

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL
held on MONDAY 21 MARCH 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

3110 **To receive apologies for absence** Cllr Stephen Jones,

Standing Orders were suspended for the Open Forum

Open Forum

Present: City Cllr M Thomas

- Cllr Thomas explained that he had been approached by a resident about a branch from a tree on the recreation field that had fallen on to the property causing some damage. He was told that the parish council has the matter in hand and had been in contact with the resident. The council is waiting for a tree surgeon to remove the oak tree felled in a recent storm and if any other tree is presenting an immediate serious danger he will be asked to take any necessary action As the trees in this area of the recreation field are covered by a Tree Protection Order (TPO) an application has been made to Lancaster City Council to carry work on some trees in the interest of safety.
Cllr Thomas is still waiting to receive information about the ownership of a piece of land on Manor Road on which a tree was felled during a storm. It would seem that Lancaster City Council is checking deeds to confirm ownership. The Parish Council is willing to consider a suitable replacement for this tree.

Cllr Thomas left the meeting and Standing Orders were reinstated.

3111 **To record Declarations of Interest**

none

3112 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21 February 2022

They were duly signed by the Chairman

3113 **Progress Reports**

- The date for the felling of the fallen oak tree has been confirmed as Thursday 4 March.
- The Council has approved the clerk's suggested response to e-mails from a resident about alleged dangerous trees on the recreation field.
- Damaged signs on the foreshore -the Council's sign relating to overnight parking has been removed for repair and should be reinstated very soon: another damaged sign which the Council believes belongs to Lancashire County Council was reported to LCC, it is said to have been inspected and it is claimed that it is not LCC's responsibility -this is to be followed up.
- Local Members Grant application to Lancashire County Council; the Parish Council was not eligible to make the application therefore with the agreement of the Slyne with Hest Memorial Hall Committee it has been resubmitted in its name.
- Some incidents of damage at the recreation field and by the memorial hall were reported over the weekend of the 5th/6th March. This has been reported to the Police and they request that it is made known on social media that any incidents should be reported so that they can build up a picture of where problems occur. A damaged dog waste bin has been reported to Lancaster City Council

3114 **Administration**

Website; efforts continue to try to get the website up and running but not all obstacles have yet been overcome.

Jubilee Meeting held on Monday 14th March; 20 people attended and a range of ideas was discussed for the celebrations. The main events will be- on Saturday 4th June the Community Coffee Morning with a display of children's art work on the theme linked to the jubilee and a small exhibition of coronation and jubilee

memorabilia and with a Garden Party in the afternoon organised by the churches. On Sunday 5th, at noon there will be a parade of crowns from the church hall to the memorial hall followed by the Big Jubilee Lunch at the memorial hall and with various activities on the field (weather permitting) in the afternoon. Further details will be discussed at the next jubilee meeting on Monday 28th March.

Consideration of a request from a resident for the use of Peacock Lane garden for a Jubilee party: This was agreed to with the proviso that area is left undamaged and clean and tidy after the party and all responsibility is with the party organisers.

3115 Planning Applications

Applications received

21/01515/FUL 21 Hest Bank Lane, Hest Bank, LA2 6DG

No issues were raised on this application

Applications permitted

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

3116 Financial Matters

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

The contract with Eon for the supply of electricity to the burial ground has been renewed on the same terms as the previous year. Payments will be taken quarterly by Direct Debit

Resolution: to give approval to this.

Consideration of on-line banking with NatWest to make it easier to check information. Authority was given to the clerk to set this up with limited access for administration purposes. Any transactions would need the approval of two signatories.

As the previous independent external audit scheme of which the council was a part is no longer functional it is

necessary to appoint an independent external auditor for the review and conclusion of the Annual Governance and Accountability Returns

Resolution: to appoint Mr M Richardson, clerk to Heversham Parish Council, as the independent internal auditor
Unanimous agreement

Consideration of the feedback about the rent increases received from the Bowling Club and the Tennis Club; close scrutiny was given to the comments about the membership and financial status of the Clubs, the review of the leases and the explanations by the Clubs of the implications of the increased rents. However it was decided that the Council would adhere to its previous decision to increase the rent in both cases to £500 per annum. The Clubs will be informed that if they wish to have an independent review they would be expected to pay 50% of the cost.

3117 Open Spaces

Recreation Field; a meeting was held with Duncan Ross, contractor, to clarify some of the points relating to the construction of the Multi Use Games Area. During the meeting previous suggestions of widening the path at the side and back of the bowling green for access both during and after construction were mentioned. The Council has since looked at the quotation for the path work obtained at the time but funds are at present not available and the work on the paths is to be left in abeyance.

Some conditions on the approved planning application for the MUGA will need to be discharged before work can begin and work is in progress to collect together all the information needed for this.

A suggestion of the provision of medium sized goal posts on the newly drained grassed area for recreational football is to be followed up.

Consideration of the construction of a safety fence alongside the new raised path by the pond; the fence by the original boardwalk was removed when the new raised path was put in place There is a small drop on the pond side and some concern has been raised about anyone slipping into it. The installation of a wooden safety fence is to be looked into and a quotation sought for the work -left in abeyance until next meeting

Consideration of complaints received about the flooding of the area near to the Bowling Club and about the state of the path at the back of the club house; it had been reported that a person had fallen along the path leading from the bowling club's gate on to the bowling green during extremely wet weather. It has been stated that rainwater runs off the path from the middle gate of the recreation field on to the grassed area close to the Bowling Club causing flooding. Also a complaint had been received about the poor state of the path at the back of the Bowling Club pavilion.

These areas have been inspected and while some work may be carried out in the future, at present, funding is not available to carry out any remedial work. Checks will be kept on the area.

Further consideration of the improvement of the planters, there are 8 large tubs and 6 smaller ones. Cllr Cohen Kingsley has been investigating suitable summer perennials for them with possibly a red, white and blue colour scheme to mark the Jubilee. It was thought that further information was needed especially in relation to planting the tubs and the on-going care. Enquiries are to be made at local nurseries and plant centres about professional input.

Consideration of future inspection of the trees on parish council land -the Council's tree policy states that the trees will be inspected every three years. In the previous professional inspection report it is recommended that the trees are inspected in September 2022. Damage was done to some of the trees in recent storms, and in the interest of safety, arrangements will be made for a new inspection later in the year.

3118 Foreshore

A site meeting had been held with Briscoe Construction Ltd to discuss work needed to fill in potholes and ruts and

to improve the gravelled surfaces on the parish owned areas of the foreshore. A quotation received of over £10,000 +Vat was considered to be over budget and further thought is to be given to improvements.

3119 Payment of Accounts

Approval of the payments due as listed: -agreed

In addition to the accounts listed it was agreed to settle the account with Mr D Ruddick as this had been paid by him for hosting the website but due to unforeseen circumstances had not been presented until now.

BT	179.58	phone bill
Envirocare Maintenance Solutions	816.00	grounds maintenance- February
Mountainstone Forge Ltd	192.00	repair of Manor Road play area gates
Waterplus	141.63	waste water charges -burial ground
Mrs D Brookes	881.55	clerk's salary & expenses
Petty cash	3.43	postage
Mr D Ruddick	263.99	website hosting

3120 Matters raised by members for future consideration

None

3121 Date of next meeting

Monday 11 April 2022 at 7.00pm *Note: the meeting has been brought forward as it would have fallen on Easter Monday*

Annual Parish Assembly Monday 11 April 2022 at 6.30pm

The meeting was declared closed at 8.45pm