

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Annual Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 14 May 2009 at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present : Cllrs W Brown (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), R Johnson, B Plummer, J Pope, G Smith, R Wooddisse, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell), and four members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** - none
2. **Election of Chairman**
Cllr W F Brown was elected unanimously.
3. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman** was made by Cllr Brown and witnessed by the Clerk
4. **Membership**
It was noted that the resignation of Cllr K H Armer took effect from 30 April 2009. The vacancy was advertised on 6 May. If no request for an election is received by the Returning Officer within 14 days, the Clerk will post a further notice stating: Any elector wishing to be considered by the Council to fill this vacancy is invited to inform the Clerk in writing before 4.30 pm on Wednesday 10 June 2009. To date two applications have been received - Mr E G Leach, 8 High Street and Mr G J C Rice, 14 Ivy Way.
5. **Other Elections and Appointments**
The following were elected:-
Vice-Chairman - Cllr R W Wooddisse
Representative to Village Hall Management Committee - Cllr G S Smith
Tree Warden - Cllr R P Johnson
Children's playground inspector - Cllr J R Pope
6. **Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held 2 April 2009 and Planning Meeting held 30 April 2009** were approved and signed.
7. **Matters Arising**
Allotments
Roger Haines informed the Clerk by e-mail on 14 April that, after repeated re-submissions, his application for Lottery funding had been turned down. As this was his only hope of obtaining funding he has reluctantly accepted that the project will not go ahead.
8. **Open Forum**
Mr K H Armer raised the following matters:
(1) The question of signs in Littlecotes Close to ask motorists to take care has not been satisfactorily concluded.
(2) Mr David Edwards has read the item in the Spaldwick News suggesting that the Charity Field is no longer being considered for allotments. The Parish Council needs to inform him of the current position so that he can plan his use of the land appropriately.

(3) The recent mix up in the Spaldwick News May edition regarding the agenda of this meeting and other errors in the past are unacceptable. He suggested that the Clerk should obtain the approval of the Chairman before submitting his input.
(4) He suggested that the Clerk should have the annual accounts checked by a councillor before they are submitted to the Council for approval. This would reduce the risk of typing errors being missed.

9. Finance

Receipt of the following were noted

HDC Precept for 2009/10 £9400

CCC Village maintenance (grasscutting) 2009 £632.55

Amendment to bank mandates

It was resolved that R W Wooddisse should replace K H Armer as a signatory on the Barclays Bank current account and the Alliance & Leicester deposit accounts.

Approval for purchase

The Clerk was authorised to purchase a copy of "Local Council Administration" 8th edition by Charles Arnold Baker at £55.60 inc. postage.

Appointment of Accounts Checker

Cllr G Smith agreed to check the accounts prior to presentation of the quarterly and annual accounts. The Clerk / RFO welcomed this additional check.

10. Parish Plan progress report

Cllr Plummer reported that a draft plan of actions had been prepared. This will be circulated to all households shortly with a request that recipients prioritise the proposals. It is anticipated that the Parish Plan will be submitted to the next Parish Council meeting for approval, prior to its launch at the Village Fete on Saturday 11th July 2009.

Cambd ACRE have advised that they will arrange distribution of the Plan to external agencies and will monitor their responses.

11. Maintenance of Assets / Environment

Equipment formerly installed at the Old Village Hall Children's Play Area

Relocation or disposal of the Seat, Climbing Frame & Slide and Swings (block of 2 and block of 3) currently in store. It was noted that Mrs Fiona Armstrong had sent an e-mail to the Clerk suggesting that the equipment should be located in the public open space to the rear of Ferriman Road. It was resolved to defer this item to the next meeting to allow more time for the options to be considered.

Playground equipment

Scratches on the nursery swing, large swing, and the multi-play unit, need painting. K Armer will do the work if supplied with paint. The Clerk was authorised to obtain the necessary supplies.

Annual playground inspection

It was resolved to authorise Wicksteeds to carry out the annual inspection. Cost £45 + VAT.

War memorial renovation

Awaiting further quotes. Cllr Wooddisse agreed to chase up a request he had made for a quote.

Gate from Public Open Space into Long Lane

Continuing action on the Clerk to obtain quote.

Traffic Survey

Continuing action on Clerk to publish the results.

Flood Protection Measures

Replacement by the Environment Agency of the flap valve adjacent to the Esso Service Area remains to be carried out. The Clerk to chase EA's contractor.

Dead trees in Public Open Space, rear of Ferriman Road

The Clerk has been approached by Mrs Jane Wiggins who would like to replace some of the dead trees with saplings from her garden. It was resolved that Cllr Johnson should thank Mrs Wiggins for her offer and agree with her any proposals for planting.

12. Planning

To note HDC decision - Planning Application 0803330FUL, erection of dwelling, land at 11 Stow Road. - Permission Granted, subject to 10 specified conditions.

13. Correspondence

E-mail from Hilary Shuker asks the Council what plans it has in place to prevent Bury Close from being the eyesore that it was during the summer months of 2008. The Clerk was asked to thank Mrs Shuker for her comments which have been noted.

14. Any Other Business

Cutting of footpaths by the County Council

In response to a question the Clerk will clarify exactly what CCC cut.

15. Dates of Future Meetings

Thursday 11 June 2009

Wednesday 15 July 2009

In the absence of any other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.56 pm