

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm  
Thursday 22 March 2012 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

**Present:** Cllrs. B Plummer (Chairman), R Johnson, G Leach, G Rice, G Smith, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell) and 7 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Jackson-Rimmer and Wakefield.
2. **Declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest** in relation to any agenda item . none
3. **Public Open Forum** . The Chairman invited members of the public to speak at this stage on any matters of concern not related to items on the agenda.  
Mrs Appleyard stated that on two occasions recently she had seen lorries travelling eastbound on the A14 carrying out U-turns at the Easton junction which she considered to be extremely dangerous. The clerk is to report the matter to the Highways Agency.  
A Councillor also spoke of seeing one of Williamsqdrivers on his mobile phone whilst driving through Spaldwick. The clerk is to report this incident to their management.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 23 February 2012** were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes** - none
6. **Finance**  
**The following payments were approved:**  
100500 F D Stowell, Salary & Expenses Jan . Mar, £399.67  
100501 HMRC, PAYE, £91.80  
100502 CAPALC, Allotments training course 17/03/12, £55.00  
100503 Spaldwick School, Room rental, £30.00  
100504 W B Smith, cost of materials for Bier refurbishment, £178.65 (inc £23.83 inc. VAT)  
**Village grass cutting 2012** . it was agreed to confirm acceptance of the CCC grant of £474.41  
**VAT refund from HMRC** . It was noted that £829.30 (i.e. all, VAT paid to end of February) has been refunded.
7. **Planning**  
**The following new Planning Applications were considered**  
**1200052FUL** . Erection of 2 bedroom dwelling, demolition of garage, outbuilding and shed  
**& 1200053CAC** . Demolition of garage, outbuilding and shed, Land at 8 Thrapston Road.  
At the invitation of the Chairman members of the public were invited to speak on the matter. Mr Traynor, whose land adjoins the site of the proposed new dwelling, reported that he had sent a comment to the LPA pointing out that the wall of the shed to be demolished forms part of the boundary with his land. The resultant gap would need to be filled.  
There being no other comments or objections raised, it was **resolved to recommend approval**, there being no adverse effect on the conservation area, street scene or on surrounding properties and that it is considered to comply with relevant planning policies.  
**1200250FUL** - Single storey side extension, 1 Ivy Way.  
Following discussion, during which Cllr Leach reported that he had spoken to the applicant about the chimney and had received assurance that it was a gas fire flue and its height would be adequate, it was **resolved to recommend approval**, there being no adverse effect on the street scene or on surrounding properties.  
**The following Local Planning Authority decision was noted:**  
**1102132FUL**, 32 Ferriman Road, Extension to rear of garage incorporating garage into habitable dwelling . **Permission granted**

- 8. Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Commemoration June 2012** . progress reports
- 1. Making Spaldwick Bloom** . the planting box around the Village Sign is now in place. Cllr Leach will arrange to have it filled with soil and will ask the Gardening Club if they would help in the planting and future maintenance. It was noted that the box to be placed by the Silver / Golden jubilee plaques will be made shortly.
- The Chairman expressed the Council's thanks to Cllr Wakefield and her father for planting the crocuses on the verge outside Manor farm house. They had produced an attractive display, which would no doubt develop in future years.
- 2. Village Sign** . Trevor Cooper reported that he will complete the refurbishment before the Jubilee Bank Holiday. Cllr Johnson reported that he will cover the wood at the base with a lead substitute to prevent water entering the gaps in the woodwork.
- 3. Bench on Belton's Hill** . at the request of the Clerk for guidance, it was agreed to obtain quotations for a single rectangular concrete base approx 5 inches thick, rather than 2 smaller pads under each of the seat leg locations as suggested by the seat suppliers.
- 4. Jubilee mugs**. It was agreed to accept the standard inscription proposed by the manufacturer with the name of the donor as Spaldwick Village or Parish rather than %Spaldwick Parish Council+. The price for a quantity of 100 plus is £3.15 + post & packing. The Clerk pointed out that VAT paid on the purchase can be recovered by the Parish Council if none are sold on. It was therefore agreed that a minimum quantity of 100 be purchased for free distribution. The Chairman will discuss with other village organisations whether they wish to order some at the same time in order to take advantage of this price. He confirmed that an order placed following the next meeting will still be in time for delivery to be made before the Jubilee Bank Holiday.
- 5. Beacon** It was noted that the beacon used at the Millennium is still available. Mr & Mrs Ivell have been approached regarding its possible location on the site of the old windmill at Belton's Hill. They would like to hear details before making a decision, but their view is that it is not a suitable location for a large gathering. A beacon lit by a small team may be acceptable, with the associated celebration, if any, being held elsewhere. The lighting time will be around 10.15 pm (the exact time will be given on 2 May if we register). Following discussion it was agreed that a working group could be formed to erect the beacon and to light it on the night. Cllr Johnson agreed to speak to the landowner(s) about the possibility of locating the beacon further east along the ridge so that it would be more clearly visible from the centre of Spaldwick.
- 6. Street Parties** It was suggested that it might be a good idea to have one large street party, probably in the High Street rather than separate ones in individual streets. Cllr Rice will speak to Lisa Hunter about moving the Ivy Way party and Kit Lee will talk to the Youth Group about getting involved. Other village organisations including the Social Group, Church group and Playtimes will be invited to a meeting to make the arrangements.
- 9. Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets**
- Trees on Village Green** . Order placed with The Tree Care Company for removal of one tree.
- Children's play area, trip hazards.** Order placed with John Henry Group for repair.
- Children's play area, see-saw safety surface.** Wicksteed have quoted £640 for short term repair and £1713 for complete replacement. A quotation is awaited for a repair kit only.
- War Memorial refurbishment.** Application for funding is proceeding. Cllr Rice has supplied additional photos to support the proposal to paint the lettering. He observed that there are clear signs of black paint in the lettering from the East side. There is possibly evidence of some paint in the North side.
- Bier / hand hearse.** The refurbishment is now virtually complete and all who have seen it agree that Wally & Sheila Smith have done an excellent job. A brass plate showing that it

was presented to the Parish of Spaldwick by Miss M A Busby on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1928 has been cleaned and will be refitted. It was agreed that a similar plate stating that it was refurbished in 2012 by Mr & Mrs Smith should also be added.

- 10. Wildlife Trust** . request for PC help in managing Protected Road Verge at Stocking Lane. Kimbolton & Stonely P C has considered the possibility of sharing the cost of maintenance with Spaldwick, but after discussion, during which 2 councillors said that until about 10 years ago there never was a protected verge there and, in their opinion, maintaining it as proposed was a waste of money, Kimbolton & Stonely P C agreed to take no action. Council considered the matter and resolved to advise the Wildlife Trust that it does not have the resources to carry out this work and does not consider it appropriate to fund a contractor to do so.

**11. Correspondence**

**Huntingdonshire Flood Forum, 24 April 2012** . it was agreed not to send a representative.

**Anglian Water** . A hosepipe ban being imposed from 5 April.

**North West Hunts Neighbourhood Forum** - Fourfields Community Primary School, Bentley Avenue, Yaxley, PE7 3ZT. Wednesday 4 April 2012 at 7pm . the Clerk, and possibly the Chairman, will attend.

**HDC Council Meeting 25 April 2012** . letter dated 18 January was sent to Chairmen of Parish Councils inviting them to speak on the debate subject ~~What~~ what will localism mean for our Parish Council+ and inviting other representatives to attend. No member expressed an interest in attending.

**Diamond Jubilee Picnic** which will be visited by HM The Queen - Burghley House, Stamford, Wednesday 13 June. Council is invited to nominate 2 people from Spaldwick Parish to attend the picnic, each of whom will be able to take a guest. It is important that those who play a part in the life of the community are represented. As a reply is required by 13 April it was agreed that a note would be circulated to all households in the village inviting nominations from which the Parish Council will select two to go forward.

**12. Any other business**

**Escape Youth Group** . Kit Lee gave a brief presentation on the activities of the youth group. He explained that in the first year they obtained a grant towards the running costs and grants from the Parish Council and the Social Group for visits of the Connections Bus. In order that their work can continue they need further funding in addition to the entry fees and would appreciate the help of the Parish Council in this respect. The Chairman said that the Council would consider a formal detailed request made in writing to the Clerk

**Damage to verges on road leading to Willow House** . Cllr Johnson reported that Mr & Mrs Wheeler had recently expressed concern at the erosion of the verges on this road due to heavy vehicles parking beyond the edge of the tarmac and gradually creeping further and further over the verge. They suggest that verge protection marker posts might help stop this practice. The Clerk will discuss with CCC Highways.

**Report on Allotments Course** . Cllr G Smith attended the course at Needingworth on 17 April. Whilst it was aimed principally at councils currently running allotments he found it very interesting and obtained information which will be useful should the matter of providing allotments be raised in the future.

**13. Date of next meeting**

Thursday April 26, 8 pm in Spaldwick School Community Room.

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm