

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 4 December 2008 at Spaldwick Primary School**

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

1. **An apology for absence** was received from Cllr W F Brown.
2. **Minutes of Meetings held 16 October and 13 November 2008** were approved and signed.
3. **Matters arising**
 - Bus Shelter outside The George** - The Clerk reported that CCC Highways are unable to help with removal of the concrete base. He will now try to obtain quotes for the work.
 - Esso Service Station** It was pointed out that the recently repaired holes are returning. The Clerk was asked to take this matter up again with the operator.
 - Littlecotes Close** - continuing action to consider request for signs to discourage speeding / acceleration and / or put a note in Spaldwick News.
 - Flower boxes at entrances to village** - the existing boxes have been examined, and all three have disintegrated or are beyond repair. The Clerk was asked to obtain prices for replacements.
4. **Public Forum** - at this point the Chairman invited members of the public to raise any issues of concern. No matters were raised.
5. **Finance**
 - Clerk's Salary** - The Clerk reported that NALC / SLCC jointly recommend that an interim award of 2.45% to clerks' salaries should be implemented with effect from 1 April 2008, pending the outcome of the referral to arbitration. The result would be to increase the Clerk's salary on SCP22 to £10.068 / hr x 180 hrs pa = £1812.24 pa. It was **resolved** to accept the recommendation.
 - Receipt of grant** - the clerk reported receipt of £2250 from HDC towards cost of street light in Church Lane
 - Letters from John Blatch**
 - (a) indicating that shortfall on churchyard maintenance is £230.00. It was **resolved** to pay this amount to the PCC as it was within the amount budgeted for this purpose.
 - (b) confirmed that he will take over publication of The Spaldwick News; and discussed possible cost reductions and / or increasing sponsorship. He believes that he will be able to obtain sufficient advertising to cover the cost of production.
 - Mr Blatch was thanked for agreeing to produce future editions
 - The following payments were approved :-**

100370	EDF Streetlight connection	4488.50	including	668.50 VAT
100371	Wicksteed Swing repairs	214.28	including	31.92 VAT
100372	Wicksteed Inspection and Risk Assessment	83.43	including	12.43 VAT
100373	CountOnUs Traffic Survey	969.38	including	144.38 VAT
100374	F D Stowell Salary & Excs	570.76	including	5.32 VAT
100375	SLCC half clerk's subscription	41.00		
100376	A C Summerfield Grasscutting	3102.00	including	462.00 VAT
100377	M Sturdy Parish Plan costs	34.16	including	5.09 VAT
100378	MHB Services	477.76	including	71.16 VAT
100379	Spaldwick PCC Churchyard Maintenance	230.00		
100380	East Anglian Air Ambulance (LGA 1972 s.137)	212.50		
100381	Cash (Town & Poors Charity)	120.00		
 - 2009/10 Budget and Precept.** Following discussion, a budget as appended to the minutes, was agreed. It was resolved to set a precept of £9400.

Spaldwick School - The Head, Miss Prior, has asked on behalf of the School Premises Committee whether a decision has been made yet by the Parish Council with regard to a donation towards the grounds maintenance costs. This would be by way of recognition that the school playing field does provide for the village an outdoor play space open to the community. The Clerk was asked to ascertain what figure Miss Prior has in mind.

Security of Bank Deposits - The Chairman raised the question as to whether the deposits with Alliance and Leicester were covered by the £50K Government guarantee, as A&L is now part of the Santander Group. The Clerk to obtain confirmation.

6. Freedom of Information

It was resolved to adopt the Model Publication Scheme 2009 with effect from 1 January 2009. The Clerk submitted a proposal for the information to be made available under the scheme. It was resolved to adopt this also.

7. Traffic Survey - The results of the survey have been summarised and distributed to members. The detailed results (about 100 pages) will be passed by email to members where possible. It was decided that a working party should be convened on Thursday 8 January to discuss the results and make a recommendation as to how the information should be used.

8. Parish Plan - Cllr Plummer reported that the Steering Group had been meeting weekly and was hoping to be able to publish the results of the questionnaire in January.

9. Maintenance of Assets / Environment

War memorial renovation -The Clerk reported that he is awaiting an estimate from a stone mason.

Risk Assessment on Play Area - The Clerk reported receipt of the risk assessment from Wicksteed. The Chairman will examine it and make any necessary recommendations which may arise.

10. Provision of Allotments - a reply is awaited from a land agent who has been asked to advise on an appropriate rent for the Charity field. The cost of clearing the ditch at the bottom of the site is also being investigated.

11. Planning

Withdrawal of Planning Application 0802344FUL was noted

This related to Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings. Erection of replacement dwelling, 2 new dwellings and garaging, Land at & including 55 Stow Rd

Planning Application 0803330FUL

Erection of dwelling, land at and including 11 Stow Road

Although this had only been received on the day of the meeting, it was decided to deal with it immediately to avoid having a further meeting before Christmas.

After examination of the plans, it was resolved to recommend approval as the Council had no objections, and it appeared to satisfy the objections of the planning officer to the previous application for this site which had been refused permission.

12. Correspondence

Circulated 25/10/08

CPALC - Revised Constitution, draft Accounts 2007/08. Agenda for AGM 6/12/08

Cambridgeshire Together event at the Burgess Hall St Ives on Tuesday 2/12/08.

In the absence of any response from Councillors the Clerk replied to say that he will represent SPC at the latter. N.B. The CPALC constitution only allows clerks to attend meetings of the District Association, and then not to have a vote.

HDC report on Flood Forum held 15 October 2008

HDC letter re Gum Targets

Other Correspondence

HDC - Registration of Financial and Other Interests - Members are asked to confirm or amend their registration of financial and other interests. A form was completed at the meeting by the 5 councillors present. The Clerk will contact Cllr Brown later.

CCC Parish Paths Partnership 2009/10 Applications invited from Parish Councils and local groups wishing to protect, improve, maintain and promote the Rights of Way network. Applications required by 27 February 2009. CCC are prepared to send someone to PC to discuss how it might operate in this parish. The Clerk was asked to take up this offer.

Gypsy & Traveller Sites Development Plan Document: Issues Consultation: Workshop for Town & Parish Councils - the first stage in preparing a plan - how should size, location, and timing of provision be decided. Future stages will consider site options and lead to decision on sites which best meet future requirements. Consultation on first stage will be 16 January to 27 February. Workshop for PCs will be held in Council Chamber Wednesday 14 January. No representative to attend.

13. Any Other Business

Neighbourhood Policing Meeting at Sawtry 3 December

The Clerk reported that the following priorities were agreed for the next 3 months

- Speeding in all villages
- Vehicle nuisance to include anti social behaviour of vehicles and parking enforcement

The police announced that they would shortly be launching SpeedWatch in this area. Details would be sent to parish clerks shortly.

14. Dates of future meetings

Thursday, 8 January 2009 - Traffic Survey Working Party 8 pm (**not open to the public**)

Thursday, 15 January 2009 8 pm Ordinary meeting - open to the public

Thursday, 26 February 2009 8 pm Ordinary meeting - open to the public

Thursday, 9 April 2009 8 pm Ordinary meeting - open to the public

15. Matters relating to Spaldwick Town & Poors Charity (Public excluded due to confidential nature of matters to be discussed)

It was resolved that gifts of £17.25 each be distributed at Christmas to seven elderly residents of the parish. The list of recipients was approved.

In the absence of any other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.46 pm

Spaldwick Parish Council Adopted Budget 2009/2010	
EXPENDITURE	£
Grasscutting Village	1584
Grasscutting Churchyard	500
Insurance	650
Audit fees	200
CPALC / ACRE / SLCC / NALC	240
Donations	300
Rent of meeting room	130
Clerk - Salary	1900
Clerk - Expenses	400
Training - Councillors & Clerk	200
Cont. to minor improvement scheme	450
Mtce oplay area & POS (inc insp)	1175
Misc. / contingencies	2200
Total Expenditure	9929
INCOME	£
Precept	9400
CCC Grasscutting	614
Interest - reserve account	200
Interest - grounds mtce account	200
Total Income	10414
Balance brought forward 1/4/2009	52700
Plus Income	10414
Minus Expenditure	9929
Balance to carry forward 31/3/2010	53185
Projected reserves at 31/3/2010	
Grounds maintenance	20000
Village Hall & Playing Field	22000
Operating reserve	11185
Total reserves	53185