

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 7 pm
Thursday 25 April 2013 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present: Cllrs. Plummer (Chairman, presiding), Jackson-Rimmer, Smith and Wakefield, and the Clerk (Mr D Stowell).

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from Cllr Johnson, Leach and Rice
2. **Declarations of Interest** in relation to the agenda . Cllr Jackson-Rimmer, being a trustee, declared an interest in the grant application from Spaldwick Out of School Club.
3. **Public Open Forum** - not used. No members of the public present.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 21 March 2013** were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes** . The Clerk was asked to pass the matter of parking near the school to the local PCSO.

6. Finance

Application from Spaldwick Out of School Club for grant re Holiday Club . Sharan Jackson-Rimmer, speaking on behalf of the club, Registered Charity No. 1149673, listed a number of specific items for which the Club is seeking funding towards providing its services this year. She took no further part in this matter. The remaining councillors discussed the application and resolved to contribute £140 to cover provision of a bouncy castle on two days.

The following payments were approved:

100542 Glasdon UK Ltd, Phoenix seat, £418.62 (inc. 69.77 VAT)

100543 CAPALC, Annual membership fee, £191.51

100544 SLCC Enterprises, Regional Conference fee, £82.80 (inc £13.80 VAT)

100545 NALC, LCR Magazine, £16.00

100546 Spaldwick Out of School Club, 2 bookings of bouncy castle, £140.00

To note the following receipts:

HMRC, VAT repayment, £839.86 (2011/12 £23.83; 2012/13 £816.03)

HDC, Parish grant to mitigate effect of Council Tax Support on tax base, £284.00

HDC, Precept £10000.00

Annual accounts for year ended 31 March 2013 . the Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer presented the summary Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2013. Prior to the meeting these had been subject to detailed examination by Cllr Smith who confirmed their accuracy. Following the presentation and further examination by the meeting it was resolved that the accounts be approved.

Audit Commission Annual Return for 2012/13

Section 1 . Accounting statements. The Clerk / RFO presented the certified accounting statements, which Council resolved to approve.

Section 2 . Annual governance statement. The Chairman read out statements 1 to 9 in turn, to each of which Council responded ~~Yes~~ . agreedq

The Clerk / RFO and the Chairman signed both sections as required.

7. Planning

Consultation on draft Local Plan (Stage 3) . It was noted that this starts on 31 May 2013 for a period of 8 weeks

Introduction of Electronic Consultation by CCC . It was noted that from 1 May 2013 all planning related correspondence related to County Council property and waste and mineral sites will be sent by email giving a link to the application on the CCC website.

New Planning Applications / Local Planning Authority decisions . none received.

English Heritage proposal to de-list Milestone (10 Thrapston, 7 Huntingdon) ref: 1130164 located on Green outside Stanwell House. Thrapston Road.

At the PC meeting on 15 November 2012, in response to a letter from EH which said that when considering a requested amendment to the listed building register they would need to consider whether the milestone should remain on the register, the Clerk informed EH that, in the opinion of the PC, the milestone is an important village feature which it wishes to be retained on the Listed Building Register.

The clerk reported that a further letter has now been received from EH which suggests that moving the milestone from its original position may be sufficient to mean that it no longer qualifies to be listed. This has been discussed with the HDC Conservation Team Leader, who believes that whether the structure is a listed building or not makes no great difference in this case. She suggests that if the structure is delisted then the more important issue will be of ownership - whether County Highways or the Parish Council. If the former and the structure is delisted then the County will not put any resources into the maintenance of the structure and they would be under no obligation to retain it in the highway. It could therefore be vulnerable to removal. She believes that the parish council would be better placed to look after it and protect it from removal, and that it should not involve the parish in any costs.

Following discussion it was agreed not to pursue retaining the milestone on the register; to await the decision of EH on de-listing; and, if de-listed, to consider taking ownership.

8. **Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee** . The Clerk reported that the new bench has been received. He suggested that prior to it being moved to its final site the proposed commemorative plaque should be procured and fitted. This was agreed. The Chairman is to draft the wording and obtain a quotation.

It has been ascertained from the Land Registry that the proposed site is registered in the name of the late Miss Davis. It is now intended to identify the present owner and seek their consent to the bench being installed there.

9. **Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets**

War Memorial . The Clerk reported that he had obtained a fourth estimate for the cleaning and renovation which compares favourably with those obtained earlier. In this case they suggest that the cleaning be carried out before decisions are taken on the extent of recutting required and whether to fill the lettering with black paint as both this company and the War Memorial Trust (WMT) question the appropriateness of filling. It was agreed that the Clerk would put this proposal to WMT for their approval prior to submitting a formal request for a grant.

10. **Litter / Dog Bins** . The Clerk reported that he had not yet discussed the location of another bin with HDC.

11. **Highways, footpaths, byways etc.**

HGV traffic before 7 am . HDC Environmental Health has replied to the resident who wrote regarding loss of sleep stating that the Environmental Protection Act referred to by him does not cover traffic noise hence HDC cannot take any action under this legislation. The Clerk has since spoken to Environment Health who confirm that they do have noise testing equipment (but not vibration) and subject to priorities being agreed should be able to establish whether the levels of noise are in excess of the normally accepted limits or not. The Clerk is intending to negotiate for tests to be carried out at suitable locations.

Following a request from another resident that the Catworth junction is used during the **hours of darkness** by Williams vehicles wishing to travel east, an officer from the CCC Traffic Management Team has passed this request to Williams Brothers.. A reply is awaited.

This resident also mentioned the cost of road maintenance and damage to houses with no real foundations as a factor. Council noted this report by the Clerk.

Street Lighting PFI - Members were informed by email on 05/04/13 of Balfour Beatty's plans for the first phase of the Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative in Spaldwick. This

phase covers the following streets where the columns are structurally sound to last the rest of the 25 years contract. These will not be removed or change locations but will have only a lantern change (to white light dimmed between 10 pm and 6 am): Burton Way . 5 lamps; Fuller Close . 3 lamps; Mount Pleasant . 2 lamps. BB advised that if no objections were raised by 4 May they will consider the plans approved and will proceed with the works as scheduled. Council had no objections and agreed that BB be informed accordingly.

The Clerk reported that a map on the CCC website shows the other street lights which are planned to have a lantern change only are those on the section of Ferriman Road adjacent to Burton Way and Fuller Close, all those in High Street, and the one in Thrapston Road opposite Pound Close. The remainder of the lights in Thrapston Road, Ferriman Road, Stow Road, Ivy Way and Royston Avenue are shown to be removed or replaced. BB have confirmed that the PC will be consulted on the plans for these areas before they are finalised. The fact that 7 lights in Littlecotes Close do not appear on the map has been raised with BB. This question is still under investigation. A quote to change the lantern on the PC light in Church Lane to bring it into line with other lights in the village has been requested.

Footpath 12 and Long Lane . The Clerk reported that Mick Ager has raised the following matters with the CCC Rights of Way Officer:

Footpath 12 - The field opposite the petrol station in Spaldwick was ploughed over a week ago but the mark of the path has not been reinstated. At Mr Ager's request the Rights of Way Officer has reminded the farmer of his obligations.

Long Lane - a 20 metres section has remained a bog for most of the winter. What options are available to make the path more user friendly for 52 weeks of the year?

- 12. Bus Service changes** . The Chairman reported that some local residents are unhappy with the changed schedules arising from the change of the Community Bus operator from Nene and Ouse to HACT, in particular the reduction in buses to Huntingdon. He agreed to investigate further.

The Clerk reported that the CCC Community Future Transport Team has today stated that they expect the detailed work in the next set of areas [including West Hunts] to commence in June. The length of time before the implementation of any new service will then depend on the community engagement process. This will begin with initial briefing meetings with County, District and Parish councillors ahead of forming working groups for each area, comprised of residents, parish representatives and bus users. The County Council is committed to maintain all bus services that are under review as they currently operate until a consensus on alternative solutions is reached.

13. Correspondence

Huntingdonshire Flood Forum . Wednesday 22 May 7 pm Pathfinder House . one PC rep invited.

HDC consultation on Community Infrastructure Levy Regulation List . 2 April to 4.30 pm 24 May 2013. (Circulated by email 28 Mar).

NALC National Council Bulletin – 26 March 2013 (Circulated by email 15 April)

14. Any other business - none

15. Future Meetings

Thursday 9 May 2013 at 8 pm, Annual Parish Meeting.

Thursday 23 May 2013 at 8 pm, Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.41 pm