

# SPALDWICK PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR: Sharan Jackson-Rimmer

Clerk to the Council:  
Mrs Sarah Cardwell  
63 Highfield Avenue  
Alconbury Weston  
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[www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk/](http://www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk/)

## NOTES

From **Spaldwick's Annual Parish Meeting/Assembly** held on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024** straight after the Annual Meeting of Spaldwick Parish Council at **Spaldwick Community Room**, Spaldwick Primary School.

Present: S Jackson-Rimmer (Chair), W Burcham (Vice-Chair), S Parfrey, J O' Dwyer, G Rice, S Isaac, S. Cardwell (Clerk) and 4 Members of the Public.

### 1. Welcome by the Chair

Sharan Jackson-Rimmer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. To receive apologies for absence

M Ager (footpaths coordinator), Chris Hubbard (Spaldwick News), L Worrell (Spaldwick School), Reverend Howson (St James' Church), D Henrick (Neighbourhood Watch), G Smith (SCAA), K Judge (Playtimes).

### 3. Notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023

*Copies of the Notes of the Annual Parish Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 are on the Parish website and noticeboard*  
It was resolved to approve and sign the notes.

### 4. To receive Parish Council Chair's report

Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer read out the attached report that she had pre-prepared.

### 5. District and County Councillor Report

Cllr Gardener had sent apologies.

### 6. Financial Report

The Clerk confirmed the Internal audit is still to be completed and the AGAR 9annual return) will be signed-off next meeting accordingly. The precept (£10,780) has been received for this year and the main account balance is £59,468.99.

### 7. To receive Village Representatives reports

- A Martin from Cambridgeshire police addressed the meeting explaining her and her team's role along with details of recent crimes committed in Spaldwick. Going forward, priorities raised by the public are parking and speeding, and, Raised by young people, knife and drugs crime. The next quarterly online community meeting is planned for 11<sup>th</sup> June. She closed by urging people to continue reporting crimes via 101 as this helps the police build a picture of the situation (any links between local crimes can also be reported to Sergeant Martin).
- L Player from Spaldwick Social Events Team addressed the meeting, first stating that the village Youth Club is hoping to restart, perhaps in September, especially as there are not many clubs locally. The Spaldwick Social Events Team are looking to arrange a summer event for the village, a cheese and wine evening and a Christmas activity; at Easter they provided Easter eggs and put on Arts and Crafts for the PCC and Common Ground groups. They are currently working on a survey to see what people in the village want, and to gather age ranges and contact details. They are looking for 'street champions' to spread the workload and ensure spokespeople from different areas of the village. There will be a QR code and details on the website.

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- W Birks from the Common Ground Group addressed the meeting detailing the objectives of the group (as registered with the Charity Commission) and explaining their wish to protect the space for worship within the Church, whilst widening its uses too as a community space. This would include meetings and activities with flexible seating and table arrangements, along with a servery, disabled WC, lift to a mezzanine gallery and storage space. Common Ground have been working closely with the Parochial Church Council to establish terms of a legal agreement which encompasses the obligations of both parties (e.g. Grade 1 listed building considerations); consultation with local groups is also continuing along with long-term fundraising activities.
- Cllr WB read out an update from Spaldwick Community Allotment Association detailing their objectives going forward and thanking the Parish Council.
- Cllr SJR read out a footpaths update from M. Ager (attached).
- Cllr SJR read out a Neighbourhood Watch update from D Henrick (attached).

## **8. Public participation to raise any matters of interest**

### **9. Chair's Closing Remarks**

Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer expressed hopes for a good year ahead and thanked everyone for their support.

The meeting closed at 9.19pm.

These notes are considered draft until ratified at the next Annual Parish Meeting.

Chair: Sharan Jackson-Rimmer

Date:

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## Chair's Annual Report 2024

I want to start by thanking my fellow Parish Councillors for their support and help during the past twelve months; I couldn't have managed the last twelve months without you. I would especially like to thank Wendy for returning to the Parish Council and to Simon who has only just joined us.

Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, we have had a couple of Councillors resign. I would like to thank Uwe Braun for his valuable contributions, Steve Fane de Salis for his work as the previous Chair of the parish council, and finally to Richard Johnson for over 30 years of service to Spaldwick.

I would also like to thank our Clerk, Sarah Cardwell, for all her support over the last twelve months. I know it hasn't been easy guiding and supporting a new, inexperienced Chair but she has done a fantastic job in ensuring that the council runs smoothly and finally, to thank District Councillor and County Councillor Ian Gardiner for his vital assistance.

During the last twelve months we have continued to encourage drivers to stick to the speed limit in the village. The 40mph buffer zones on the entry roads to the village were finally installed in August 2023. And an additional Motor Vehicle Activated Sign was purchased and installed on Stow Road. We have also applied for Local Highways funding for a further MVAS on Thrapston Road, this application is ongoing but we are hopeful that it will be successful. We have also installed no parking signs on the village green.

The allotments continue to be popular and all the plots are being worked. Unfortunately, for the second time, the main gates to the allotments were stolen last year. New metal gates have since been installed. The charity field was drilled and seeded in September and we are hopeful that this will become a useful space for the village.

As a whole we have had a number of more mundane items to deal with for example we have had to change banks because our previous bank was not being very cooperative. We have had the issues with the changes to the green bin collections, the possible closure of Kimbolton fire station, the continuing disagreement regarding the development on land east of Ivy Way and the resolving of the issues regarding the Town and Poors charity field.

Looking forward to the coming year the Platinum Jubilee bench will be installed soon and some exercise equipment is being installed in the land next to Playtimes.

I would also like to thank all the individuals that volunteer their time to making this village a lovely friendly place to live, Neighbourhood Watch, the litter pickers, the lady that sorts out the telephone box library, the ladies that run the 60's coffee mornings, the Spaldwick Social Events team, the PCC, Common Ground Mick Ager for his footpath work, Chris Hubbard for the village newsletter and many many others.

Sharan Jackson-Rimmer

## Report from Mick Ager, Spaldwick Footpaths Coordinator

### SPALDWICK FOOTPATHS ANNUAL REPORT 5/2023 - 4/2024

Please see below a summary of the footpaths for Spaldwick during the last 12 months (with any updates from the HDC in italics).

No issues are currently outstanding but please see associated note for point (1) issues listed in reverse date order :

1). Reference: 00447691

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Date reported: 09/11/2023

Fault type: Damaged structure (e.g. Bridge)

Address: SPALDWICK FOOTPATH 10,

Location: Footpath 10 stile just south east of Horse style bridge

Description of fault: The Stile at this location has a loose tread steps and support wood is split and weak. ( update M Ager - I have been unable to verify this has been resolved but will check and re report if not)

2). 16/8/23

Fault type: blockage of fp70/1 (Easton) which links Spaldwick fp12 to Chapel lane Easton

Address:

Location: fp70/1 Easton ( reported by Easton PC, thanks)

Description of fault : Blockage - now cleared)

3). Reference: 00437697

Date reported: 17/07/2023

Fault type: Weeds

Address: SPALDWICK BRIDLEWAY 5,

Location: Path parallel to stream then river ( once over the horse style Bridge

Description of fault: Footpath totally overgrown, the whole length following the river towards the A14, 800 metres plus - (update M Ager note, completely cleared with heavy machinery the whole length includingl sloped banks leading to the river bed)

4). Reference: 00437681

Date reported: 16/07/2023

Fault type: Weeds

Address: SPALDWICK FOOTPATH 10,

Location: Just north of Spaldwick Parish church Footpaths 8 & 10

Description of fault: Overgrown with grass and weeds, difficult to walk from 25m south of metal FP gate in Thrapston Rd to 25 metres from the Pound Close road access, ( update M Ager - fully cleared within 4 weeks of initial report).

5). Reference: 00397500

Date reported: 03/07/2022

Fault type: Grass or weeds need cutting

Address: SPALDWICK FOOTPATH 12,

Location: Footpath 12 from high street spaldwick to 1st footbridge 400 metres

Description of fault: The field now has crops growing at over 900mm making it very very difficult to walk.

(update M Ager -The above issue was resolved when the field was harvested some 6 to 8 weeks later

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## Report from D Henrick, Spaldwick Neighbourhood Watch

Distributed 250 Neighbourhood Watch window stickers with Cyberhood Watch. Not many are visible!! We have only 3 members of "our watch" the Spaldwick group. Would like more residents joining the scheme.

I will continue to produce a monthly report for the newsletter – but NOT forever!