

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Lower Slaughter Parish Council**  
**Held in the Village Hall on Monday May 19th, 2025 at 6 p.m.**

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**Councillors present:** Cllrs Ann Classen, Julian Grimshaw, George Papadakis, Cornelius O'Boyle (Chair) , Julie Hooson (Part)

**In attendance:** Clerk Jane Carter, 10 members of the public, Cllr Len Wilkins

- 250519/1 Election of Chair:** Cllr Cornelius O'Boyle was proposed and unanimously elected as Chair. The acceptance of office was signed.
- 250519/2 Election of Vice Chair:** Cllr Ann Classen was proposed and unanimously elected as Vice Chair. The acceptance of office was signed
- 250519/3 Co-option of New Councillor:** the casual vacancy had been advertised. No election had been called. There was one candidate for the vacancy. Julie Hoosen was elected unanimously.
- 250519/4 Declarations of Interest:** None
- 250519/5 Apologies for absence:** County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson.
- 250519/6 Public Session:** A member of the public addressed the council on planning application 25/01322/FUL. She gave the background to the application and why the removal of the condition was being sought. A resident asked if it was possible to have passing places installed. The signpost in the centre of the village needed repairing.
- 250519/7 To approve the minutes of the meeting held March 17th, 2025 :** Council approved the minutes and the Chair signed as a true record,
- 250519/8 To receive an update and report from District Councillor Len Wilkins.:** a report had been circulated and was noted. He updated councillors on the progress of unitary authority discussions.
- 250519/9 To receive update and report from Gloucestershire County Councillor: no report**
- 250519/10 Allocation of responsibilities for coming year:-**
- i. Highways- Cllr Julian Grimshaw
  - ii. Trees- Richard Godwin (volunteer)
  - iii. Allotments- Cllr Ann Classen
  - iv. Planning- All
  - v. PROW- Steve Randles (volunteer)
  - vi. River & Flood- Cllr George Papadakis
  - vii. Snow- Cllr Julie Hooson
- 250519/11 Matters arising:**
- I. Highways: The Clerk was in contact with both district and county councils regarding repair work to the river bank. Outstanding highways matters would be raised with the newly elected County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

- II. Thames Water Update: the work had been completed and the tanker removed from site
- III. Gigaclear installation of fibre broadband: no update. Work was now unlikely to be start until the autumn.
- IV. Allotment maintenance: The allotments had been advertised in the Bourton Browser and on Facebook. There were four new tenants. 7 plots were vacant
- V. Swale reprofiling: No update. The funding meeting had not considered the application.
- VI. Approval of Monarchs Way signage: a request had been made to install signage at the entrance to the orchard along the Monarchs Way. Images of an example sign were circulated. Councillors were concerned about the size. It was suggested that smaller sign with a QR code so walkers could scan for information would be better suited to the spot. The clerk would discuss with the Monarchs Way officers.

#### **250519/ 12 Planning Applications:**

**25/01322/FUL** | Removal of Condition (f) (Agricultural/Business occupancy) of planning permission reference CD.2193/A: Erection of a farmhouse. Construction of a new vehicular and pedestrian access | Snipe Moss Wyck Road Lower Slaughter Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL54 2EX.

The council discussed the application considering the MOP comments. It was agreed that a comment stating the council did not object to the application would be added to the portal.

#### **250519/13 Finance:**

- i. To approve current statement of accounts and bank reconciliation (as circulated): APPROVED
- ii. To approve payments and note receipts (as circulated): APPROVED
- iii. To confirm that the Parish Council wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and to sign and return the Certificate of Exemption. (Form 2): CONFIRMED
- iv. To consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the Annual Return) for 2024-25: APPROVED
- v. To consider and approve Section 2 of the Annual Return for 2024-25 and the EOY accounts: APPROVED
- vi. To consider the internal audit report and any actions: the full internal auditor's report would be circulated once received. No issues had been raised. The clerk would action recommendations.
- vii. To review and approve annual insurance policy renewal: the annual insurance renewal was due. This was approved at a cost of £544.63

#### **250519/14 Reports from the Wardens:**

- I. **Neighbourhood Watch:-** No report
- II. **River:-** the clerk would contact the owner of the Mill to establish a contact for regulating the river flow in the owner's absence.
- III. **Rights of Way Report :** 2 new kissing gates had been installed on HSL1. Quotes for works to improve the HSL4 cricket club footpath were being obtained.
- IV. **Flood and Snow:** codes to the grit bins would be shared with Cllr Hooson

**250519/15**      **Matters to be raised by councillors:** No matters raised

**250519/16**      **Date of next Meeting:** Monday July 21<sup>st</sup> 6 p.m. Village Hall.

**Meeting ended:** 7.23 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_