

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm  
Thursday 23 February 2012 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

**Present:** Cllrs. B Plummer (Chairman), G Rice, G Smith, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell) and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Jackson-Rimmer, Johnson and Wakefield.
2. **Declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest** in relation to any agenda item . none.
3. **Public Open Forum** . no matters were raised.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 19 January 2012** were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes**  
**Spaldwick School Parking** . following the site meeting on 19 January, CCC decided to go ahead with markings outside the school to restrict parking. These are now in place.  
**Bier/hand hearse** – refurbishment by Walter Smith is well under way. Cllr Johnson has started to repair the shed. Permission to remove a nearby tree, whose roots are damaging the building, has been obtained from the owner.  
**Transport franchise pilot** . The Clerk is awaiting a request from Dan Clarke, CCC Future Transport Programme Manager to meet to discuss this project..
6. **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations** . There being no further comments on the proposed changes accepted at the last meeting it was resolved to make no changes to the Standing Orders and to amend para 7.2 of the Financial Regulations to read %Deductions from salary for tax and national insurance contributions shall be made where relevant in accordance with the PAYE system+.
7. **Finance**  
**The following payment was approved:**  
 CCC, Salt bin, Littlecotes Close, £114.00 (inc. £19.00 VAT)
8. **Planning**  
**New Planning Application considered - 1200184FUL**, two storey side and rear extension to property, 8 Ferriman Road. Following examination of the plans, it was resolved to recommend approval, there being no adverse effect on the street scene or on surrounding properties.  
**Local Planning Authority Decision noted - 1101444FUL**, Erection of 4 dwellings adjacent to 33 Thrapston Road (part retrospective) . Permission Granted 17/02/12.  
**Planning Inspectorate Decision noted** - Appeal against refusal of planning permission for dwelling to rear of 33 Thrapston Road . **Appeal dismissed.**
9. **Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Commemoration June 2012** . progress reports
  1. Making Spaldwick Bloom . Cllr Johnson had reported earlier that he expected to have the Village Sign surround completed in two weeks and the Jubilee Plinth surround about two weeks later. The Clerk was asked to speak to Trevor Cooper about the possibility of refurbishing the sign shortly.
  2. Bench on Belton's Hill . The Clerk tabled illustrations of recycled plastic 1790mm Phoenix Seats supplied by Glasdon. Prices ex VAT (complete with concrete surface fixing kit), including delivery are: Black or Brown plain plastic - £373.85 (without armrests), £412.58 (with armrests); Plastic, simulating wood - £435.77 (without armrests), £475.91 (with armrests); Engraved commemorative plaque £62.91.  
 N.B. Comparable recycled 1500mm plastic seats from GreenTech are £318 (without armrests), £336 (with armrests); Un-engraved commemorative plaque £47.50.

It was agreed to purchase a Phoenix Seat in Brown Enviropol without armrests at £373.85 + VAT including delivery when the site has been prepared to accept it.+

3. Village Walks leaflets . John Saynor reported that, due to recent and ongoing work commitments, progress over the last few weeks has been negligible and so he believes that it will not, at this time, be possible for him to progress this Jubilee project. He apologised for the lack of progress; but still feels that this would be a useful addition to village life. In the circumstances it was resolved to discontinue the Village Walk as a Diamond Jubilee project and defer it to a later date

4. Jubilee mugs . The Chairman tabled details of a suitable mug with personalised marking for Spaldwick Parish Council, at £3.15 each plus VAT and £10 shipping. It was agreed to order sufficient to give one to each child living in the village of year 6 and under (approx.100), plus an additional quantity to be donated to the Village Social Group to be sold or given away as they see fit. He envisaged placing an order for 150 but before recommending the final order quantity he will take into consideration the views of the Social Group and the price in respect of larger quantities. The Clerk was authorised to place the order taking these recommendations into account.

The Clerk is to invite parents of children meeting the above criteria to provide their details. Cllr Rice will make arrangements for distribution, including setting up a collection point.

5. Beacon - The Clerk was asked to speak to Mr & Mrs Ivell about the possibility of having a beacon on their land at Belton Hill on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

## 10. Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets

**Trees on Village Green** . In response to Council's suggestion that all 3 horse chestnut be removed and replaced together, or that if only one is removed now, it should not be replaced until the others have been removed at a future time, Brian Ogden had stated: %We would only be able to support the removal of one tree at this time. I suggest that the Parish Council remove and replace one tree now, and deal with the others as and when they require removal. This will ensure the future of the attractive trees on the green, and the views of this very attractive part of the village. I suggest lime trees as replacements for the horse chestnuts. Especially suitable would be a Tilia Cordata, the small leaved lime, which in this location should reach a similar height to the mature horse chestnut trees. This species would site very comfortably into the surroundings and be sympathetic to the adjacent buildings.+

The Clerk reported that a Tilia Cordata 4-5m tall in container can be procured for £225 inc. delivery and VAT, and that HDC can make a contribution of £80 towards the cost. However Bridget Halford has pointed out that large trees require very careful planting, staking or guying and a tremendous amount of water when they are becoming established - for the first two years at least. Success rate is very low with such trees for this reason.

As an alternative she can buy Lime trees of about 3.5 metres tall from HDC's current supplier. They have smaller root balls and are easier to handle. They also establish more easily and tend to grow away more quickly. Total costs are much less. She recommended that, as the ground is so dry, it would be wise to wait until the autumn to do the planting.

Following discussion it was **resolved** to place an order on the Tree Care Company, Eaton Socon for removal of 1 tree, grinding out the stump and filling with top soil, and dead wooding of the other two, at the price of £895. (This is the lowest quote, the others being £1100 and £1520). It was agreed to follow the advice to wait until the autumn to re-plant.

**War Memorial refurbishment** . The Clerk reported that the application for funding from the War Memorial Trust is proceeding but, to support the proposal, evidence is required that the lettering was originally filled with black paint. As the photos previously supplied to WMT showed no evidence, the Clerk asked for help in determining whether there are traces of paint still present. Cllr Rice agreed to have a look at the weekend and produce good quality photos to provide an answer one way or the other.

**Children's play area** . awaiting acceptance of order for path repair from John Henry Group; and revised quote from Wicksteed Leisure for repairs to safety surface.

## 11. Correspondence

**Secure Legal Solutions Limited** has asked the Parish Council to execute a deed of variation relating to a restrictive covenant on the land at the rear of 6 Stow Road to facilitate its purchase by the owner of that property. The text of the proposed Deed of Variation was accepted and it was agreed that two councillors would sign the document on behalf Spaldwick Parish Council, namely BERNARD PLUMMER and GREG RICE. The Clerk will inform SLS Ltd; obtain the formal document; get it signed and returned.

**Huntingdonshire Flood Forum, 24 April 2012** . letter circulated to members with memo asking for details of any known problems. The Clerk will inform HDC that there are no known problems. It was agreed to defer a decision on whether to send a representative to the meeting until nearer the time.

**HDC Consultation**, Draft Statement of Community Involvement (in the planning process), Feb 2012 . circulated to members inviting comments. No comments have been received.

**Wildlife Trust** . has requested PC help in managing a Protected Road Verge at Stocking Lane which, due to budget reductions and the need to prioritise road safety by cutting bends etc, CCC is no longer able to undertake. The prescribed times for the PRV programme are out of phase with the Verge safety cutting programme and cannot be combined.

As this verge is half in Spaldwick Parish and half in Kimbolton & Stonely the Clerk has spoken to their Parish Clerk suggesting that perhaps the two Parish Councils could cooperate in dealing with the matter. K & S Parish Council is also meeting tonight to consider their response. Council agreed that cooperation with K & S seems a reasonable way forward and decided to await their reaction before deciding what action to take.

**Cambridgeshire Constabulary** . The appointment of Chief Inspector Chris Mead as Huntingdonshire Area Commander in January was noted.

**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Councils** announcement that they have adopted the Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals plan and maps A, Mineral and Transport Zones; and B, Waste; and the RECAP Waste Management Guide as a supplementary planning document was noted.

**CAPALC** - Allotments Training Course - Saturday, 17th March 2012, £55.00. Details were circulated to members. Cllr Smith, being the only councillor wishing and able to attend, it was agreed that the Clerk should book a place in his name.

## 12. Any other business

**Control of Dogs on countryside footpaths** - Email received 20/2/12 from Mrs Helen Lock: %s there anything the Parish Council can do regarding dog fouling on my field. It is evident that walkers do not keep their dogs on leads and just let them run and foul over the grass.+ Council accepted the Clerk's proposal to write a piece in Spaldwick News highlighting the Countryside Code.

### Reports from the Clerk on external meetings

**Neighbourhood Forum, 25 January, Sawtry** - As usual most matters raised concerned Yaxley and Farcet. The top priorities for the Neighbourhood Policing team were agreed to be dealing with anti social behaviour in those parishes

**Parish Paths Partnership, 8 February, Brampton** - There was a useful exchange of information between local parish representatives and the Rights of Way team. Amongst matters which came to light was in respect of Restricted Byway 14, Easton. Work is starting to mark out and improve the surface of this byway which starts at the junction of Chapel Lane and The Lane, Easton running in a NNE direction for 180m then turning to run in a NW for 225m to a dead end at the Spaldwick boundary.

## 13. Date of next meeting - Thursday March 22, 8 pm in Spaldwick School Community Room.

.In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.