

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm  
Thursday 25 March 2010 at Spaldwick Primary School**

**Present:** Cllrs. W Brown (Chairman), R Johnson, G Leach, B Plummer, G Smith, R Wooddisse, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell), and three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** – none, all members were present.
2. **Declarations of Interest as to personal and prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item.** Cllr Brown declared a personal / prejudicial interest in the grass cutting contract, item 8.
3. **Public Open Forum**  
Two members of the public who have recently moved to 1 Royston Avenue said that since taking over the tenancy they had been informed that Luminus is proposing to build another dwelling on the site, and queried whether the Parish Council was aware of this. The Clerk said that the previous tenants had informed him of the proposal which had resulted in them leaving, but to date the Parish Council had received no notification of any planning application and hence had not considered the matter.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 25 February 2010** were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes** - none
6. **Co-option of councillor to fill vacancy**  
The Clerk reported that he had received one application, this being from Greg Rice of 14 Ivy Way. It was unanimously agreed that he be co-opted to fill the vacancy with immediate effect. Mr Rice then signed the Declaration of Office and took up his position on the Council.
7. **Finance**  
**Registration of Financial and Other Interests**  
Cllr Rice was given a form on which to register his interests. A similar form was given to Cllr Brown on which to register recent changes of interests. These are required by HDC Democratic Services Department.  
**The following payments were approved:**  
100415 Cambs County Council, street light maintenance, Church Lane, £48.13  
100416 F D Stowell, Clerk's salary and expenses, Jan – March, £560.97  
100417 Spaldwick School, room hire, £26.00  
**The following receipts were noted:**  
VAT refund £357.49 (this relates to all payments of VAT during 2009/10)  
Edwards Bros, rent of Charity field, £120.00  
**Grass cutting 2010 (Cllr Brown left the room for this item and Cllr Wooddisse took the Chair).**  
It was noted that the CCC grant of £632.55 remains unchanged from last year.  
It was resolved to await 2 further quotations before awarding the 2010 contract.
8. **Planning**  
**Planning Applications**  
No new applications or reports of LPA decisions had been received.

**9. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**

**Standing Orders** - There having been no comments from members subsequent to the last meeting, the Clerk recommended the addition of the following sentence to the end of the new paragraph headed "Public Participation in Meetings" (see minutes page 418):- "Members of the public are not permitted to speak except during the periods allocated for public participation."

Without further discussion, It was resolved to adopt the amendments to Standing Orders detailed on page 418 of the minutes together with this additional sentence.

**Financial Regulations** - It was resolved to accept the Clerk's recommendation made at the last meeting that no changes be made at this time.

**10. Village Hall**

**Public Open Space east of Playtimes building as possible site**

The Head of the Legal team at HDC replied to the Parish Council's query as follows:

"I note that the Section 106 provided for the transfer of the land in question "for use solely as public open space..." (paragraph (v) of Part IV to the Schedule) and that a commuted sum was also paid for maintaining the open space. Consequently if you plan to develop part of this area you will need to consider the legal implications of these requirements and you may wish to seek your own legal advice regarding these issues." It was, therefore, resolved that the Clerk should seek legal advice from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).

**Report from Cllr Leach, PC representative on Management Committee**

The committee members are currently: Eddie Roughsedge (Chairman), Greg Rice, Mark Heath, Mark Hunter, Mark Sturdy and Grahame Leach.

The Committee has decided to publicise the land east of the Playtimes building as the proposed site for the new village hall, subject to advice from various professional people and approval from the Parish Council. It has started discussions with the Local Planning Authority; an architect; builders of both conventional and timber buildings; and with village groups including school and play group representatives to look at the various options. The possible inclusion in the project of a Multi Use Games Area in the adjoining field has been discussed.

**11. Correspondence**

Notes of the Neighbourhood Forum held at Sawtry on 20<sup>th</sup> January have been circulated to members of the Council.

**12. Any other business**

**Water leak, Thrapston Road / Pond Close** - Anglian Water have advised that the leak near the fire hydrant will be repaired between Easter and 16<sup>th</sup> April.

**Collapsing road surface, Ferriman Road** - A section of the concrete surface between Nos. 6 and 5 Ferriman Road has broken away from the adjoining section and moves up and down when traffic passes over it. This has been reported to Cambridgeshire Highways who intend to organise the necessary repairs in April.

**Long Lane** - Cllr Leach reported that the first 50 metres from High Street remains very wet following heavy rainfall. This will be reported to Cambridgeshire Highways.

**Litter** - The Clerk stated that he would write a piece for insertion in the April Spaldwick News to invite volunteers to organise or take part in a litter pick.

**Cockway Lane** - The Clerk said that he had heard nothing further about the proposal for restricting access by vehicles towing trailers, but would chase CCC.

**13. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 22 April 2010

In the absence of any other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm