

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SLYNE WITH HEST PARISH COUNCIL  
held on MONDAY 19 DECEMBER 2022 in the MEMORIAL HALL**

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

Also present Mrs Sarah Campbell

Clerk Mrs Doreen Brookes

**3212 To receive apologies for absence Cllr R Stretch**

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr J Cohen Kingsley -Deputy Chair, took the Chair.

**Special Resolution**

Proposal; to add to the agenda under Open Spaces -consideration of the issue of a homeless person camping on the foreshore, as this needs urgent attention. Agreed

Standing Orders were suspended

**Open Forum**

Present; City Cllr K Budden

- Cllr Budden reported that Lancaster City Council had not yet received any news about the Eden Project North although the planning was eleven months old although news about funding and the way forward had been expected.
- With reference to planning; on the Oakmere Homes development north of Fulwood Drive, Morecambe, further proposals had been put forward but no decisions taken. Also proposals by Appleshwaite Limited for development on land near Sea View Drive were still under consideration but no decisions taken.

Cllr Budden left the meeting. Standing Orders were reinstated.

**3213 Cooption of a New Councillor**

Mrs Sarah Campbell was welcomed to the meeting and outlined her reasons for wishing to become a new parish councillor.

Resolution: to invite Mrs Campbell to become a member of Slyne with Hest Parish Council by cooption All agreed Mrs Campbell signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Declarations of Interest are to be completed and forwarded to Lancaster City Council.

**3214 To record Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Campbell declared an interest in the item relating to the play area resurfacing as her husband had submitted a quotation

**3215 Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolution: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022. They were duly signed by the Deputy Chair.

**3216 Progress Reports**

- The path at the burial ground will be closed on 21 December- this is done because it is a permissive path not a public right of way. Notices have been put in place
- A further inspection of the damaged gate between the burial ground and the football field has been carried out an the groundsman thinks that it can be fixed with an extra post.
- Trees on the recreation field; Westmorland Tree Services have felled the trees as agreed. Some tree planting has still to be carried out.
- Extra litter and dog bins at the rec. field- Lancaster City Council has been contacted following up an offer of possible replacement of bins and a response is awaited.
- The new speed limit of 30 mph on Coastal Road/Marine Drive is now in place

- Xmas trees have been erected at the Memorial Hall-thanks go to Cllr Connor and to Mike Ashton for doing this.
- Two residents have been in contact with Lancashire County Council about the road markings on part of Hest Bank Lane which are intended to make it safer for pedestrians. The markings have become worn and in places are difficult to see. The Council agreed that it would give its support to any improvements
- A request has been made to allow cremated remains of a deceased local person scattered on the Hest Bank foreshore. Consent was agreed.

### 3217 Administration

#### Appointment of a new parish clerk

Four people had been invited for interview by Cllrs Bateman & Obertelli. An outline of the merits of the candidates was given.

Resolution: to accept the proposed recommendation of the interview panel of the person to be appointed; seconded and agreed.

The appointment is to be from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 (later amended to 9<sup>th</sup> January). The new clerk, Louise Ash, will work alongside the present clerk until 31 March 2023. A contract is to be drawn up and this will be put forward for formal agreement at the next council meeting.

Consideration of a proposal received from National Car Parks Limited to rent a section of the foreshore for car parking. It is to be noted that the foreshore is not an official car park but the council has agreed to sections of it being used for short stay parking. NCP proposal rejected.

Neighbourhood Plan; the Steering Committee is preparing for the referendum on the Plan which is to be held on Thursday 23 February 2023

### 3218 Planning Applications

Applications received

None

Applications permitted

None

### 3219 Financial Matters

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

Account -latest statement £139,777.57.

Some of the problems of on-line banking have still not been resolved and there is concern about the link with Gov.uk VAT-on-line for VAT reclaimed payments. Further contact is to be made with NatWest bank to try to resolve the issues.

Lune Cleaning Services are no longer accepting cheques in payment of invoices. The amount outstanding is £36.00. It was suggested and agreed that this could be paid with the debit card held on the bank account.

Payment of a further invoice from Duncan Ross, in the interim it had been agreed to make a further payment to Duncan Ross to cover expenses that they needed to pay for electrical work associated with the MUGA.

Resolution: to retrospectively formally approve the payment of £18852.73.

Half year internal audit-postponed

Consideration of the payment of the subscription for the clerk's membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks

Resolution: to give approval to the membership and to pay the fee of £177.00.

Later consideration will be given to the new clerk's membership.

### 3220 Open Spaces

MUGA - new surface is in place and other work to finish the fencing has been completed so it can be used. A meeting was held with an Electricity North West advisor - more cable work than was anticipated is likely to be needed because of connections on the field and connection across the road. Quotations were

promised but have not yet been received. Progress has been made with Eon, the supplier, and an MPAN number allocated. This identifies the site. Advice is to be sought about whether a single phase supply or three phase supply would be best for now and in the future.

Cllr Obertelli has drawn up a draft risk assessment for the MUGA which is to be circulated to the council.

BHIB insurance is to be contacted about how the council stands with insurance on the MUGA. Although not yet fully completed, as it is at present it can be used for casual games activity.

Refurbishment of the play area surface beneath two pieces of equipment at the recreation field; several contractors have been contacted for a quotation for the work, one has been received and another one promised.

Cllr Campbell declared an interest and temporarily left the meeting.

A quotation has been received from Mr D Campbell of £9557.00 for the work.

Resolution: to accept this quotation and to ask Mr Campbell to carry out the work.

Disconnection of the electricity supply at the burial ground; a quotation for the disconnection of £1546.39+VAT has been received For safety reasons a full disconnection and removal of the supply would have to be carried out.

Resolution; to accept the quotation and have the supply disconnected.

Further consideration was given to the annual play area risk assessment report and it was agreed that arrangements are to be made for the more urgent repairs to be carried out.

Jubilee Orchard -further contact has been made with World of Hedges of Garstang -they have given an indication of costs but depending on weather & soil conditions work may be delayed until late January/early February when a precise quotation will be given. They can carry out groundwork, planting etc. and if agreed an assessment will be carried out.

Camper on the foreshore; an alleged homeless person has been camping on the foreshore for several weeks and concerns have been raised on one hand about his welfare and otherwise about the conditions and state of the foreshore area especially in relation to possible litter and fouling and health hazards. Local people have been supplying him with various needs. It is to be noted that he is contravening byelaws relating to open spaces and ignoring signs that there is to be no overnight camping. As this is a sensitive situation especially at this time of year it was decided to show some leniency, agreed that he should be spoken to again, advice be sought from Lancaster City Council and others and to review the issue again following this. The Council understands that the he has had accommodation offers but he decided to stay on the foreshore. The Parish Council has no powers or ability to deal with housing issues.

### 3221 Future Village Events

A suggestion had been made that the Council should look at what events residents might like to see organized in the Slyne with Hest, for example, for the coronation, summer event, Christmas event.

An Open Meeting to which residents are invited to put forward their ideas and to discuss how these can be facilitated is to be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 6.00pm in the Memorial Hall.

### 3222 Payment of Accounts

Approval was given for the payments due as listed:

BT by DD	188.04	phone bill
Duncan Ross Ltd	18852.73	electrical work for MUGA-payment agreed
Envirocare Maintenance Solutions Ltd	856.80	grounds maintenance-November
Westmorland Tree Services	1080.00	work on trees as in report
Mrs D Brookes	963.38	clerk's salary & expenses
Petty cash	26.80	sundry items
Mr S Brade	186.99	groundsman's pay
Duncan Ross Ltd	4713.18	further electrical work
Lune Property Services	30.00	bus shelter window cleaning -tbc
SLCC subscription	177.00	clerk's membership

3223 **Matters for future consideration**

It was reported that the Canal & River Trust had carried out work on the area on the canal bank close to Rushley Drive which had been causing concern but the area will need to be continued to be monitored

3224 **Date of next meeting**

Monday 16 January 2023 at 7.00pm

Budget meeting to be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.00pm. The new clerk is to be invited to attend.

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm