

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 26 April 2012 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present: Cllrs. G Rice (Vice-Chairman presiding) G Smith, S Wakefield and the Clerk (Mr D Stowell)

1. **Apologies for absence** . Cllrs Plummer (Sick), Leach (Holiday), Jackson-Rimmer (prior commitment), & Johnson (family commitment).
2. **Declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest** in relation to any agenda item . none
3. **Public Open Forum** . not required.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 22 March 2012** were approved and signed.

5. Matters arising from minutes

Damage to verges on road leading to Willow House due to heavy vehicles parking beyond the edge of the tarmac and gradually creeping further over the verge. The suggestion that verge protection marker posts might help stop this practice has been put to the CCC Highways Officer, who replied %We could try. I will arrange it.+

Diamond Jubilee Picnic

26 replies were received in reply to the letter delivered to all households with a total of 47 nominations which included 18 individual names. Five of the 18 indicated that they did not wish to be considered. A small group of councillors met on 11 April to select two names to send forward to the Picnic organisers. The process included names being drawn from a hat and seeking the consent of the winners for the names to go forward..

The nominations finally submitted to the Lord Lieutenants were: Joyce Leach and guest (Grahame Leach), Kit Lee and guest (Sharan Jackson-Rimmer). They will be receiving their invitations to the event shortly.

6. Finance

Internal Audit . It was resolved to confirm the appointment of Jim Shears as Internal Auditor for the same fee as last year.

The following payments were approved:

100505 G Leach, Compost for Village Planter £12.00

100506 John Henry Group, removal of trip hazards, Children's play area, £409.06 (inc £68.18 VAT)

100507 CAPALC, Annual membership fee, £180.44 (last year £180.24)

100508 Fergusons, cut hedges & shrubs at Ferriman Road, £264.00 (inc. £44.00 VAT)

100509 NALC, subscription to LCR quarterly magazine, £15.50

Annual accounts for year ended 31 March 2012 . the Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer presented the summary Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2012. He reported that prior to the meeting these had been subject to detailed examination by Cllr Smith as a result of which several minor amendments had been made. Following the presentation and further examination by the meeting it was resolved that the accounts be approved.

Asset Register dated 31 March 2012 . the Clerk submitted a revised register updated to add the 2 notice boards and the planter around the Village Sign which were acquired during the past year and to increase the value of the recently renovated hand hearse / bier. The value of unused play equipment in store was reduced by an equivalent amount leaving the total value unchanged at £31677. It was resolved that this revised document be approved.

Audit Commission Annual Return for 2011/12

Section 1 . Accounting statements. The Clerk / RFO presented the certified accounting statements, which Council resolved to approve.

Section 2 . Annual governance statement. The Chairman read out statements 1 to 9 in turn, to each of which Council responded ~~Yes~~ . agreed

The Clerk / RFO and the Chairman signed both sections as required.

The Clerk / RFO presented details of ~~Significant Variations from Last Year~~ Statement of Accounts which will be sent to the External Auditor with the Annual Return.

Annual PAYE Return 2011/12 . successful submission on-line 12/04/2012 was noted.

Dispensation Notice to pay certain expenses without deduction of income tax . It was noted that a dispensation had been received from HMRC effective from 04/04/2012 **(it can be treated as applying from 6 April 2011 to avoid submitting form P11D for 2011/12)**

Receipt of half of precept i.e. £5150.00 was noted . the balance will follow in September.

7. Planning

New Planning Application, 1200407LBC, Change lead roof covering to terne coated stainless steel over south aisle, St James Church, Spaldwick. Following discussion it was resolved to recommend **approval**, there being no adverse effect on the appearance of this Grade 1 Listed Building or on the surrounding area.

The following Local Planning Authority decisions / reports were noted:

1200250FUL, Single storey side extension, 1 Ivy Way . **permission granted**

1200184FUL, Two storey side and rear extension, 8 Ferriman Road - **withdrawn**

1102077FUL, Erection of replacement electrical sub-station adjacent 11 Stow Road.

A copy of an objection submitted by Mr S P Foster, 5 Stow Road was received after the original SPC comments were submitted, and further SPC comments were submitted following receipt of Officers Report which recommended approval. The application was determined by the Development Management Panel 16 April - **permission granted**

1200053CAC, Demolition of garage, outbuilding and shed, Land at 8 Thrapston Road . **consent granted.**

1200052FUL, Erection of one 2 bedroom dwelling, demolition of garage, outbuilding and shed, Land at 8 Thrapston Road . **permission granted** subject to conditions including a programme of archaeological work to be carried out prior to commencement of development.

8. Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Commemoration June 2012 . progress reports

1. Making Spaldwick Bloom . the planter around the Village Sign has been filled with soil & compost together with token planting which will be increased at later.

2. Bench on Belton Hill . the councillors present agreed to visit the site at the weekend to clear and mark out the area where the concrete slab for the bench is to be located.

3. Jubilee mugs . It was resolved to place an order with the Commemorative Mug Shop for a quantity of 200 Regal bone china mugs, with gold rim and inscribed ~~Presented by The Village of Spaldwick To Commemorate The Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 1952~~ . 2012 at a total cost of £769.14 (including shipping £10.95 & VAT £128.19). The deadline for delivery by 4 June having been missed by 2 days, it was agreed that a later date will be accepted if the supplier is unable to deliver before the bank holiday.

4. Beacon - it was reported that Cllr Johnson has spoken to the landowner(s) about the possibility of locating the beacon on the ridge north of the village centre, but this has been rejected as crops are already growing there.

5. Street Parties . Cllr Wakefield reported that plans are being formulated for a party for residents of Ferriman Road and possibly the immediate surroundings, probably on the public open space south of Ferriman Road. In answer to a query regarding the whereabouts of a key to lower the bollard at the entrance, the Clerk said he didn't know but would find out.

Cllr Rice said he was unsure how the proposal for a party in Ivy Way is progressing.

9. Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets

Trees on Village Green . the Clerk said he was concerned that he had been unable to make contact recently with the contractor on whom the order to remove the first tree had been placed. Cllr Wakefield agreed to call at his address next week to make enquiries.

Children's play area . The trip hazards have been repaired..

War Memorial refurbishment . the application for funding is proceeding.

Bier/hand hearse . The Clerk confirmed that he had sent a letter of appreciation to Wally & Sheila Smith acknowledging all the hard work they have put into the restoration which has produced such a wonderful result. It was noted that they are prepared to keep the bier on their property until other arrangements are made for its safe custody.

10. Wildlife Trust, Maintenance of Protected Verge . The following reply has been received from Sian Williams. I appreciate that parishes have limited resources. Thank you for taking the time to discuss the issue and send me a response anyway, it's really helpful to have the feedback

11. Correspondence

Consultation on proposed Local Joint Committees . this proposal to replace the North West Hunts Neighbourhood Forum with a Local Joint Committee covering the parishes in the Ellington and Kimbolton & Staughton wards was emailed to members yesterday with a proposed response prepared by the Clerk. Comments are requested by 8 June.

12. Any other business

Stranger at Large . Tom Shuker reported that a stranger was seen walking around Littlecotes Close, Thrapston Road (including the close) and Pound Close, looking into gardens etc. on Tuesday night around 10 pm. He then got into an articulated vehicle parked outside the Agricultural Vehicle yard. The Police and Neighbourhood Watch were informed.

Tom also raised the question as to whether overnight lorry parking could be prohibited in the village particularly on the road leading to Willow House. The Clerk was asked to refer this question to County Councillor Viv McGuire.

Spaldwick Out of School Club

The Spaldwick Out of School Club which is housed in the Playtimes building is currently in discussions regarding the possibility of putting a portacabin (32ft x 10ft) on the school land. This would help to accommodate the needs of the older children by offering them a separate grown up area. Should the school not be able to accommodate it on their land, the Club query whether it would be possible to put it at the side of the Playtimes building on the community land. Cllr Rice expressed the opinion it would not be possible to obtain a variation of the covenant on this land to allow the erection of a building. The Clerk will advise the Out of School Club accordingly.

Query re placing of advertisement at 25 Thrapston Road

Colin Crane has asked whether the council would have any objection to him putting up a notice at this location advertising products which he can supply. Although there were no objections from the councillors present, the clerk will suggest that an advert in Spaldwick News might be a better proposition and that if he wishes to pursue the notice option further he should send details of his proposal to HDC Planning who will be able to advise on any relevant planning issues.

13. Future meetings (to be held in Spaldwick School Community Room commencing at 8 pm)
 Thursday May 24 2012 - Annual Parish Council Meeting
 Thursday May 31 2012 - Annual Parish Meeting

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm