

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Annual Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 27 May 2010 at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present: Cllrs. R Wooddisse (Vice-Chairman in the chair), R Johnson, G Leach, B Plummer, G Rice, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell), and four members of the public.

1. **An apology for absence** was received from Cllr G Smith.
2. **Resignation of W F Brown**
A letter from Cllr Brown in which he tendered his resignation from the Council with immediate effect was tabled. It was resolved that this be noted with regret and that a vote of thanks for his service as a councillor for nine years and as Chairman for the past year be recorded.
3. **Election of Chairman**
As no member present was prepared to accept nomination it was resolved that the election of a Chairman for the year 2010/11 be deferred until the next meeting. Cllr Wooddisse agreed to continue in the chair for the remainder of the meeting.
4. **Other elections and appointments**
It was resolved that these also be deferred until the next meeting.
The Clerk pointed out that Cllr Brown had recently taken over the inspection of the children's play area. Pending appointment of a successor he offered to carry out the next inspection in order to maintain the agreed procedure. This offer was accepted.
5. **Declarations of Interest** as to personal and prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item – none.
6. **Public Open Forum**
David Henrick, Spaldwick Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator introduced himself to the meeting and explained the current activities of Neighbourhood Watch.
7. **Minutes of Meetings held 22 April, 29 April and 20 May 2010** were approved and signed.
8. **Matters arising from minutes** - none
9. **Finance**
To approve any payments due – none due
10. **Planning**
To consider any new Planning Applications - none
To note reports of LPA decisions (if any) - none
11. **Public Open Space as possible site for Village Hall**
To consider response to the Village Hall Management Committee.
The Clerk reported that a reply from the NALC solicitor was posted yesterday, but it had not yet been received. Copies will be circulated to members on receipt. A response to the VHMC was consequently deferred until the next meeting.
A letter of 19 April from several residents of Ferriman Road to VHMC Chairman, copies of which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting was noted. This suggested that all residents of Spaldwick are stakeholders and should be consulted on the proposed development and whether or not they want a village hall.

12. Parish Plan

Youth activities

Sian Hooban gave a brief report on progress to date. She said that the committee is discussing with the young people of the village, the school and the County youth workers the form the youth group should take and where it should meet. In the meantime it is proposed to hire the County Connections Youth Bus for 4 sessions during the summer months at a cost of £123 per 2 hour session. Spaldwick Fund Raisers have offered to pay for two sessions if the Parish Council will match this.

Sian said that the committee is hoping that the group, which will cover ages 8 to 16 will ultimately be able to use rooms at the School, including the Community Room, free of charge although they understand that they may have to pay for the opening and closing of the school building.

Having received this report, Cllr Plummer asked that the Community Room Users Group should be kept informed of the proposals to use the Community Room and of any difficulties they may have in its use; and the Council resolved that it would fund two sessions of the Youth Bus (approximate total: £250).

Presentation to N W Hunts Neighbourhood Forum at Folksworth on 28 July

Cllr Plummer reported that the Steering Group will give a presentation to the Forum with a view to obtaining endorsement and support from the authorities represented on the Neighbourhood Panel.

13. Environmental issues

Litter Picking - It was noted that the litter and fly tipping in Cockway Lane had now been removed. A number of residents are currently picking up litter whilst out walking in and around the village, hence the streets and footpaths are now relatively clean. The Clerk reported that he was looking into the possibility of obtaining litter picking devices to help those who would find them helpful.

Planting at village entrances - Cllr Leach has discussed this matter with an "expert", and will report on his recommendations at the next meeting.

14. Correspondence

Circulated 13/05/10

The Clerk May 2010

Clerks & Councils Direct May 2010

Hinchingsbrooke Next Steps project update 12_05_10

Cambridgeshire Libraries Doorstep Service Information leaflet

Circulated 14/05/10

Notes of NW Hunts Neighbourhood Forum 19 April 2010

Notice re Green Heart Environmental Exhibition 5 June 12.00 - 16.00, Burgess Hall, St Ives

Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Schemes – 2011/12 Bidding Round

It was resolved that the Clerk should submit a bid on the same lines as last year, with additional supporting evidence on traffic flows and speed.

15. Any other business

New road surface, Thrapston Road - In response to an observation about the poor quality of the new surface, the Clerk said that he had discussed this with the County Highways Engineer, who explained that a new method of repair (RJ) had been used as a trial. It is noticeably bumpier to vehicle drivers, but tyre noise is less than on the adjoining sections of road. CCC Highways will monitor its wear properties during the coming months. Royston Avenue is also being resurfaced using the same process.

Notice Board in Royston Avenue - This board fell apart recently and is no longer in use. The Clerk stated that he had been approached by a resident of Spaldwick who has offered to repair it. Following a brief discussion the Clerk was asked to obtain prices for a new board to enable an informed decision to be made on the way forward.

Use of Community Room – In response to a query from Cllr Rice regarding the use of the room, Cllr Plummer agreed to speak with him outside the meeting.

Milestones - The Clerk is to ascertain the latest position regarding the relocation of the “Listed” milestones.

Bus Shelter - In the absence of funding from HDC, the Clerk has asked Luminus to consider making a grant .

War Memorial – The Clerk reported that due to other urgent matters taking precedence, he had no progress to report.

Grass Cutting – The Clerk was asked to ensure that the village grass be cut prior to the fete on 17 July.

16. Date of next meeting

Thursday 24 June 2010

In the absence of any other business the meeting closed at 9.37 pm