

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

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

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

3098 **To receive apologies for absence** Cllr Stephen Jones,

Standing Orders were suspended for the Open Forum

Open Forum

Present: City Cllr M Thomas, Mr B Parker

- Cllr Thomas explained that he had no update on the tree on Manor Road that was felled in a recent storm. It is believed that it was on Lancaster City Council land. Further enquiries are to be made.
- Mr Parker told about a branch which had been broken off a tree on the recreation field during a recent storm causing some damage to his adjacent property. He thanked Cllr Connor for his help in removing the branch. Following earlier complaints the trees in the area had been checked and no serious problems discovered. The Council offered to speak to the contractor which has already been engaged to remove the fallen oak tree and to ask him to remove any trees or branches that could be a danger. Insurance cover will be looked into.

The visitors left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated.

3099 **To record Declarations of Interest**

none

3100 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17 January 2022

They were duly signed by the Chairman

3101 **Progress Reports**

- See above -tree on Manor Road felled in recent storm-see above -still trying to confirm its ownership so that replacement can be considered
- Removal of the fallen oak tree at recreation field -quotation accepted but work cannot be done until about beginning of March
- Further concerns about trees & safety on the recreation field -more trees have been inspected and will continue to be monitored.
- North West Coastal Access Route -the section Wild Duck Hall to Ocean Edge, which includes along the foreshore, has been given approval
- Morecambe Bay Partnership -they are looking for a coordinator so that hopefully the litter picking group can continue
- Road Safety concerns-Hest Bank Lane -Cllr Stuart Morris has been contacted but as yet not much progress has been made. According to the Lancashire County Council website reporting system the area has been inspected and is put done for action.
- It has been reported that a sign at the foreshore relating to overnight parking is on the floor. Action is being taken to get it re-erected
- The Lancaster District CVS is holding a Funding Fair on Wednesday 9th March. Tickets for this are to be applied for as information on funders could be useful for work on the recreation field.

3102 **Administration**

Neighbourhood Plan; the consultation began on 4th February and is for six weeks. Information is available on-line and there are hard copies at the Memorial Hall and Church Hall

Website -Tech-Hub have given assurance that the website is ready to go but they still seems to be some difficulty in linking it into some of the information on the present website. Further attempts will be made to get this resolved

Queen's Jubilee events - a number of people have shown an interest in having celebration events. It was agreed to hold a meeting on Monday 14th March at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall to ascertain the interest and to discuss ideas.

3103 Planning Applications

Applications received

21/01079/FUL 25 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6DG

Some objections were raised on this application due to its proposed position along with concerns about the proposed new entrance.

22/00027/FUL 16 Manor Crescent, Slyne, LA2 6BA

22/00018/FUL 11 Bryn Grove, Hest Bank, LA2 6EX

22/00037/FUL 36 Manor Road, Slyne, LA2 6LB

22/00011/FUL 35 Sea View Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6BY

22/00098/CU Standerlands Farm, Lancaster Road, Slyne, LA2 6AK

Applications permitted

21/0227/TPO 1A Prospect Drive, Hest Bank, LA2 6HX

Applications refused

21/00396/FUL & 21/00397/LB 1 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6DN

21/00953/PLDC 30 Bay View Avenue, Slyne, LA2 6JS

3104 Financial Matters

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

The request for a precept of £65,000 for the financial year 2022/23 has been submitted to Lancaster City Council

There have been difficulties with NatWest Bank in accessing bank statements. Enquiries about this are on-going. Advice had been sought about opening a Deposit Account with NatWest but it was decided to leave this in abeyance for the time being. A debit card for the account has been received but this must only be used with the strict approval of two account signatories. Unanimous approval

Review of the clerk's salary (discussed in the absence of the clerk) A copy of the NJC and NALC salary scales had been made available. The clerk is currently employed for 20 hours per week.

It was proposed and agreed to raise the salary by £90 per month from 1st April 2022. Unanimous approval

It was also proposed and agreed to increase the groundsman's hourly rate by £1.00 to £13.00 per hour. Unanimous approval

Review of the Financial Regulations and Financial Risk Management -copies of the documents had been supplied to all councillors with proposed changes highlighted. These include amendments of the Financial Regulations in relation to the new bank account -control over the use of the Debit card and payments by Direct Debit for utility services and to regular contractors provided that the instructions are signed by two members of

the Council and any payments are reported to Council as made.

The Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations Register has been updated to account for changes made during the year, 2021/22

Resolution: to agree to the changes and formally adopt the Financial Regulations and the Risk Assessment Management Register.

Review of the Council's assets; an up-to-date complete list of the assets had been supplied to all councillors

Resolution: to approve the Assets Record.

Consideration of a change to the independent external audit arrangements; as the previous Independent Internal Audit Group is no longer in being the appointment of a new auditor has become necessary. The clerk is to make contact with a person who might be willing to take on the role. Left in abeyance until next meeting.

3105 Open Spaces

Recreation Field; quotations for the installation of a MUGA: three quotations have been obtained from Fawns

Playtime, Creative Play and Duncan Ross Ltd and these had been forwarded to the council for consideration. Resolution; to accept the one provided by Duncan Ross Ltd at £66,842.13 +VAT for the MUGA construction and £17,047.76 +VAT for installation of the floodlighting. A request is to be made for firm dates and that the work should be done as soon as possible, conditions permitting.

To consider and make decisions on tree planting; the Council has been offered a grant of £500 and a suggestion has been made that this could be used to plant trees in accordance with the Tree Planting Policy and would help to fulfil the Council's aspirations for more trees in the parish.

A proposal is to plant fruit trees on a section of the Memorial Hall field towards the western edge to create a small orchard from which fruit would be available for picking by residents. It would also provide wildlife habitats. This could be a fitting commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and named the Jubilee Orchard Resolution; to approve this proposal and to go ahead with the grant application.

Consideration of the up-dating of the planters and to consider the purchase of plants for the same; while there is a good show of daffodils in the Spring the planters need some attention for the summer/autumn months.

A suggestion to plant perennials will be investigated, suitable types and costs. Left in abeyance.

Consideration of a request to re-instate the zip wire on the recreation field; this was taken out of use some time ago for safety reasons linked with the condition of the round beneath it. As there are still some concerns about the ground and also the condition of structure would need to be tested for safety. No action is to be taken at present.

Additional request; the provision of a boules court at the side of the bowling green; this will not be considered until after major work on the recreation field has been completed as the area may be required for access and also as a storage compound for equipment. Left in abeyance for now.

3106 Foreshore

Consideration of making improvements to the hard standing areas; over time some of the areas have become damaged due to use and weather with potholes and flooding. It was agreed to seek quotations for restoration work to be done.

3107 Payment of Accounts

Approval was given to the payment of accounts as listed

Cheque	000014	Envirocare Maintenance Solutions	816.00	grounds maintenance- January
	000015	Lune Cleaning Company Ltd	50.40	bus shelter window cleaning
	000016	Mrs D Brookes	877.70	clerk's salary
	000017	Petty cash	17.79	sundry items
	000018	HMRC	319.65	PAYE & NIC
	000019	Mr S Brade	132.00	groundsman's pay
	000020	Mrs D Brookes (reimbursement)	89.99	McAfee renewal

3108 Matters raised by members for future consideration

Cllr R Stretch -To come up with ideas for development of the recreation field and for other developments projects.

Cllr J Cohen Kingsley -Purchase of a commemorative seat for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

3109 Date of next meeting

Monday 21 March 2022 at 7.00pm

The meeting was declared closed at 9.00pm