

## PARISH OF SPALDWICK

### Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held at 8 pm Thursday 31 May 2012 at Spaldwick Primary School

**Present:** Councillors B F Plummer (Chairman), S Jackson-Rimmer, G Leach, G Rice, G Smith, S Wakefield, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell), and 3 members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence** . none
2. **Minutes of meeting held 28 April 2011** were approved and signed.
3. **Matters arising** . it was noted that, due to very little use, the County Council has closed the Community Access Point which was housed in the Community Room and removed the computers.
4. **Annual Report by Chairman of Parish Council (Cllr B F Plummer)**  
Following the elections in May 2011 the Council welcomed Sharan Jackson Rimmer as a new Councillor. I would like to put record the Councils thanks and appreciation of the contribution made by the retiring Councillor Rob Wooddisse during his tenure of office.

Since the previous Annual meeting in April 2011, the Council has held eleven ordinary general meetings, each with a packed Agenda of routine business.

Thirteen planning applications have been considered and commented on to the District Council, all of which have either been small infill proposals or small domestic modifications, many of which concerned changes to existing applications. Hopefully with the introduction of localism+the Parish Councils advice will carry greater weight. The Parish Plan and associated Action Plan have remained relevant, reflecting as they do, the wishes and concerns of residents, providing a checklist of items for the Parish Council to address and a vehicle for representations to the relevant authorities. This is a continuing process.

The focus has continued to be in improving the village environment notably by better grass cutting contracts, the installation of new notice boards and the milestone on the green, completion of the pavement along the High Street, developing the Spaldwick in Bloom+ initiative, keeping pressure on reducing speeding through the village, provision of salt bins. Much more needs to be done including refurbishment of the war memorial and sorting out the trees on the green.

The Council has again distributed the annual Christmas Charity money to selected residents.

In conclusion, I wish to offer the appreciation and encouragement of the Council to all the many voluntary groups and individuals actively supporting the life of the village, particularly to the Escape Youth Group, the Social Group and Village Fete Committee.

Finally my thanks to all the members of the Parish Council for their support and hard work and to our Clerk, David Stowell, who has worked unstintingly and often beyond the call of duty to keep us all on track

## 5. Parish Council Financial Report for year ended 31 March 2012

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year 2011/2012, summarised as follows:

	Parish Council Fund	Charity Fund
Balance brought forward at 1/4/11	£57898.41	£120.00
Receipts	£11253.20	£120.00
Payments	£10344.64	£120.00
Balance carried forward at 31/3/12	£58806.97	£120.00

The Parish Council balance at 31 March 2012 is allocated as follows:-

Village Hall & Playing Field project	£31000.00
Ferriman Road Grounds Maintenance Fund	£18122.57
Parish Plan Grant	£ 176.36
War Memorial renovation	£ 1500.00
General Reserve	£ 8008.04

## 6. Reports from other Village Organisations

### Welcome Club (Maureen Vickers)

Spaldwick Welcome Club has fifty full time members and we meet on the first Friday of each month (term time only) here in the community room. At our monthly meetings a two course meal (main/desert) is provided by volunteers (committee members) for a nominal fee, a brief club meeting is held to discuss any matters from previous months. Normally we arrange for a guest speaker who gives a small talk on their subject, from this a club competition take place either relating to the subject or another topical issue. Yearly prizes are awarded to those members who make the most successful contributions to these competitions.

Our August meeting is replaced by a day trip, in the past it has been a day out at the seaside, we also have numerous other outings throughout the year. December's meeting is a two course Christmas Lunch usually held at a local establishment, this is paid for either out of club funds or from funds raised through the year.

We have a committee that meets once a month and from the matters raised and issues discussed there is a monthly newsletter produced and delivered to members. Over the year we collect loose change (coppers) which is given to the clubs nominated charity of that year.

### Spaldwick Church (John Blatch)

The temporary replacement for the lead stolen from the roof is in place and will provide adequate protection from the elements for quite a long time but as the church is a listed building of historic interest it will have to be replaced with a material acceptable to the relevant authorities as soon as the necessary funds are available. The insurance will only provide £5000 towards the cost of replacement so approaches have been made to organisations including The Historic Churches Trust and English Heritage for grants, but much will need to be raised locally.

### Carpet Bowls Club (Graham Smith)

We have had another successful year playing 14 games against other clubs in the area both home and away. We won 7 and lost 7 but all had good fun and enjoyed meeting other like minded people. We also played our own internal league games and gave out trophies to the various winners at our annual dinner at the beginning of the year.

We currently have around 20 paying members but would like to see new members both male & female from the village taking part this year. The annual subs are only £10 and we pay £2 each time we play. We meet every Tuesday evening during term time here at the school from 7 till 10 and have tea and biscuits half way through the evening.

This year we have played 5 games against other villages and won 4 and drawn 1 so are doing fairly well. We also have a BBQ in June and a 10 pin Bowls night with meal afterwards at Eat n Bowl later in the year. So do come along and you will be made very welcome.

**Escape, Youth Group (Sharan Jackson-Rimmer)**

The Youth Club has now been running for two years and meets fortnightly on Friday evenings during term time. In addition we have occasional other activities such as Bowling at Lakeside Lodge, Pidley on Saturday 16th June. It is run by a committee of 5 parents, but we need more committee members to spread the load and if we can raise the funds we would like to employ a youth worker.

**Community Room Users Committee (Bernard Plummer)**

The purpose of the committee is to resolve any problems caused by possible conflicts of interests and thus ensure that community events run smoothly. Recently school staff have agreed to park elsewhere when the welcome Club meets in order to leave space in the car park for elderly and / or disabled members to park close by.

**Spaldwick Social Group (Bernard Plummer)**

This group arranges many events throughout the year. The amount of time that members of the group put into the preparations prior to the events and running them on the day is enormous and they deserve our grateful thanks.

**Village Hall**

Bernard Plummer said that plans for a new hall are progressing but will not be put into the public domain until such time as the Management Committee has a firm proposal.

**7. Open Forum**

No matters were raised.

In the absence of any other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.37 pm