

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 17 July 2014 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

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

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from Cllrs Jackson-Rimmer and Rice.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

A) Cllr Leach declared an interest in respect of item 6, ref 100592.

B) Outstanding Declarations of Interest Forms were received from members.

3. **Public Open Forum** - not held, no public present

4. **Minutes of Meeting held 19 June 2014** were approved following correction to 'those present'; and to amend 'arrange a meeting with' to 'speak to' at the bottom of page 589.

5. **Matters arising from minutes (not on the agenda)**

It was noted that the bier was returned to store following its use in the Church for a flower display in connection with the Open Gardens on 22 June. Cllr Leach confirmed that he was in possession of the montage of pictures relating to it. He agreed to wrap it in bubble wrap and place it in store with the bier.

6. **Finance**

The following payments were approved:

100592 E G Leach, Bedding plants, £9.00 (inc £1.50 VAT)

100593 Spaldwick Primary School, room rental Apr – July, £18.00

Insurance Policy – Following a proposal from brokers, Came and Company, it was resolved to change the name of the insured from 'Spaldwick Parish Council' to 'Spaldwick Parish Council and Town & Poors Charity'. This will enable the Charity to be covered for its public liability risk as required by their tenancy agreement, at no extra cost.

7. **Planning**

The following Planning Application was considered:

1400903FUL, two storey side extension and single storey rear extension, 1 Pound Close.

It was resolved to respond to HDC as follows:

It is noted that a corner of the front extension is very close to the site boundary. Unless there are planning or building regulations, not known to the Council, which the proposal would contravene, Spaldwick Parish Council recommends approval as there appear to be no adverse effects on neighbouring properties or on the street scene.

The following Local Planning Authority decisions/reports were noted

1301600FUL, Extension to rear of dwelling, erection of detached garage and demolition of single storey outbuilding, 9-11 Thrapston Road – Permission granted, subject to the extension and garage not being used until block paving at vehicle entrance is constructed.

1400413FUL & 1400414LBC - Replacement of clay roof, installation of Velux window, rainwater goods and repair to dormer window, The Limes, 27 High Street – Planning permission and Listed Building Consent granted.

1408161COND, Condition information for 1400413FUL and 1400414LBC C2, C3 and C4, 27 High Street (sample roof tiles & details of proposed roof light submitted)

1400417FUL & 1400418LBC - Part demolition of front boundary wall, build new boundary wall with timber gates to vehicular access, and removal of yew tree, The Limes, 27 High Street – Planning permission and Listed Building Consent granted.

1400718FUL Single storey and two storey extension, new porch, alterations to front elevation and insertion of Velux roof lights, 54 Stow Road – Withdrawn.

8. Assets – Provision / Maintenance

War Memorial Refurbishment – awaiting drawing to enable negotiations to proceed

Footpath notice board – Clerk has still to obtain HDC comments on the proposed site.

Trees in Stow Road

A) Tree outside 23/23A – On the recommendation of Cllr Johnson it was agreed to place an order with Gary Butler to raise the canopy and reduce the overall height at a quoted price of £100.00.

B) Trees on verge adjacent to Bury Close - Cllr Johnson is to arrange a working party of councillors to trim these trees in the near future.

Cllr Johnson has also agreed to dispose of the cuttings from both A & B.

Horse Chestnut Trees on Village Green – The Clerk reported that a branch (2m long x 25mm dia) was recently broken off, possibly by a high vehicle. The subsequent discussion concluded that this was unlikely and that no immediate action is required.

HDC Parish Planting Scheme, Maintenance of trees recently planted

A) Belton's Hill – Cllr Wakefield agreed to ask her father to strim the area around the trees, and to speak to a friend who may be able to help provide a water supply.

B) Mount Pleasant / Cockway Lane – Keith Armer has kindly offered to water the new trees.

9. Highways, footpaths, byways etc.

Street Lighting PFI – The Clerk reported that he had attempted to get a stop put on the removal of CC5 and CC8 in Ferriman Road to give the Parish Council time to consider Cllr Wakefield's suggestion that these two lights be retained and that instead CC7 (outside 23) be removed and CC6F (at the entry to the public open space) be considered for adoption by the Parish Council. In the event, this was not possible and the work as proposed by BalfourBeatty was carried out. In retrospect, Cllr Wakefield said she is now of the opinion that when all the new lights are lit the road will be adequately illuminated. The scheme for High Street is still awaited from BB.

Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2014/15 – plans for the footway work outside 5/7 Thrapston Road are awaited from CCC. The repairs to the kerb near the High Street post box and the 30 mph roundels are expected to be carried out shortly.

Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2015/16 – Consideration of any proposals received
Only one resident has contacted the Clerk, the suggestions being:

A) anything that would reduce speeding vehicles through the village e.g. speed monitoring and notification devices, pinch points, priority arrangements, but no speed bumps/cushions.

B) reduce the number of heavy lorries by signage e.g access only, and restrict the times (many residents are woken and disturbed by the noise early in the morning) and especially, stop Williams using the village to turn round on the A14.

Following discussion, it was resolved to pursue the provision of 30 mph flashing signs. The Clerk will obtain costs to enable a decision to be taken at the next meeting on whether to submit an application for this or some other project which may be brought to that meeting.

10. Bus Service changes

The Clerk reported that although unable to attend the Working Group meeting on 1 July, he had submitted responses to the options developed by the CCC Community Engagement Team following consultation with several local bus users. The team had agreed to take these into consideration at the meeting. These responses included support for continuing the existing Mon – Sat 7.50 am service from Spaldwick via Stow Longa to Huntingdon with a return journey at 5.40 pm, and support for a Mon – Fri mid morning service to Huntingdon returning 2 hours later, but preferably also operating on Saturdays. This would give connections to / from Cambridge, Peterborough and St Ives allowing return from Huntingdon at 5.40 pm.

11. Village Grass Cutting

A) It was noted that a resident had requested that the grass is cut right up to the hedge on Stow Road adjacent to Bury Close. It was agreed to defer taking any action until the trees in the area had been cut back.

B) It was noted that the uncut long grass obscuring the line of sight of drivers leaving Ivy Way has been cut back by 2 residents. The PC contractor will be asked to cut this area further back from the carriageway in future.

12. Water courses, drainage and flood risk measures – to receive progress reports

A) Ditch adjacent to Willow House connecting 'sheep field' to the Brook - The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Cllr Mike Baker who said that his team will continue with clearing this during the school holidays. Cllr Baker will also be asked to investigate the source of a foul smell in the area.

B) Tree in Brook north of A14 crossing - this is still a potential hazard. Cllr Baker had said he would ask the IDB to report the problem to the Environment Agency. The current position is not known. The Clerk will investigate.

C) Provision of Sandbags - As the Clerk has had no response from HDC, he will chase again.

13. Community Enhancement Proposal – A resident's suggestion for the "provision of allotments, or the development of the community field at the rear of Ferriman Road into an area with a purpose for our young people (similar and smaller to that at the memorial centre at Brampton)" was noted. Following discussion, in which members suggested various improvements to the field including the installation of picnic tables and provision of more trees it was decided as a first step to ascertain from whom permission to make alterations would be required. Cllr Wakefield agreed to establish the current ownership of the developers. The Clerk will search for details of the relevant covenants.

14. Correspondence

Hunts Communities First Workshop, 24th July – no members are able to attend.

Email from resident re Jackdaws asking: "can something be done about the increasing number of jackdaws, the noise at times is most annoying and disturbing and they are nesting in chimneys and just generally being a nuisance". The Clerk was asked to contact HDC for advice and/or assistance in reducing the problem.

15. Any other business

Superfast Broadband – Cllr Leach wished to put on record his thanks to Mark Heath for pioneering the provision of the service locally.

Advertisements on Village Green – Whilst there was no objection to adverts relating to village matters, those from outside organisations will be removed.

Woolley Hill Wind Farm progress – Cllr Plummer reported that on the previous day he had participated in a site visit arranged for Community Liaison Group members to view the progress to date. Work has started on the foundations for all 4 turbines which are currently at different stages of construction. It is anticipated that the turbines will be delivered in October.

16. Next Meeting – Thursday, 11 September 2014 at 8 pm

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.