

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 20 March 2014 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present: Cllrs. Plummer (Chairman, presiding), Jackson-Rimmer, Johnson, Leach, Rice and Wakefield and the Clerk (Mr D Stowell).

1. **An apology for absence** was received from Cllr Smith
2. **Declarations of Interest** as to personal and prejudicial interest in any agenda item – none
3. **Public Open Forum** – not held, no public present
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 13 February 2014** – were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes (not on the agenda)**
Road surface in Royston Avenue – awaiting Clerk's action
Sandbags for flood protection – awaiting Clerk's action
6. **Finance**
The following payments were approved:
 100575 F D Stowell, Salary and expenses Jan – Mar, £374.30
 100576 HMRC, PAYE, £92.80
 100577 Fergusons, pruning shrubs around Field and Play Area, £293.04 (inc £48.84 VAT)
 100578 Spaldwick School, room rental, Jan – Mar, £18.00
 100579 T & S Garden & Grounds, Repairs to safety tiles, £485.00
 100580 Cambs County Council, Street Light Energy, Apr–Sep 2013, £23.27 (inv.£3.88 VAT)
7. **Planning**
The following application was considered
1400095FUL, Erection of one turbine, dimensions 25m to tip, 18.3m to hub, output of 11KW and small control box, Glebe Farm Barham Road. It was resolved to recommend approval because the proposed turbine will contribute to the national renewable energy target without having any adverse effect on the surrounding area.
To note any Local Planning Authority decisions / reports – none relevant to Spaldwick.
8. **Assets – Provision / Maintenance**
War Memorial Refurbishment – nothing to report.
Seat on Green – awaiting painting
Children's Play Area - the repairs to the safety surface were completed on 5 March. Fergusons will trim the hedge adjacent to No. 23 Ferriman Road very shortly.
Notice boards – the problem caused by swelling of the wood has temporarily gone away, but action is required to prevent a recurrence. Cllr Jonson reported that he had obtained some material from which to produce a backing board to facilitate the use of drawing pins. This will be installed shortly.
9. **Highways, footpaths, byways etc.**
Street Lighting PFI – nothing to report
Village Grass Cutting – The costs for adding further areas to the contract are awaited.
Local Highway Improvement Initiative – It was noted that the proposals made in December (footway reconstruction 5 – 7 Thrapston Road, kerb replacement near High Street post box, 30 mph roundels on village approaches) have been approved for funding. The Local Projects Team will be in contact soon to start to prepare the projects prior to final budget approval by the County Council's cabinet on 15th April 2014.

Bus Service changes – The Clerk reported that proposals for making the services more efficient were discussed at the working party meeting held 12 March – such as cutting underused services, removing unused stops from other services, making connections to the Busway to improve access to Cambridge and Peterborough. The possible pre-booking from some underused stops will be considered. The CCC team will prepare detailed plans for consideration by the group within the next 2 months.

Broken Railings over the brook (on concrete road, North side of the A14) – Simeon Carroll (CCC ROW Officer) has spoken to Mr Eayrs who said that he will patch up the bridge handrail. The bridge is probably the responsibility of more than one landowner so this is an act of goodwill on his part.

Footpath 15, North of new foot bridge – Mr Carroll has reported that the missing link to the onward paths to Barham Road and Woolley will be marked by the farmer later this week.

Footpath 12 between Spaldwick and Easton - CCC have recently replaced the footbridge and installed 2 kissing gates to replace stiles.

Cockway Lane between Mount Pleasant, Spaldwick and Station Road, Tilbrook – CCC has engaged a contractor to carry out some improvements. Some scrub clearance with various bits of surface improvement will be taking place as ground conditions allow. Some road planings will be put down on the very muddy section close to Little Catworth and around the side of the vehicle gate at the Spaldwick end.

Byways open to all traffic – Cockway Lane and the spur to Stow Longa, Spaldwick to Easton, and Belton's Hill to Leighton Bromswold are among those included in proposed Orders prohibiting driving between 1 October and 30 April **or when the barriers are locked shut** except for permit holders, thus preventing damage to the Byways as they will be closed during periods of poor weather or when there is a likelihood of damage occurring.

Following discussion it was resolved to inform CCC that the Council had no objection to the revised wording of the orders but ask that consideration be given to controlling the circumstances during May to September when the barriers can be closed and when they must be re-opened.

Construction of footways adjacent to buildings – Cllr Leach raised the question of damp affecting High Street buildings which he believes to be the result of footways having been constructed and/or maintained incorrectly. This Clerk is to ask County Highways for its comments on this matter.

10. Correspondence

Better Care Fund – integrating health and social care authorities - views of individuals using services, carers and other interested persons are being sought at events including Monday 24 March 5-7 pm, at The Maple Centre, Huntingdon.

Parish Council Representation on Local Strategic Partnership Growth & Infrastructure Group – CAPALC is seeking nominations by 26 March for this vacancy. No member wished to be nominated.

Public consultation on proposals to improve older people's healthcare and adult community services began 17 March - Public meetings include Thursday 8 May, Commemoration Hall, Huntingdon 1 pm – 2.30 pm and 7 pm to 8.30 pm. Documents and questionnaire available at www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk

11. Any other business - none

12. Next Meeting – Thursday, 24 April 2014 at 8 pm

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm