

**Minutes of Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting held at 8 pm
Thursday 16 June 2016 in the Community Room at Spaldwick Primary School**

Present: Cllrs .Fane de Salis (Chairman presiding), Harriman, Jackson-Rimmer, Robinson and Wakefield, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell), and District Councillor Jim White.

1. **An apology for absence** was received from Cllr Smith (holiday)
2. **Resignation of Councillor** – It was noted that Cllr Wakefield had advised the Chairman prior to the meeting that she would be resigning from the Council with effect from the end of June. The Chairman said he would be sorry to see her leave and thanked her for her past service on the Council. A casual vacancy will then be advertised. If no request for an election is received by the Returning Officer within 14 working days thereafter, the Parish Council can proceed to co-opt a replacement. Her offer to continue as the Protected Verge Monitor at least until the next Annual Meeting was accepted.
3. **Declarations of Interest** as to personal and prejudicial interest in any agenda item - none
4. **Minutes of Annual Meeting held 19 May 2016** were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising from minutes (not on the agenda)**
Cllr Robinson reported that the Anglian Water representative who was planning to attend a meeting of the Council to explain the Pollution Watch campaign is not able to do so. Instead, she will come to Spaldwick at a convenient time during the day to meet him and any others who may be free to attend. When the date and time are known he will inform other councillors.
6. **Public Open Forum**
Cllr Jim White reported that following the election of Cllr Jason Ablewhite as Police and Crime Commissioner, the Leader of Huntingdonshire District Council is now Cllr Robin Howe. Jim's own appointments include membership of the Development Management Committee, the Alconbury and Ellington Internal Drainage Board and as Non-executive Director of Luminus. In order to allow Cllr White to inform the meeting of his views regarding item 12 of the agenda before leaving the meeting, it was resolved to bring this item forward to item 7.
7. **Availability of School Premises for Community Use**
Community Room – Following a discussion during which members and Cllr White spoke of their objections to the statement in a letter dated 4 June from Jonathan Smith (Chair – Board of Governors Spaldwick School) to community groups informing them that from August 1st they will not be able to use the school's community facilities during the day when the school is in operation (8.30am-4.15pm); and members heard that the Welcome Club had found it necessary to book the Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton for meetings after August 1st; it was resolved to write to the Board of Governors expressing the Council's strong opposition to their proposals.
School Playing Field – No problems were reported which required action to be taken.

Cllr White left the meeting at 8.40 pm after the conclusion of item.7.
8. **Finance**
It was noted that the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Return was published on the Notice Board and website prior to the commencement of the inspection period on 6 June.

It was noted that the Declaration of Compliance with the Pensions Auto-Enrolment Regulations was submitted to the Regulator on 9 June, thus meeting the deadline of 30 June 2016.

It was noted that a payment of £498.13 had been received from CCC for grass cutting in 2016.

The following payments were approved

100661 F D Stowell, Salary- April to June, £382.84

100662 HMRC, PAYE, £95.60

9. Planning

The following planning applications received for consultation were considered.

It was resolved to forward comments to HDC as indicated below

16/01035/HHFUL, 33 Thrapston Road

1) Extension to Rear LH of property. 2) Extension to RH side of property, including a garage.

3) Porch to front of property. 4) Oak coloured softwood cladding to Front, Rear and sides.

5) Off White Render to Front Rear and sides – **No objection. Recommend approval**

16/01050/HHFUL, 39 Stow Road

Single storey extension to the rear of the property, open plan living to include a kitchen. Loft conversion of kitchen loft to a bedroom/study, including a dormer window to the rear and Velux window to the front. Loft conversion of main loft to master bedroom suite, including a bathroom & Velux windows to front and rear – **No objection. Recommend approval**

16/01139/TREE, Old Rectory, Pound Close

T2 Lime: Re-pollard to historic pollard heads. Poor specimen suppressed by mature limes adjacent to it – **No objection**

16/01100/FUL, 12 High Street

Change of use of ground floor area from commercial/retail to private domestic use – **No objection**

The following developments regarding a previous application were noted:

16/00837FUL, 2 dwellings, Long Lane

The site layout plan has been amended to include the access from High Street via Long Lane within the application site; to alter the entrance to the dwellings from Long Lane by increasing the clearance with the tree immediately to its south; and to provide details of the proposed Long Lane / High Street junction.

The HDC Conservation Officer has recommended that the application is rejected as the principle, design and layout are unsympathetic to the character and appearance of this part of the Conservation Area, although she considers that the proposed dwellings and the road works as now proposed would not harm the settings of any listed buildings. She is of the opinion that the advantage to path users of surfacing the north end of Long Lane, and to the street scene of tidying up the muddy surface would not outweigh the harm caused by the surfacing to the rural character of the Conservation Area.

The Planning Case Officer is considering whether to re-consult on the amended application.

To note applications determined by the Local Planning Authority (if any) – none

16/01053/TRCA, T1 Oak: Reduce crown from building to give >2metres clearance. Maintenance T7 Yew: Raise crown to 3 metres. To allow light to understorey and improve appearance. **Decision** – HDC do not intend to recommend the tree(s) be protected by a Tree Preservation Order and therefore the applicant is free to proceed with the work.

10. Assets – Provision / Maintenance

The following updates were noted

Replacement of Playground safety surface - work had been planned to start today, a revised date is now awaited.

Climbing frame steps - Order placed. Proposed date for the work is awaited.

Application for grant from Transparency Fund – A bid has been submitted for a laptop £292, scanner £60 and software £100. Response expected 24 June. It was noted that the sum quoted for a scanner would cover an all-in-one printer/scanner, but printers are specifically excluded from the scheme.

War Memorial refurbishment – no update available.

Playground Inspection 16 April - The monthly report showed no change from last month.

11. Highways, footpaths, byways etc.

Village grass cutting - The map of areas the Parish Council pays to cut was examined. No changes were proposed for this year.

12. Bus Services - CCC poster received advertising new service starting on 25 July. There will be 2 journeys to and from Huntingdon on weekdays. All other services cancelled.

13. Town & Poors Charity – A request by the tenant for the rent of the field in Stow Road to be reduced from £752 to £300 per annum due to the reduced selling price of crops was considered. It was resolved to advise the tenant that the Council, as sole trustee of the charity, is prepared to negotiate a revised rent to follow the current agreement which terminates on 29 September 2016, subject to the outstanding rent of £752 for the payments which were due on 1 August 2015 and 1 February 2016 being paid shortly.

14. Correspondence

Local Joint Forum for Rural Parishes – Agenda for meeting on 24 May was circulated by email 17 May. The Clerk attended.

Cambridgeshire Highways Depot Open Day - Monday 18th July. 10am – 5pm (see email 27 May)

CCC Key Issues June 2016 - circulated by email 9 June

CAPALC Catch Up Day for Clerks and Councillors – Friday 15 July 9.30 to 15.30 at Bluntisham Village Hall, £30 per attendee includes tea, coffee and buffet lunch.

15. Appointment of new clerk – It was noted that one application had been received to date. It was agreed that applicants would be interviewed by the Chairman and Cllr Jackson-Rimmer.

16. AOB - none

17. Date of next scheduled meeting

14 July 8 pm, Spaldwick School