

## **Minutes of Spaldwick Annual Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm Thursday 10 May 2007 at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present : Messrs K H Armer (Chairman), W F Brown, R P Johnson, B F Plummer, J R Pope, J C Shears, R W Wooddisse, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell) and three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** - none
2. **Election of Chairman** - Mr K H Armer was elected unanimously.
3. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman** - was made by Mr Armer.
4. **Declarations of Acceptance of Office of Councillor** - were made by Messrs Armer, Brown, Johnson, Plummer, Pope, Shears and Wooddisse.  
The Chairman welcomed Mr Pope to the Council, and invited all councillors to introduce themselves to the members of the public who were present.
5. **Other Elections and Appointments**  
Vice-Chairman - Mr W H Brown was elected unanimously.  
Representative to Village Hall Management Committee - Mr J C Shears was appointed.  
Tree Warden - Mr R P Johnson was appointed.
6. **Minutes of Meeting held 19 April 2007** were approved and signed.
7. **Matters arising**  
**Boundary of restricted weight zone** - The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Emma Murden who promised to investigate. Her tech assistant came back suggesting downloading map from website, but this does not go down to the necessary detail. The Clerk has replied repeating the original question about the validity of the new 18t signs.  
**Jubilee Plaque** - It was noted that the plinth is now complete. Following discussion about a possible unveiling ceremony, it was resolved to delegate to Mr Plummer responsibility for making any such arrangement in conjunction with representatives of Spaldwick FundRaisers.
8. **Finance**  
**The following payments were approved :-**  
Cheque 100326 - CALC Annual Subscription £134.77  
Cheque 100327 - CALC Subscription to Local Council Review £13.50  
Cheque 100328 - R P Johnson Builders Ltd - Rebuilding Jubilee Plinth - £580.00  
Cheque 100329 - DJ & JM Green - Grasscutting April 12 (verges & greens) April 23 (all) - £208.70 + £36.52  
VAT = £245.22  
**Review of Bank Mandates**  
A & L Deposit Accounts - signatories K A Armer, R P Johnson, W F Brown - no change proposed  
Barclays Current Account - signatories K A Armer, R P Johnson, P N Racey - it was resolved to replace P N Racey by W F Brown as a signatory. **Action : Clerk to arrange**  
**Non-receipt of precept**  
Despite clear instructions that this year's payment be made by cheque, the payment was made by BACS to our closed account with Barclays. Barclays state that this will have been returned to HDC, who have promised to send a cheque in any event.
9. **Planning**  
**The following HDC decision was noted :-**  
0700838FUL Change of use of outbuilding to form office - Barn known as 2 Thrapston Road  
Permission granted subject to parking being provided as in amended drawing (HDC considered original proposal with the 2 x B spaces side by side in yard unsatisfactory)
10. **Correspondence**  
**Emergency Planning** - HDC and CCC are considering holding an awareness session for the benefit of all Town and Parish Councils in Huntingdonshire. The subject matter could be a presentation on the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and its impact on Local Authorities and Partner Agencies to ensure Integrated Management of the

processes for preparing for and responding to Emergencies. Other subject matter could be an explanation of the Risk Assessment process of any hazards or threats that may occur in the District and County. They wish to assess the interest in this matter and the possible number of attendees, before arranging a venue and date, probably in September. Messrs Armer and Plummer indicated an interest in attending.

**Action : Clerk to reply accordingly**

**CALC Huntingdonshire District Association** - 23 May 2007 at St Ives commencing 7.30 pm. Special Subject - Discussion on Parish Charter. It was agreed that the Clerk should attend. **Action : Clerk**

## 11. Any Other Business

### Litter

Verge between Spaldwick and Stow Longa. R Wooddisse reported this on 26 Apr.

Ditch east of recycling bins. Clerk asked HDC to remove litter 26/4/07. No response to date.

**Cardboard boxes adjacent recycling bins** - B Plummer reported problem on 22 Apr - Clerk reported details to enforcement officer along with further information which suggested that the boxes were probably dumped by an American serviceman moving into the area, and not by a local business. The site was cleared up within a few days. No response from enforcement officer.

**Litter Thrapston Road Verge** - Clerk reported that he had filled 2 black bin bags with litter collected on two days recently.

**Interactive speed signs Ellington** - As requested by the Chairman at the Parish Meeting, the Clerk spoke to Ellington Parish Clerk, who said that the interactive signs and a red rumble strip at the southern entrance to the village were provided under the 2006/07 JFMI scheme, the PC contributing £1 per elector. (They had submitted their proposal for 3 or 4 years before it finally got funded) They decided not to go for speed bumps after taking Grafham's experience (of having to remove them) into consideration.

**Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Scheme 2007/08** - In response to a question, the Clerk reported that he had not yet received information as to the successful bids, but will chase CCC. **Action : Clerk**

**Neighbourhood Watch** - The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Mrs Rutherford about the apparent slowness in re-establishing a thriving scheme. She said that it was hoped to make progress shortly.

**Regular Inspections of Play Area** - Mr Shears raised the question of the area and its equipment being inspected at regular intervals. He agreed to accept responsibility for carrying out this duty.

**Action : Clerk to obtain details of scheme recommended by Wicksteed.**

**Old Bus Shelter** - Mr Johnson reported that the shelter outside The George is in danger of falling over in the event of high winds. It was resolved that HDC Planning be asked to advise whether it could be removed without planning permission, taking into consideration its location in a Conservation Area, adjacent to Listed Buildings. **Action : Clerk**

**Replacement Bus Shelter** - It was agreed that information be obtained on the cost of a new shelter, and that possible locations be discussed with HDC, CCC and bus users. **Action : Clerk**

**Claimed Public Footpath from Cherry Orchard Lane, Easton to meet PF 12, Spaldwick** - Mr Brown reported that he had spoken to various people in Easton and had been unable to find anyone who supports the claim that a footpath existed on the suggested route. Examination on the ground suggests that a footpath is unlikely to have existed there. In any event the existing ROW (FP1 Easton & FP12 Spaldwick) is a more direct route to Spaldwick from The Lane/Chapel Lane. It was agreed to report accordingly to CCC. **Action : Clerk**

**Redundant traffic sign** - Mr Johnson suggested that the Children's Playground Sign opposite 13 Stow Road should be removed as it is no longer relevant. CCC to be asked to remove it. **Action : Clerk**

**Grasscutting** - Mr Brown suggested that the verge between 55 Stow Road and the 30 mph sign should be added to the schedule of areas to be cut. The cost to be ascertained. **Action : Clerk**

**Old Village Hall Play Equipment** - Mr Armer suggested that the slide and seat might be relocated in the Public Open Space in Ferriman Road. The cost of refitting the slide to be investigated. **Action : Clerk**

**Little Lemurs** - this is now thought to be a Registered Charity. If confirmed, the matter of a donation to be added to the agenda of the next meeting. **Action : Clerk**

**High Street Footway** - The Clerk confirmed that the footway currently semi-constructed is required to be completed before any of the 3 dwellings in Beech House Farmyard is occupied. CCC Highways have been asked to ensure that this requirement is met by the developer.

## 12. Dates of Future Meetings

Thursday 14 June 2007 at 8 pm

Thursday 19 July 2007 at 8 pm

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 pm