

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm  
Thursday 19 June 2008 at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present : Cllrs K Armer (in the Chair), R P Johnson , B Plummer, J Shears, and R. Wooddisse, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell), and three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs W Brown and J Pope
2. **Minutes of Meeting held 15 May 2008** were approved and signed.
3. **Matters arising**  
**Esso Service Station** - The Clerk reported that he had received no further response from ExxonMobil and still awaited a reply from CCC Highways regarding the entry / exit signage.  
**Compost Giveaway** - This had taken place on the weekend of 6 / 7 June, from 4 distribution points around the village. Most had been collected by householders, but additionally Cllrs Armer and Johnson had distributed some to elderly people and others who found it difficult to collect it themselves. The meeting thanked everyone concerned for ensuring a smooth operation.
4. **Finance**  
**The following cheques were approved for payment :-**  
100359 Hilary Shuker - costs of Parish Plan Steering Group inc. Questionnaire - £257.37  
100360 F D Stowell - Clerk's Salary & Exs April, May, June - £510.37  
100361 Wicksteed Leisure - Inspection of play area - £40.00 + £7.00 VAT = £47.00  
**Town and Poors Estate**  
The Clerk reported that the annual update for the year ended 31 March 2008 was submitted to the Charity Commission on 18 June 2008. He had certified that the information provided had been or would be brought to the attention of all the trustees (i.e. the Parish Council).
5. **Street Light in Church Lane** - The Clerk reported that the CCC Street Lighting engineer has advised that the cost to install one column with electrical supply will be £4719.26, but that CCC say that they could not adopt it as it would not meet the light levels required under BS and CEN regulations. CCC has subsequently been asked whether they could recommend a scheme that would, and if so whether it would meet the CCC criteria for adoption. If they can recommend a scheme which they are prepared to adopt, the Clerk will obtain at least two competitive quotations.  
The Clerk reported that CCC had advised that they can take care of maintenance and energy if not adopted. Currently the cost per light is £26.31 per year. Brampton and Buckden Parish Councils have also advised that they pay similar amounts for lights in their parishes which have not been adopted by CCC.
6. **Parish Plan** - Cllr Plummer reported that the questionnaire has been distributed and will be collected during the weekend of 28 June.
7. **Maintenance of Assets / Environment**  
**Inspector's report on children's play area** - The following comments were noted :-  
2.3m swing - recommend chain links & flat seat are replaced within 12 months - £90.83 + £40 to fit  
Shark / Dolpin see-saw - recommend broken dolphin tail replaced ASAP - parts + £80.00 to fit  
Cllr Shears agreed to obtain quote for the latter from SMP.  
Provision of a sign giving details of who to contact in case of an accident or damaged equipment is recommended - Clerk to obtain quote  
**Litter Bin on the Village Green** - The Clerk reported that a new larger, covered bin has been installed by HDC, replacing the old open bin.
8. **Planning** - nothing to report

**9. Correspondence**

**Provision of Allotments** - 2 letters indicating interests in obtaining allotments - It was agreed to defer discussion to see what response there is to an item inserted by Roger Haines in the July issue of Spaldwick News

**HDC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment** - information requested on flooding from field drains, road drains, sewers, ponding water from heavy rainfall, groundwater flooding etc.

**Post Office Closures in Cambridgeshire** - Post Office Limited is due to announce details of closures on 8 July. On Thursday 17 July, 7.00 - 8.30 pm, HDC is hosting a briefing session to which parish councillors are invited - to advise on helping people they represent deal with the effects of closures.

**2009/10 Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Schemes** - bids invited by 1 August

**Neighbourhood Policing Panel 17 June 2008** - Report from PCSO Anna Holder. The following priorities were set :-

Anti social behaviour in Sawtry & Stilton.

More in-depth community engagement in all villages, particularly rural villages. Officers will be conducting high visibility patrols in vehicles, on bikes and on foot in ALL villages. They will still be conducting speed checks in the villages.

SpeedWatch is being trialed in the Ely area - likely not ending for another 6 months, after which the results will be assessed and a decision made as to whether it will be launched throughout the County.

If the scheme is extended, all Parish Councils will be contacted.

**Community Life Awards** - reminder received that closing date for entries is 30 June 2008.

**10. Confidential Business**

In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of its confidential nature, it was resolved that the Public be excluded from the Meeting for the duration of this item regarding possible traffic monitoring. The members of the public then left the room for the duration of this item.

**11. Any Other Business**

**Open Gardens 15 June** - Cllr Plummer reported that this event had been very successful.

**Village Hall Management Committee** - Cllr Shears reported that he had attended a meeting on 5 June which was very productive. He will report again in due course.

**Spaldwick News** - It was agreed that the Clerk should circulate to members a copy of an Email received from Michael Townsend for discussion at the next meeting.

**Meeting with Head of Spaldwick School** - The Chairman reported that he and Cllr Johnson had met Miss Prior and had discussed the proposed target wall. Miss Prior agreed to provide a specification and cost. Regarding traffic calming, she does not believe that a 20 mph limit or double yellow lines near the school are desirable, but does support the idea of a walking bus to the school from the vicinity of The George.

Following a brief discussion, Cllr Armer proposed that if the Parish Council were asked to pay for the target wall, the cost should be spread across all Parish Councils in the catchment area; and that the Parish Council should advise Miss Prior of its concerns for the safety of children and car drivers should the school continue with the proposal to assemble the walking bus near The George. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Miss prior regarding the latter.

**12. Future meeting dates**

Thursday, 17 July 2008 8 pm

Thursday, 4 September 2008 8 pm

In the absence of any other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.22 pm