

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm
Wednesday 5 January 2011 at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present: Cllrs. B Plummer (Chairman), G Leach, G Rice, G Smith, S Wakefield, the Clerk and 3 members of the public..

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr R Johnson (sick).and R Wooddisse (holiday)
2. **Declarations of Interest** as to personal and prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item – none
3. **Public Open Forum**
No matters were raised.
4. **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 18 November 2010 and Special Parish meeting held 16 December 2010** were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes**
Trees in Long Lane – Wayne Stewart, CCC Highways tree officer has inspected the dead trees. A report giving proposed action is awaited – Clerk to chase.
6. **Finance**
Quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation at 31 December 2010
Deferred until next meeting due to non receipt of bank statement to 31 December
2011/2012 Budget – It had been intended to finalise the budget at this meeting, but as the effects of HDC and CCC funding cuts are not yet clear it was agreed that this be deferred to a later date.
The following payments were approved:
100457 F D Stowell, cash supplied for Christmas Charity payments, £120.00
100458 F D Stowell, Salary & Expenses. Oct – Dec, £501.40 (including £2.68 VAT)
100459 Spaldwick School, room rental, Sep – Dec, £18.00
100460 Spaldwick PCC, use of Church for meetings 12 April & 20 May, £20.00
100461 Cambs ACRE, Annual membership subscription, £25.00
100462 SLCC, half share of Clerk's annual subscription, £41.00
7. **Planning**
Consultation on new planning application
1001741FUL, Erection of 4 wind turbines up to 130.5 metres high and associated equipment for a period of 25 years, East of Whitleather Lodge, Woolley Hill, Ellington.
Prior to the meeting Councillors had carefully examined the proposal and its supporting documentation; letters from 8 residents giving their reasons for objecting to the proposal; and the views expressed at the Special Parish Meeting held on 16 December.
Following discussion it was resolved by 4 votes in favour and 1 against to recommend approval of the application.
Further discussion then took place, during which it was agreed to include caveats on the following matters in the formal response:
SPC does not have the expertise to evaluate the developer's statements on technical issues e.g. noise pollution, health hazards, effect on wild life. HDC has a duty to examine these and resolve any disagreement.
In view of the Wind Power SPD stating that there is room for only one wind farm in the Northern Wolds and that there are currently two applications being considered with others in train, HDC should determine this application only in the context of a wider view of the area.

HDC should ensure that traffic management during the construction phase is carried out in accordance with the plans outlined in the proposal and thus ensure that no such traffic passes through Spaldwick.

The following HDC decision was noted:

1001101FUL, Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings, erection of three new dwellings and garaging, Land at and including 55 Stow Road – **Permission granted.**

8. Village Hall

It was reported that the Committee has identified a prospective treasurer and expects to be able to announce an appointment shortly. The Chairman and Mr Roughsedge have not yet been able to arrange meetings with HDC or the agent acting for the owner of Bury Close, but hope to move a stage further shortly.

9. Parish Plan

The Chairman reported that the review of the Action Plan has been delayed due to the pressure of other business.

10. Environmental issues

Planting at village entrances – Cllr Leach reported that Sharon Piper of CCC Highways has said that CCC are now discouraging planting on the verges of busy roads due to the risk to the safety of personnel carrying out the routine maintenance. It was therefore resolved not to pursue this proposal further. Following several suggestions that planting elsewhere in the village should be considered, Cllr Leach agreed to look into this matter and bring a proposal to the Council.

Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Scheme 2010/11 – It was noted that the Clerk was informed by CCC Highways on 25 November that, due to some other parish councils not proceeding with their schemes, funding is available for the High Street footway between Ivy Way and Beech House subject to the Parish Council paying the obligatory £1 per elector by 31 March 2011. Following consultation with members of the council, the Clerk asked the Highways Engineer to proceed with the work, which has been on Spaldwick's bid list for several years and is allowed for in the current year's budget. Council confirmed its agreement with this action.

Land to rear of 14 High Street – letter of 14 November received from Mr S Foster, 5 Stow Road concerning a dead tree, possible asbestos contamination and other complaints regarding land which borders his property and which he has been unable to resolve with the owner. It was noted that the Clerk has asked HDC to investigate and help resolve the matter.

11. Spaldwick websites

Mark Heath, who owns the domain name spaldwick.com, sent an email to the Clerk and Cllr Rice on 8 October clarifying that he is happy to continue with the Spaldwick website with contents produced by himself e.g. photos of events and news and including the monthly issues of Spaldwick News and the Youth Group section. He will continue to provide a link to the Parish Council website and will post a note on the Spaldwick website when he is informed of new content on the Parish Council site. Cllr Rice confirmed that he is happy with the current arrangement and that a section of the Parish Council website has been reserved for the Village Hall Committee's input. The Chairman said that he will discuss the subject further with Mark Heath.

12. Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets

Notice Boards – the Clerk reported that Cllr Johnson had obtained a quote of £523 from a local company for an oak framed board with glazed doors; headed "Spaldwick Parish Council" and accommodating 8 x A4 sheets. Cllr Johnson had informed the Clerk that the board could be mounted on the existing single steel post at either the Village Green or Royston Avenue. Following discussion it was resolved that 2 boards be ordered from R B

Woodworking at a price to be negotiated by Cllr Johnson, subject to a maximum total of £1046. Arrangements for installation will be considered later.

War Memorial – awaiting visit of contractor to survey the memorial.

13. Correspondence

HDC Flood Forum – Thursday 3 March, Pathfinder House, 7 pm, one representative per parish invited – replies and questions by 4 February

Cambes ACRE, Parish Plan Support – Support no longer available free from ACRE, instead a paid for consultancy service is available. Dan Smith, Community Manager is overseeing parish planning at HDC.

NW Hunts Neighbourhood Forum – Wednesday 19 January, 7 pm at Sawtry Infants School – Clerk & Chairman will attend.

CCC Highways, Notification of Road Closure – Barham Road is scheduled to be closed from 17 to 28 January for sheet piling works. Diversions will be signed.

Speeding in the Village – email from Mr & Mrs Lake, 48 Stow Road regarding cars travelling at excessive speeds. Following an exchange of emails with the Clerk, Mrs Lake has volunteered to join the Speed Watch team.

Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust – Consultation on becoming a Foundation Trust – copies of document given to all present at the meeting.

14. Any other business

Christmas Carol Party – It was resolved to place on record the Council's appreciation of the work of the Spaldwick Social Group in arranging the highly successful tour of the village by Santa and his helpers who led the singing of carols by villagers along the route.

Street light, No 1 Stow Road – Cllr Smith said he had reported that this light was out 10 days ago but the lamp had not yet been replaced.

Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee June 2012 and Royal Wedding 29 April 2011

Questions were raised as to whether the Parish Council should commemorate these events and, if so, how. Suggestions will be considered at a later meeting.

15. Date of next meeting

Thursday 17 February 2011

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.28 pm