

SPALDWICK PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Steve Fane de Salis

Clerk to the Council:
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NOTES

from Spaldwick Annual Parish Meeting/Assembly held on Thursday 15th April 2021 straight after Spaldwick Parish Council's Meeting. In accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ("the 2020 Regulations") this meeting was held **remotely** by Zoom videocall.

Present: S Fane de Salis (Chairman), S Jackson-Rimmer, S Parfrey, W Burcham, S.Cardwell (Clerk) and three members of the public

1. **Welcome by the Chairman**

Steve Fane de Salis welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **To receive apologies for absence**

Cllrs G Smith, J Pope and R Johnson.

M Ager (footpaths coordinator) and Chris Hubbard (Spaldwick News).

3. **Notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16th May 2019**

Copies of the Notes of Annual Parish Meeting 16th May 2019 on the Parish website and Noticeboard

It was resolved to approve the notes (these will be signed at a later date).

4. **To receive Parish Council Chairman's Report**

Chairman read out the attached report.

5. **District and County Councillors Reports**

District and County Councillor I Gardener provided the attached report.

6. **Financial Report**

Clerk had circulated copies of the year end accounts and reconciliations to Councillors prior to the meeting and provided recent bank balances during the Parish Council meetings (£74, 749.90 in the main account and £1720.22 in the Town and Poors account on the 8th April).

7. **To receive Village Representatives reports**

Various groups were contacted by the Clerk prior to the meeting. Mick Ager, Spaldwick footpaths coordinator and Chris Hubbard from The Spaldwick News provided the attached reports which were read out by Cllr S. Fane de Salis.

The Reverend Philip Howson addressed the meeting providing an update regarding St. James' Church. He stressed that they are committed to making the church a resource that is sustainable and usable as a community resource and confirmed that the church is solvent and able to move forward thanks to support received from within the community and from the parochial Church Council. Rev. Howson explained that Spaldwick is a small faith community for a very large building. As it is a Church of England community resource he will be looking to investigate (long) leasing arrangements for the nave (central part of the church) to be developed as a resource for Spaldwick. To do this and to remodel the church they will need community support.

8. **Public participation to raise any matters of interest**

Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer noted that she and friends had enjoyed a Burns night and commented that a larger venue would enable greater participation in events such as this within the village. Cllrs S Jackson-Rimmer and S Parfrey both volunteered to be contacts to Rev. Howson

9. Chairman's Closing Remarks

Cllr S Fane de Salis thanked everyone for attending and for working together as a community.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

These notes are considered draft until ratified at the next Annual Parish Meeting.

Chairman: Steven Fane de Salis

Date:

Chairman's annual report

Spaldwick Parish Council express their deepest condolences to Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family on the death of His Royal Highness Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh.

As we all know the last twelve months have been a difficult time with many new challenges. We are grateful to those who have given up their time to assist others.

I wish to thank my fellow Parish Councillors for their help during the past twelve months, especially Graham who has decided to stand down after 11 years on Spaldwick Parish Council. By working together we will be able to deliver more for our community. I also wish to thank our Clerk, Sarah Cardwell, for all her work to make this possible and to thank District Councillor and County Councillor Ian Gardiner for his assistance.

After many years of speculation and deliberation over the best solution regarding the poor state of repair of The War Memorial in Spaldwick we submitted a planning application seeking permission to replace it. Representatives of HDC have since informed us that this will be refused as Historic England has been made aware of our intention to replace the War Memorial and have listed it as a grade 2 monument. We have since received communication from The War Memorials Trust asking what action we are taking to safeguard the War Memorial. This concern will be raised with HDC.

Work has been ongoing with regards to the creation of Allotments in Spaldwick and I am happy to say that we opened up the field to allotment holders in May and there has been a lot of interest and activity. Initially we created 24 allotments and this will now be extended to 28 with a waiting list. The area of hardstanding and the roadway between the allotments is now complete and we are waiting delivery of new gates to finish this project. The Spaldwick Allotment Association has been a great help in achieving this goal.

No Speedwatch sessions have been conducted during the last two years and In response to concerns raised about the excess speed of vehicles in Spaldwick we have undertaken to purchase a Motor Vehicle Activated Sign which will be moved between three sites, Stow Road, High Street and Thrapston Road. This device will log the number and speed of vehicles to assist with any future Local Highway Initiative bids.

Another project that is ongoing is the provision of a defibrillator for Spaldwick, we hope to secure funding in the near future.

Thanks go to Mick Ager the footpath coordinator for his work to keep footpaths accessible to all and to Ed Wooddisse for his time and effort to cut back hedges along Thrapston Road. I also wish to personally thank all those involved in clearing and improving the ground around the play area on Ferriman Road, especially Russell and Sheila, and Linda and Uwe.

Steve Fane de Salis Chairman Spaldwick Parish Council

Report from County & District Councillor Ian Gardener

COVID 19

The County Council would like to remind people that if they need help during this pandemic, they should go onto either the County or District website's or phone the Countywide Hub on 034504552.

In the Kimbolton & Spaldwick area in the last seven days there have been 0-2 people tested positive for Covid 19 therefore the rate per 100,000 population is not applicable

The latest information I have on the Coronavirus in Huntingdonshire for the period from 7th April to 14th April, is that there were 25 new cases over the last seven days. The rate per 100,000 of population is not applicable.

This is a decrease of 42% compared to the previous seven days. There were sadly however 3 more deaths in the last seven days, which were within 28 days of a positive test.

The online meeting with Shailesh Vara and I, the PC Chairman and Highways England regarding the improvement to the junctions on the A14 between Ellington & Bythorn/Keyston due to their lack of slip roads or short slip roads and poor visibility was held on Friday 26th March at 2pm and it was agreed to have Site visits to look at the issues and a further meeting with our MP once the site visits had been completed. I am arranging with Steven Thulborn at Highways England these site visits, which I hope will commence from the 10th May. I will keep the PC updated with the dates as they are confirmed

HDC Leisure Centres are starting to reopen, following their Covid 19 closure, please contact the Leisure Centre for more information.

The District Council will be starting to issue Business Restart Grants from Monday 19th April. The Restart Grant Scheme supports businesses in the non-essential retail, hospitality, leisure, personal care and accommodation sectors. This is a one off grant to reopen safely as Covid restrictions are lifted.

Highways England are moving forward with the dualling of the A428 between the Black cat Rounabout and Camborne. This will then create a dual carriageway from the M1 to Felixstowe.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener, County & District Councillor for Spaldwick

Report from Mick Ager, Spaldwick Footpaths Coordinator

SPALDWICK FOOTPATH REPORT 1stAPRIL 2020 -1st APRIL 2021

Dear Clerk to the Parish Council

Seven footpaths have had issues in the last 12 months, All of which have been resolved or have actions in place to resolve, with 2 ongoing which are listed in more detail at the bottom of this report.

RESOLVED

Footpath 12 & 13 These two footpaths close to Easton were initially overgrown and then partially reinstated but one on the incorrect line of the official path. The field has now been cleared and the paths now marked and follow the correct route across the field in question.

Footpath 15 - One Hundred metres North of the A14 was overgrown by the new narrow Foot bridge (built approximately in the last 6 years) over the water course. This was reported and cleared quickly by the landowner

Long Lane (from High Street going South).

Incorrect signage regarding vehicle usage was in place and is now in hand with CCC to re provide the correct signage when they become available.

A barn had collapsed and partially fallen across the lane but had been minimised not to impede pedestrians or vehicles. Cambridge County Council (CCC) now will include checking this site during future routine inspections to check whether this situation has worsened and therefore needs corrective action.

ONGOING

Footpath 16 (adjacent to the A14 Eastbound carriageway). Damage to the stile and partial removal of associated wooden fencing meant unimpeded access directly on to the A14 East bound carriageway. CCC have now escalated the report To Highways England (HE) who have visited site and prepared a comprehensive plan which would resolve the issue. Ongoing discussions between CCC & HE continue based on the proposed way forward of the following actions below.

1 Clearance of vegetation on the fenced path on the WB carriageway

2 Repair of steps on WB carriageway

3 Replacement of damaged fence on EB carriageway ***

4 Clearance / repair of steps on EB carriageway *.**

Key actions highlighted ***:

Spaldwick Footpath 10 (Bridleway 5, immediately North of the Old Vicarage)

The original stile was removed and not replaced over a year ago. A metal wire fence was put in its place forming a barrier that is not accessible to all and not fit for purpose (it did not allow reasonable access to the footpath). Walkers have either walked over the metal fence or passed dogs under it. Horses are currently kept in the field and a rope has now been placed across the site of the old stile making the footpath inaccessible.

ONGOING with the PC.

END OF REPORT

Regards

Mick Ager Spaldwick Footpath Coordinator

Report from Chris Hubbard, Spaldwick News

The last year has been a testing time for everyone in Spaldwick - whether self-isolating, shielding or dealing with the challenges of working from home.

I hope that Spaldwick News has gone some way towards keeping people in touch with their local community and maintaining the "village spirit", when we've not been able to hold events or meet as many of our friends as usual.

Key groups and organisations including St James Church, the Parish Council, Allotment Committee, Primary School, our Broadband Champion and Neighbourhood Watch have been a valuable source of information at this time - along with contributions from villagers who've been keen to share their own achievements and experiences during the pandemic.

Most of our 260 monthly copies in the last year have been printed, supported by local businesses, who value the importance of keeping communities connected - and for that, I am extremely grateful.

During "stay at home restrictions", copies have continued to be published online with help from Mark Heath at spaldwick.com

It's hard work putting each edition together, but I've had some lovely feedback from villagers - which makes it all worthwhile!