

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 7 pm  
Thursday 21 March 2013 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

**Present:** Cllrs. Plummer (Chairman, presiding), Leach, Rice, Smith and Wakefield, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell). Cllr Jackson-Rimmer and a member of the public attended for the end of item 15.

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from Cllr Johnson; and for probable late arrival from Cllr Jackson-Rimmer.
2. **Declarations of Interest** in relation to the agenda . none
3. **Public Open Forum** - not used. No members of the public present.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 21 February 2013** were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes**  
**Oil Spillage, Mount Pleasant** . Aaron Morley, Environmental Health reported on 6 March that he had agreed with the Environment Agency to return to look at this again in the Spring. There is currently no evidence of pollution of controlled waters and there is no evidence to constitute a statutory nuisance
6. **Finance**  
**The following payments were approved:**  
100539 Spaldwick School, room rental, £54.00  
100540 F D Stowell, Salary & Excs Jan-Mar, £430.25 (inc. £6.83 VAT)  
100541 HMRC, PAYE Jan - Mar, £91.80
7. **Planning**  
**New Planning Applications** - none  
**The following Local Planning Authority decisions / reports were noted**  
**1201810TREE**, Beech tree, lateral reduction of two branches and crown raise to 3 metres above ground level, 4 Pound Close . **Consent granted**  
**1300085FUL**, Retrospective application for first floor balcony to the rear, 9 Ivy Way . **Permission granted**
8. **Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee** - Bench and tree at Belton Hill. The action taken by the Clerk to order the bench from Glasdon as the price is unchanged from that accepted at Feb 2012 meeting i.e. £373.85 but with a discount of £25.00 by ordering before 31 March. Updated quotes for installation have been received from 2 contractors (A) £330, (B) £1650. It was resolved to ask Cllr Johnson for his opinion on the quotes and to defer a decision to the next meeting. Adjacent landowner(s) have been contacted. Neither has any objection to the proposed location although land ownership will be investigated further before proceeding.
9. **Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets** . As promised, Fergusons pruned the shrubs first week in March.  
The hand hearse / bier and the refurbished notice board have now been placed in the Parish Council store.
10. **Litter / Dog Bins**  
The Clerk reported that he has not yet progressed the suggestions for an alternative site for an additional bin.

#### 11. Highways, footpaths, byways etc.

**Rusty manhole Cover near pumping station, High Street** . replaced by Anglian Water  
**Standing water outside 17-19 Thrapston Road** . new extended drainage installed 5/6 March by County Highways. At the request of the Clerk this will be extended by a minimum of 2 metres after April.

**Spaldwick to Stow Longa Road** . it was noted that CCC have recently carried out repairs to the broken edges of the carriageway.

**HGV traffic before 7 am** . Cllr Leach reported that he had been approached by a resident regarding the continuing problem caused by Williams Transport HGVs passing through the village very early in the morning when residents are trying to sleep. He referred to the results of a further survey the Clerk had carried out between 0430 and 0700 on Monday 18 March which were similar to those obtained last December. In view of the lack of response from Williams Transport since a resident wrote to them on 2 January suggesting that they avoid routing their vehicles through Spaldwick before 7 am he queried what action the Council should take. It was agreed to repeat the recommendation made in December that the complainant notifies HDC Environmental Health of his concern that the noise and vibration caused by HGVs during the night is preventing some residents getting uninterrupted sleep. If confirming evidence could be obtained by HDC to support the complaint it may be possible to open negotiations for a time restriction on HGVs passing through the village.

**Kissing gates around Bury Close** . it was noted that following discussions with the Clerk, the CCC Rights of Way section have had the hollows at all three gates filled with road planings. Several walkers have expressed their appreciation.

#### 12. Bus Service changes .

The Clerk informed the meeting that Paul Nelson has taken over management of the project and has reported that the programme is running behind schedule as a result of early areas taking longer than anticipated to complete. Recent staff changes are also putting pressure on the programme/timetable hence the start of the detailed work for West Hunts will be later than anticipated. We have, however been assured that the current services will continue until a suitable replacement is put in place, even if this is beyond the original indicative date of September 2013.

The Clerk also reported that Nene & Ouse Community Transport will be known as Huntingdonshire Association for Community Transport from 2 April and is moving from Thrapston to March, the base of Fenland ACT.

#### 13. Amendment to Standing Orders to reflect change to Code of Conduct

Having noted the Clerk's proposal circulated with the agenda, it was **resolved** to amend paragraph 9 (Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interests) of the Standing Orders adopted on 25 March 2010 to read:

All councillors shall observe the Code of Conduct for Members of Spaldwick Parish Council adopted on 19 July 2012 which includes the action which must be taken when a member has a pecuniary or other interest in any item of business to be considered.

#### 14. Reports on attendance at external meetings or training sessions

(1) PAYE Real Time Information training by HMRC, Orchard Park Cambridge, 22 Feb . The Clerk reported that this was helpful in understanding the new RTI requirements.

(2) Parish Paths and Future Partnerships meeting at Over, 7 March - Cllr Leach reported that he found the meeting very informative. He passed the information he had received to the Clerk, who agreed to file or pass it on to Mick Ager or members as appropriate.

(3) Councillor training sessions, Hemingford Abbots, 20 Feb & 20 March . Cllr Rice reported that these were very worthwhile and helped clarify questions relating to powers and recommended procedures.

## 15. Correspondence

**CAPALC e-bulletin, March 2013** . circulated as email attachment to members 5 March

**CAPALC e-bulletin Distribution List.** . Request for council details.

Two emails received . first asked for Clerk's details which were sent in reply. The second came later and asked for telephone numbers (landline and mobile) and e-mail address of clerk, chairman and councillors. No reason given except that the email is headed CAPALC e-bulletin Distribution List. Those members present asked that their details be withheld to ensure information continues to be received via the Clerk.

**NALC** . Letter from Ken Browse, Chairman announcing retirement of John Findlay OBE, the Chief Executive on 31 March 2014.

**Hunts Forum of Voluntary Organisations** . email regarding a directory of charitable and voluntary groups in the Huntingdonshire and Wisbech areas. The Clerk reported that he had discussed the question of publicising this with the Chairman, but has delayed pursuing the matter further pending clarification by Huntsforum of its purpose and changes to some entries if it is intended as a source of public information. The meeting noted that this is ongoing.

**Molesworth wind farm planning application 1200967FUL** . letter from **RWE npower renewables** dated 21 February (circulated to members) summarises main issues raised by objectors and their responses.

**Bicton wind farm** . Broadview letter of 8 March (circulated to members) states that they intend to submit a revised planning application for 3 turbines close to the rejected site. The proposal can be viewed at The Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton on 26 March from 5 to 8 pm.

**Parking at Ferriman Road / Royston Avenue Junction** . email of 6 March from Roger Watson (Luminus Neighbourhood Warden) reported that during a recent estate audit he was approached by a resident regarding a car parking problem at this junction. During drop off and pick up of school children the area becomes very congested and, possibly as a result of this, the resident's car received minor damage by a passing vehicle. A letter has also been received from another resident of Royston Avenue regarding the same problem. The Clerk reported that he had been unable to identify the problem during two visits to the site around 3.30 pm, hence would now monitor the situation at other times. He is also to investigate a possible problem caused by parking on the verge and footway at the junction.

**Cambs ACRE** . letter dated 20 March re Service Changes due to reduction in funding received from DEFRA and local authorities will result in changes to policy from 30 June. After this, communities wanting face-to-face support will have to pay full costs (staff time & travel costs).

**Spaldwick Out of School Club** . a letter requesting a donation to help cover some of the running costs of the holiday club, received earlier in the day, was circulated to members. At this point Cllr Jackson-Rimmer and another member of the management team arrived and explained that the holiday club, which would run for four weeks during the summer holiday was likely to run at a loss of £100 per day. In order to ensure its continuance in the future the Club is looking for grants from the local Parish Councils and other sources. Council agreed to include this request on the agenda of the next meeting.

## 16. Any other business

**Gas Supply** . having had no reply since 25 July 2012 when it was reported that the Parish Council email had been forwarded to the relevant department, reminders were sent on 1 January and 13 March. An apology was received on 15 March saying that the relevant department had again been asked to respond.

## 17. Future Meetings

Thursday 25 April 2013 at 7 pm

Thursday 9 May 2013, Annual Parish Meeting at 8 pm

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.42 pm