

MINUTES

Spaldwick Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21st July 2022 at 8.00pm in Spaldwick Community Room, Spaldwick Primary School.

Chairman Steve Fane de Salis

Present: S Fane de Salis (Chairman), W Burcham (Vice Chair), S Jackson-Rimmer, S Parfrey, J O'Dwyer, U Braun, District & County Cllr I Gardener, S Cardwell (Clerk), 3 representatives from Blenheim Realty Ltd and 31 members of the public.

22/7/1 To Receive Apologies and Reasons for Non-Attendance- R Johnson.

22/7/2 Declarations of Interests for Members (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests)- Cllr S Parfrey declared an interest in item 22/7/7.16, an invoice from his company.

22/7/3 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 16th June 2022- Cllr J O'Dwyer proposed signing and approval of the minutes as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr W Burcham and carried unanimously.

22/7/4 Matters arising from those Minutes- none.

22/7/5 Public Open Forum: Each person wishing to address the council will be allowed to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes subject to the Chairman's discretion. This part cannot be longer than 10 minutes per item.

- District & County Councillor I Gardener addressed the Council first thanking residents for their support reelecting him as District Councillor for the Alconbury Ward and confirming he is now on the Development Management, Overview and Scrutiny, and Performance and Growth committees for the district. He advised that he had spoken with the planning officer for the application in item 22/7/6.1 and the deadline for comments had been extended until 06/07/22 due to incorrect advertising of the proposed application. The new Shire Hall at Alconbury Weald was opened on the 8th July and will see £50 million of cost savings, including the sale of the leasehold for the previous Shire Hall etc. Cambridgeshire County Council has £60 million to spend on enhancing provision for Special Educational Needs including special schools at Alconbury Weald and Gamlingay.
The East is the fastest growing region in the UK and the 2021 census results show large percentage rises indicating previous figures from the Office of National Statistics underestimated the County population. Huntingdon library has a new Young Adult area and there will be overnight and weekend closures of the A1 between Wyboston and Brampton Hunt for Highway improvements.
Cllr I Gardener confirmed he had a meeting planned with Highways' Alan Trille the following day to discuss the A14 (Ellington-Thrapston stretch). There is also a Cambridgeshire County scheme to provide additional support for pensioners with a date of birth before 30/09/56, to help with the rising costs of living. This Household Support Fund can be applied for via the Age UK CAP website (Hsf@ageukcap.org.uk) or by calling 01223 221929.
- Two representatives from Blenheim Realty Limited then spoke regarding the proposed 20 dwellings and to disseminate the benefits they see of the application. They confirmed the application is for private (not social) housing, that will be sold at 30% discount from market value to help people get onto the housing ladder (with the criteria for the purchaser and the discount to be passed on in perpetuity). They stated that the need for affordable housing in the village was not currently being met and the development should help retain the younger generation and those that cannot currently afford to buy in the village, whilst allowing growth to help support village amenities (school, pub etc.). Half of the dwellings would be two-bed and the other half three-bedroom properties (18 semi-detached, two detached), all to a scale and in materials to match the architectural features of the local area. They noted the current footpath would be extended along the front of the site and that carparking had been incorporated for residents and visitors.
- Four residents of Ivy Way then spoke in opposition of the proposed application for 20 houses, each covering a specific area of concern. The fact that the proposed development does not protect the character of the existing environment (a regularly farmed green-field site), that it is outside the village boundary, that it could set a precedent for further developments, that it does not protect or improve the character of Spaldwick, that no solar or ground-source heating are included and that the majority of residents comments on the District Council website are against the proposed housing, were all cited as examples of the development being contrary to the Huntingdonshire District Council Local Plan. Safety concerns in relation to additional residents and the location of the proposed development were then raised, including pedestrians close to the A14 slip road (a recent accident occurred nearby), speedwatch figures which indicate the 30mph speed limit is regularly ignored, poor visibility and lorries which obstruct traffic flow in the vicinity, coupled with congestion and queues on the A14 sliproad entry to the village for the busy Applegreen site create a congested bottleneck which would also be exacerbated should the Easton-Spaldwick route be closed (as has previously been suggested). Flood risks were then addressed (the site

being 20-40cm lower than the Ellington Brook which floods), a high risk of surface water and run-off which comes from the A14, an existing flood path which runs from the Applegreen garage to Littlecotes (other end of the village), already inadequate sewage pumping capacity on Ivy Way (multiple ground floor toilets which regularly back-up), loading of East and West drains, the potential for additional water to drain into a site culvert which already requires clearing, a lack of review of significant flood risk and reinforcement of the sewage pump. Finally, biodiversity concerns were raised, with already extreme weather, the fact that the site is a popular circular walk that is well-used, but the footpath has now been obstructed by crop for the first time and two significant Ash trees have disappeared from the entrance to the site, concerns for the remaining boundary trees which could create a pinch-point but currently aid drainage, and concerns for rare species of trees, moths, fungi and birds present on the site.

- Additional issues were raised by 4 further residents including safety concerns, the speed of traffic entering the village where the development is proposed to be, potential insurability of the houses (should flooding occur) and water pressure.
- The representatives from Blenheim Realty Ltd then attempted to answer the queries and concerns raised detailing the procedures they must follow and guidelines they must adhere to. The proposed site is not in a flood zone and is under one hectare so a flood risk assessment is not required, proposed attenuation crates for the development could help the area, and Anglian Water and the Internal Drainage Board have no objections to the proposal (a contribution has not been requested for foul drainage capacity). After the HDC Local Plan was made, a statement was issued to sit alongside it saying New First Homes must be taken into consideration and these must be outside village boundaries and on land not for development. The Wildlife Trust is in support of the application based on the increased biodiversity of the site (trees etc.) and other consultees are yet to respond (solar requirement etc. might be introduced).

22/7/6 Planning

To consider new planning consultations:

22/7/6.1

Reference: 22/01167/FUL

Application Received: Tue 24 May 2022

Address: Land East Of Ivy Way Spaldwick

Proposal: Construction of 20 no. dwellings with associated access, car parking and landscaping

Status: In progress

- Following discussions, Cllr S Parfrey proposed the Council recommend refusal of the application based on the flood risk of the area, increase in vehicular traffic to the site and Highway safety; seconded by Cllr U Braun and carried.

22/7/6.2

Reference: 22/01117/CLED

Application Received: Wed 18 May 2022

Address: Paddock View 24 High Street Spaldwick Huntingdon PE28 0TD

Proposal: Lawful Use of Land as Garden Associated with Paddock View, 24 High Street, Spaldwick, Huntingdon, PE28 0TD; & Associated Lawful Development comprising a Summerhouse & a Children's Play Frame

Status: In progress

- Following discussions, Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer proposed the Council recommend approval, seconded by Cllr S Fane de Salis and carried unanimously.

22/7/6.3

Reference: 22/01427/CLPD

Application Received: Tue 28 Jun 2022

Address: Beech Barn High Street Spaldwick Huntingdon PE28 0TD

Proposal: Installation of solar panels and flashings to battens to provide an integrated appearance.

Status: In progress

- Noted, but no comments have been requested from the Parish Council.

Determined by planning authority: - all noted.

22/7/6.4

Reference: 22/01519/TRCA

Application Received: Fri 08 Jul 2022

Address: The Old Stables 3 High Street Spaldwick PE28 0TD

Proposal: DD. 1 x dead Crack Willow (T1) & 3 x dead Elms (T2, T3, T4) - remove.

Status: Approved

22/7/6.5

Reference: 22/01038/TREE

Application Received: Fri 06 May 2022

Address: The Old Rectory Pound Close Spaldwick Huntingdon PE28 0UH

Proposal: Dismantle the large declining Elm (ID# 1) located at the left side of drive entrance. Leave stump as close to ground level as possible due to the stem being contact with the wall and causing a large crack and potentially damaging the adjacent oil tank.

Status: Approved

22/7/6.6 Anglian Water Temporary Traffic order application for Stow Road (circulated)- any comments for Highways to be received by 27/07/2022- no comments to be submitted.

22/7/7 Finance

22/7/7.1 To note: Account balance at 06.07.2022: £64,766.43- noted.

22/7/7.2 To note, a new Internal Auditor will need to be found as our current auditor is stopping this service- noted.

Clerk to request quotes for the September meeting from the three alternative auditors recommended by him.

22/7/7.3 Update regarding bank accounts (access and signatories)- Cllr S Parfrey still has no access to the Town and Poors account.

22/7/7.4 To note: Next CIL funding round (2022/23 – Round one) deadline is 28th August- noted.

22/7/7.5 To consider quotes received for the base for the Jubilee bench- deferred.

22/7/7.6 To consider quotes received for an external payroll provider to administer the Clerk's wages- deferred pending further quotes.

22/7/7.7 To note and approve: Q1 Income and expenditure against the budget (file circulated prior to meeting)- Cllr W Burcham proposed approval, seconded by Cllr S Parfrey and carried unanimously.

22/7/7.8 To note and approve: Q1 Community room receipts and payments document (file circulated prior to meeting)- Cllr W Burcham proposed approval, seconded by Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer and carried unanimously.

22/7/7.9 To note and approve Q1 financial reconciliation (file circulated prior to meeting)- Cllr W Burcham proposed approval, seconded by Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer and carried unanimously.

22/7/7.10 To consider a funding request from Magpas- Following assistance from the Magpas air ambulance for a local incident on the A14 Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer proposed the Council donate £100 to Magpas; this was seconded by Cllr J O'Dwyer and carried unanimously.

22/7/7.11 To discuss energy provision going forward (with the rise of prices in the sector)- following discussions it was agreed there should be no change as the County Council has an agreement with Total Energies for the streetlight provision. An energy bill from Spaldwick school for Community room usage is also pending.

Expenditure for approval 21st July 2022:

22/7/7.12 Clerk's wages (Jun-Jul) (S.Cardwell: **£384.85**, HMRC: **£8.60**)- Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed payment; seconded by Cllr S Parfrey and carried unanimously.

To note: (4 weeks work Jul-Aug) wage payment to be made in August and ratified retrospectively at September meeting- noted.

22/7/7.13 Total Energies invoices Jun-Jul (Accounts 3006693866- **£50.69** & 3006693855- **CR£22.02**)- Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed payment of the £28.67 balance; seconded by Cllr J O'Dwyer and carried unanimously.

22/7/7.14 A.Murphy invoice for cleaning of the Community Room (Jun-Jul): **£55.00**- Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed payment; seconded by Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer and carried unanimously.

To note: (4 weeks work Jul-Aug) wage payment to be made in August and ratified retrospectively at September meeting- noted.

22/7/7.15 CGM grasscutting invoice (June)- **£258** (inc. VAT)- Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed payment; seconded by Cllr U Braun and carried unanimously.

Payment to be agreed for the July invoice too to avoid charges for late payment- it was noted that a July cut had not been completed so there was no need to approve this.

Following approval last meeting of an emergency cut by the Wyton Mower Centre to complete work not carried out by CGM for two months, payment was also proposed and carried for the **£99** (+ VAT) invoice received and thanks expressed to James for completing the work required to tidy the village.

22/7/7.16 Jarrodean Recruitment Solutions- Bit Defender antivirus protection and IT consultancy- Francisco Ferrero- invoices to be received- deferred.

22/7/7.17 Cromwell Fire Ltd invoice for fire extinguisher service and replacement fire blanket- **£139.65** (inc. VAT)- Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed payment; seconded by Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer and carried unanimously.

22/7/7.18 Grafton Project Ltd invoice for ink cartridges- **£76.68** (inc. VAT)- Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed payment;

seconded by Cllr S Parfrey and carried unanimously.

22/7/7.19 Elan City invoice for Evolis Radar Speed Sign- **£2749.92** (inc. VAT) Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed payment; seconded by Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer and carried unanimously.

22/7/8 Assets – Provision/Maintenance

22/7/8.1 Weekly Ferriman Road Play Area's Inspection- Cllr S Fane de Salis to complete.

22/7/8.2 Update regarding concerns raised by The War Memorials Trust- Cllr W Burcham has been attempting contact by phone with no success so has sent another email.

22/7/8.3 Update regarding the defibrillator- Cllr S Parfrey to request the update report is sent prior to meetings.

22/7/8.4 Update regarding the Shed on Church Lane- deferred.

22/7/8.5 Update regarding the Jubilee plaques outside The Manor Farm House- deferred.

22/7/8.6 To discuss the open space in Spaldwick- It was agreed that Councillors should investigate seating and exercise equipment for the next meeting.

22/7/8.7 MVAS Flashing Speed Sign update- Cllr S Parfrey confirmed the delivery had been made; Cllrs Fane de Salis, Parfrey and Braun to install.

22/7/9 Highways, footpaths, byways, gritting bin, trees, etc.

22/7/9.1 Update regarding the uneven road surface due to tree roots on Thrapston Rd / Church Lane- deferred.

22/7/9.2 Footpaths update (report circulated to Councillors prior to meeting)- noted.

22/7/9.3 Update regarding LHI bid- no further update.

22/7/9.4 Update regarding the village grass-cutting- To be discussed further next meeting following issues raised above in relation to missed cuts.

22/7/10 Community Room

22/7/10.1 Update regarding the Community Room- It was agreed that Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer would create a post about hire to be shared on social media.

22/7/10.2 Update regarding the online calendar for the Community Room- Clerk confirmed this is now working.

22/7/11 To note: There is a Flood Resilience Day in Hilton at the Village Hall Car Park, Grove End (PE28 9PF) on Saturday 23rd July from 10am to 4pm- noted.

22/7/12 Any items for the next edition of Spaldwick News- Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer to provide information in relation to the Household Support Fund, the Ting on-demand bus service and Community Room hire.

22/7/13 Correspondence (-previously circulated)- all noted.

22/7/13.1 HDC- Press release - New river frontage & environmental enhancements showcased - 10/06/22

22/7/13.2 Combined authority: HAVE YOUR SAY on travel in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough- 14/06/22

22/7/13.3 Think Communities Huntingdonshire- Newsletter [006] June 2022- 17/06/22

22/7/13.4 HDC- Press Release: Next Steps Agreed for District Council's Market Towns Programme- 17/06/22

22/7/13.5 CCC- Remembrance Preparations 2022- 20/06/22

22/7/13.6 HDC- Press Release - New Play Areas Open at Hinchingsbrooke Country Park- 27/06/22

22/7/13.7 CAPALC- FREE Carbon Literacy Training- 27/06/22

22/7/13.8 ESPO: Your latest Energy Update- 29/06/22

22/7/13.9 CCC: Welcome to the June 2022 Cambridgeshire Matters newsletter- 29/06/22

22/7/13.10 CCC: Road Safety Day of Action- 04/07/22

22/7/13.11 CCC Highways: TMC (formerly IHMC) Incident Report - June 2022- 07/07/22

22/7/13.12 HDC: FW: Letter regarding CIL funding round 1 2022/23- 10/07/22

22/7/13.13 CAPALC: For Circulation July Bulletin- 14.07.22

22/7/14 Councillors' questions- Clerk will be on annual leave for a week in July. Future agenda items: Grant request from Playtimes, Update from the Parish Council Wooley Windfarm representatives, review of the Financial regulations requirement for three quotes for purchases >£100.

22/7/15 Date of the next meeting: Thursday 15th September.

The meeting closed at 10.01pm.

Signed:

Date:

Chairman