

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm  
Thursday 23 June 2011 at Spaldwick Primary School**

**Present:** Cllrs. G Rice (in the chair), S Jackson-Rimmer, R Johnson, G Leach, S Wakefield, the Clerk and 5 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** – were received from Cllrs B Plummer and G Smith.
2. **Declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item** – none.
3. **Public Open Forum** – The Chairman, having ascertained that no member of the public wished to speak on any matter other than item 7 (planning application 100849FUL), deferred the period of public participation to that point.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 19 May 2011** were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes** . none.

**6. Finance**

**Internal Auditor's report of 30 May 2011** . Council noted the contents of the report which include two recommendations . that the annual review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be minuted; and that members should satisfy themselves that there are no changes to the risk assessment and update the risk assessment document accordingly. It was agreed that these matters be dealt with at the January and October meetings respectively and recorded in the minutes.

**The following payments were approved:**

100472 F D Stowell, Clerk's salary & expenses, April . June 2011, £428.30 (inc £2.30 VAT)  
 100473 HMRC, PAYE April . June 2011, £91.60  
 100474 J C Shears, Internal audit fee, £50.00  
 100475 NALC, Subscription to LCR Magazine, £15.50  
 100476 Fergusons, grass cutting, £1422.72 (inc £237.12 VAT)

**7. Planning**

**Woolley Hill Wind Farm Planning Application** . It was noted that the HDC Development Management Panel held 20 June, at which Cllr Leach spoke on behalf of the Parish Council, decided to refuse permission.

**New Planning Application 1100849FUL** - Erection of a dwelling (additional to the four currently under construction), Land adjacent to 33 Thrapston Road.

The Clerk reported that he had received copies of 4 representations sent to HDC and a further 4 emails sent to the Parish Council, and presented a summary to the meeting. All respondents objected to the proposed development.

On behalf of the applicant, Mr David Mead outlined the proposal and offered to answer any questions

The Chairman then invited comments from members of the public. Mr Sturdy said that the 6 reasons for objection included in the Clerk's summary covered all his concerns. Mr McDougald pointed out that the advice he had received from HDC in 2007 regarding possible extension to No.33 was that the extension at the rear must not project beyond the existing sight line between the existing building and the church, and consequently it had to be narrower than originally intended. The loss of view of the Church from Thrapston Road without this amendment would have been miniscule compared with the loss of view resulting from the new proposal, hence his objection.

Following discussion by the council it was resolved to **recommend refusal** because of (i) the serious loss of view of the Church from Thrapston Road, which was the major factor in the 2007 application for an extension to the rear of 33 Thrapston Road being permitted only

after the width was reduced to avoid very minor interference with this view; (ii) inadequate parking provision; (iii) loss of privacy due to overlooking of neighbouring properties; (iv) loss of light to neighbouring properties; (v) noise and disturbance likely to a neighbouring property. HDC will also be asked to note that in the event that this or some modified design is approved it is considered essential that firm plans are made for the land remaining after the boundary of the dwellings plot is determined to ensure that it can be retained as open space in perpetuity with the public rights of way maintained.

**Local Planning Authority decisions** – the following were noted:

**1100210FUL**, Alterations 9-11 Thrapston Road . Permission granted

**H/05004/11/CC** . Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission H/05014/09/CC to allow retention of mobile classroom until 31 August 2013, Spaldwick School . Permission granted.

**HDC Listed Buildings at Risk register 2011** . The Clerk reported that he had received a copy of this document which can be borrowed by interested persons on request. It was noted that, in addition to the two milestones, there are 2 buildings at risk in Spaldwick:

Barn at Manor Farm House . category 1 (highest) risk; Manor Farm House . category 3 risk  
**Milestone (10 Thrapston, 7 Huntingdon)** . Cllr Leach reported that he, the Clerk and Cllr Smith had met James Simmins, HDC Conservation Assistant on 9<sup>th</sup> June on the Green outside Stanwell House in Thrapston Road. It was considered that a site near the South end of the Green with the front of the milestone facing Stanwell House would probably be the best location. Mr Simmins is to consult with CCC Highways. If they have no objection a firm proposal will be put to the Parish Council.

8. **Village Hall** . Cllr Rice reported that a response is still awaited from HDC regarding the proposed sites.

#### 9. **Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Commemoration June 2012**

**Making Spaldwick Bloom** . although not specifically linked to the Diamond Jubilee the Chairman agreed to take the following report from Cllr Leach at this point: A nucleus of people has come forward as a result of the piece in the June Spaldwick News and an offer of sponsorship has been received. It is anticipated that the matter will be pursued further in the coming weeks with a view to a costed proposal being presented to the parish council.

**Other commemorative possibilities** . Mr & Mrs Barnden have given some thought to their idea tabled at the last meeting to provide a view of Spaldwick through the Ages, and have suggested the following options based on this theme. Unfortunately their other commitments prevent them from becoming involved in any further development should any of these suggestions be taken forward.

1. Two plaques along the front of the existing memorial plinth illustrating points in history.
2. A parish booklet with input from all sections of the village with current and historic features
3. A frieze or display boards showing aspects of Spaldwick through the Ages, Initially this could be in the Church or Community Room and perhaps later in the Villager Hall.
4. Benches on Belton Hill and above Upthorpe Lodge looking across Spaldwick
5. Definition of a Village Walk with plaques at various sites illustrating village history
6. Planting trees in bulk or individually

It was agreed that a discussion on these proposals be on the agenda of the next meeting.

#### 10. **Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets**

**War Memorial** . awaiting survey of the memorial. Skillington Workshop of Grantham anticipate being able to arrange a visit shortly.

**Notice Boards** . Cllr Johnson reported that the notice board at Royston Avenue is now in place. The new board on the Village Green will be installed shortly. In the meantime he asked for a notice to be displayed on the old board stating that it is no longer in use and that notices will be posted in Royston Avenue only until it is replaced.

**Seat at Royston Avenue** . Cllr Johnson reported that he had treated this seat with wood preservative.

**Play Equipment Inspection 8/6/11** - Report from Cllr Rice received: Planting around perimeter has been cut (overgrown entrance path by Cllr Wakefield and the other shrubs by Fergusons); some rubber mats are loose; some mats can be lifted but OK for use. It was agreed to take no action prior to Wicksteeds annual inspection scheduled for 2nd August.

**Horse chestnut tree on Village Green** - Brian Ogden, HDC Arboricultural Officer was informed by email on 1<sup>st</sup> June of suspected weeping canker on the trunk of one tree and asked to examine it and advise what action, if any, should be taken. He expects to be able to arrange a visit to Spaldwick and examine the tree within the next 2 weeks.

## 11. Correspondence

**NW Hunts Neighbourhood Forum** – Folkesworth Village Hall, Thursday 14 July 7 pm

**Luminus Street Representatives** - Luminus is planning on establishing street representatives in up to 20 areas of Huntingdonshire who will report on a wide number of anti social behaviour issues such as fly tipping, litter, dog fouling, street lighting and abandoned vehicles. The Clerk stated that, whilst the scheme does not appear appropriate for small villages, a representative of the council is invited to a conference at Brook House, Huntingdon on 19 July. He is unable to attend due to other commitments and no member present wished to attend. It was therefore agreed that wider publicity be given in the village.

**CCC Street Lighting PFI Project** - CCC has obtained PFI credits from Government to replace about 80% of the street lighting in Cambridgeshire over the next 5 years. There are 64 CCC lights in Spaldwick. 17 columns have a life expectancy of 30 years . the lanterns will be upgraded within first 5 years of the contract. 47 will be considered for replacement. The new lanterns and lamps will take advantage of up-to-date electronic technology, improved light source quality, deliver appropriate lighting levels and reduce energy consumption

The proposals are:

A slight reduction in columns in most residential streets

Dimming (reducing brightness) of traffic routes at 8 pm by 20% and a further 20% at 10 pm.

Dimming of residential roads by 40% from 10 pm to 6 am.

Only standard columns and lanterns will be provided unless the parish council pays the additional cost (e.g. provision for hanging baskets, waste bins, external power sockets etc.)

CCC does not intend switching off residential lighting overnight. However some Parish Councils may wish to consider lights being switched off between midnight and 6 am.

## 12. Any other business

**Hand Hears (Bier)** . Cllr Leach reported that he and the Clerk had shown the bier to Canon Young this morning. He thought that, following the removal of further pews, the PCC might well be prepared to keep the bier in the Church when refurbished. Cllr Johnson will discuss the proposed refurbishment with a friend who may be interested in doing the work.

## 13. Date of next meeting - 21 July 2011

In the absence of any other business the meeting closed at 9.06 pm