

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 20 September 2012 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present: Cllrs. Rice (Vice - Chairman, presiding), Jackson-Rimmer, Leach, Wakefield, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell) and 8 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs. Plummer, Smith and Johnson
2. **Declarations of Interest** as to personal and prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item . none.
3. **Public Open Forum**
Ian Hanks said he wished to raise several matters regarding Long Lane and Cockway Lane. It was agreed to take these under AOB.
Hilary Shuker complained about grass overgrowing the pavement outside a property in Stow Road. The Clerk will follow this up and take appropriate action.
4. **Minutes of Meeting held 19 July 2012** . were approved and signed
5. **Matters arising from minutes**
Protected Road Verge warden scheme . CCC are pleased that Cllr Leach has volunteered to be a PRV Warden. He has not yet received the scheme details.
Gas for Spaldwick . National Grid has been informed of the current level of interest. Comments are awaited from the department to whom the matter was passed on 25 July.
Footpath12 (opposite the petrol station) . Mick Ager has continued to liaise with the CCC Rights of Way Officer to try to remove the blockage caused by the growing crop.
6. **Finance**
The satisfactory conclusion of the External Audit on 16 July 2012 was noted
The following payments were approved:
100520 Moore Stephens, Audit, £162.00 (inc £27.00 VAT) Already paid to avoid 2% charge.
100521 F D Stowell, Salary and expenses July . Sept, £391.48
100522 HMRC, PAYE, £91.80
100523 Parish Online, Annual fee for mapping service, £12.00 (inc. £2.00 VAT)
100524 Came & Company, Insurance premium for year commencing 1 October, £424.69
Precept . Receipt of the second / final instalment of £5150 was noted.
7. **Planning**
The following new Planning Applications were considered
1201311FUL Retrospective planning application for first floor balcony to the rear, 9 Ivy Way
Prior to the meeting a letter of objection from Jason Pope had been circulated to members. He was advised to consider also writing to HDC.
Council, being in agreement that the only question to be resolved is whether the neighbour at No. 11 is suffering an unacceptable loss of privacy due to overlooking and that this could best be determined by Planning Officers probably based on established formulae, it was decided to advise the LPA accordingly.
1201357FUL Erection of a detached dwelling, revised scheme, Land at 19 Littlecotes Close.
It was noted that letters of objection had been received from 4 residents of Littlecotes Close. Several members of the public also spoke to the meeting regarding their objections.
After discussion, it was resolved to recommend **refusal** because the site is too small to accommodate the proposed dwelling which would be out of keeping with the existing spacious layout of the Close. The fronts of all the existing properties are set well back from the paved vehicle / pedestrian areas whereas this would be much closer to the footway.

The following Local Planning Authority decision was noted

1200876FUL Side and rear 2 storey extension, 8 Ferriman Road . **permission granted**

Woolley Hill Wind Farm

Three representatives of the developers, RES, came to Spaldwick on Tuesday to meet the Clerk & Cllr Leach (who in the event was unable to be present) as part of a series of visits to local parishes to report on the proposed programme. In summary the programme is:

Late Spring / early Summer 2013 . Construction starts with site preparation and installation of cables to connect to the grid

Jan / Feb 2014 Turbines delivered

End of March 2014 Site operational

RES intend to produce a fact sheet shortly which will be distributed to all households in the area, possibly through Parish Magazines such as Spaldwick News. They explained that Community Organisations, including Parish Councils, in the area will be invited to submit applications for RES funding of community projects. The Community Liaison Group (CLG) will be responsible for prioritising these applications and forwarding them to RES.

Council agreed that Cllr Leach will continue as Spaldwick PC representative on the CLG.

Amendments to plans subsequent to approval

Cllr Leach said he is not satisfied with the way changes are made to plans after they have been considered by the Parish Council or that building work is carried out in contravention of the plans. The Clerk said anyone having such suspicions should ask him to investigate.

- 8. Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Commemoration June 2012 .** progress reports
1. Making Spaldwick Bloom . Cllr Leach outlined his plans for maintenance and replanting.
 - 2 & 3. Bench on Belton Hill & Tree adjacent to bench at Belton Hill
- The Clerk reported that he had made no progress recently in marking out the site prior to obtaining quotes for installing the base, other than cutting back the grass etc.
- 9. Inspection / Repair / Replacement of Assets .** there was no significant progress reported on the following:
- Trees on Village Green**
 - Trees / shrubs pruning, Ferriman Road public open space**
 - War Memorial refurbishment**
 - Village sign refurbishment**
 - Tree pruning, Stow Road verge and The Limes, High Street**
- 10. Correspondence**
- The **Audit Commission** confirms the appointment of Littlejohn LLP as External Auditor for five years from 2012/2013, with a basic audit fee of £100 for income / expenditure band £10,001 to £25,000.
- Cambridgeshire ACRE, Localism Delivered: Autumn Free Seminar Programme 2012**
Councillors to advise Clerk if interested in attending any seminars (details with agenda).
- Hunts Local Plan Seminars .** invitation was circulated by email for councillors to attend one of the meetings on 10, 12 or 19 September. In the absence of any councillor able to attend, the Clerk attended the event on 19 September.
- The Clerk gave the following summary of the Plan which is being consulted upon:
- Housing - The Local Plan will supersede the current Core Strategy which planned for 14000 homes in period up to 2026. 9100 have already been completed or are commitments. The new plan covers the period 2026 to 2036 and is for 7275 . 11150 homes depending on the level of economic growth (the bulk will be at Alconbury Weald and RAF Wyton). Building in smaller settlements will probably be limited as in the Core Strategy.
- Neighbourhood Plans . whilst HDC is legally obliged to help any Parish / Town Council produce a Neighbourhood Plan, they believe that Local Council aims can best be met by negotiating with HDC Planning thus avoiding the extremely high costs involved.
- Employment . 85ha was allocated in the Core Strategy supporting 1300 new jobs. The Alconbury Enterprise Zone will add 150ha. and up to 8000 further new jobs.

The Clerk informed members that since attending the meeting he had received by email a copy of the Presentation which he has forwarded to them.

Consultation . All households will receive a leaflet inviting comments by 23 November. Drop in sessions where the consultation documents can be viewed have been arranged, including one at Pathfinder House on Wednesday 3 October (2pm to 8 pm)

Living Sports Awards 2012 . nominations invited by 4 October for a local person who has achieved great things or has shown significant improvements in their sport this year or a volunteer that has gone above and beyond to help promote physical activity. Members were given details of the awards. It was agreed that this information will, if possible, be published in Spaldwick News and on the websites to allow full public participation.

Consultation on Cambridgeshire's Strategy for Local Flood Risk Management and Flood Asset Register for Cambridgeshire – a copy of the consultation letter was given to members present and will be given to absentees later. Documents can be viewed and commented upon on line. The Clerk stated that in his personal view the strategy is fine and that he is prepared to respond to the survey as an individual, but will wait until after the next meeting in case members wish to have an input as a Council.

Regarding the Flood Asset Register the Clerk has asked for details of what sort of thing this contains. This will give the Parish Council some idea as to whether to provide information to improve the quality of recorded information. Whilst the fact that there is a Register, and its purpose and review procedures, are part of the consultation which ends on 14 December, the content of the Register is not and hence can be dealt with separately.

11. Any other business

Fly tipping . an incident on the concrete road north of the A14 near to Barham Road was reported to HDC on 22 August. HDC reported on 7 September that the case had been passed to the Operations Enforcement Team, but the rubbish remains on the verge. The Clerk reported that he had been told by the Enforcement Officer earlier in the day that he had been unable to find the rubbish despite having visited the road twice. After clarification of the exact location he will pay a further visit tomorrow.

Condition of Long Lane & Cockway Lane . The Clerk reported that he emailed County Councillor Viv McGuire on 14 September to enquire whether CCC could spread some hardcore to improve the surfaces which when it rains become very slippery even without 4 wheeled vehicles using the lanes; and to carry out maintenance of the verges which are becoming overgrown. In particular, the trees along Long Lane are overgrowing the track which in places is now down to a very narrow path with overhanging branches and trailing brambles being a hazard to walkers.

Ian Hanks told the meeting that he also had contacted County Highways regarding these matters and a large hump in Cockway Lane, and had been informed that someone from the West Highways section would visit the sites to assess what action can be taken.

Dog fouling . Several people spoke about this problem. The Clerk agreed to write another piece for inclusion in Spaldwick News and to look again at the possibility of having dog / litter bins placed at the High Street end of Long Lane and on Ferriman Road at the entrance to the Public Open Space. He also agreed to look at the signs relating to dog fouling and have them renewed where necessary.

Thrapston Road Archaeological Survey - A talk is to be given by Susan Clelland of Wessex Archaeology at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25 October in the Community Room. It was agreed that admission would be free but, in order to ensure adequate accommodation, attendees would be asked to obtain a ticket in advance. The Clerk is to procure tickets and publicise their availability.

12. Date of next meeting - Thursday 18 October 2012 at 8 pm

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm