA2 6ET

No issues were raised on this application

Pre-planning submission for proposed 5G telecommunications installation Slyne Road

Applications permitted

21/00600/FUL 99 Hest Bank Lane, Slyne, LA2 6AH

21/00745/FUL 3 Hatlex Hill, Hest Bank, LA2 6ET

21/00863/FUL 51 Bay View Avenue, Hest Bank, LA2 6JS

3060 Payment of Accounts

The listed accounts are due for payment, however due to banking problems and the opening of a new bank account

they will have to be held over until the new account is in place. An explanation will be sent to those affected.

	DD	Eon Next		39.99	electricity charges-
burial ground					
Cheque	122439	Envirocare Maintenance Solutions	816.00		grounds maintenance -September
	122440	Mrs D Brookes	877.50		clerk's salary
	122441	Petty cash	13.78		sundry items
	122442	Mrs D Brookes ref Lancaster City Council	58.70		removal of wasp's nest -burial ground
	122443	HMRC	316.55		NIC & PAYE
	122444	Mr S Brade	149.30		groundsman's work and materials

3061 Matters raised by members for future consideration

Consideration of way to mark the memory of Cllr Stewart Scothern

3062 Date of next meeting

Monday 15th November 2021 at 7.00pm

The meeting was declared closed at 8.55pm