

SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2015 AT THE MAJENDIE HALL, ST. MARY'S CHURCH, SPEEN STARTING AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT	Parish Councillors: S Larkins (Chair), T Mathers (Vice-Chair), J Apicella, K Sullivan, K Phillips, S Taylor, C Hook, L Tull, A Booth, A Newell-Hart WBC Councillor: P Bryant Parishioners: About 50 parishioners. Guests: Press:
CLERK	Catherine Gorvin

	ACTION
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DRAFT MINUTES

Open Session

This was moved to Agenda item 4.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Winn. Julie Heneghan has resigned from the council.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Phillips declared he lives adjacent to Stockcross recreation ground.

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th November 2015 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. Consultation on the West Berkshire Council Proposed Submission Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document (HSA DPD).

<http://consult.westberks.gov.uk/portal>

The consultation ends on either the 21st or 24th December. To be safe residents were advised to submit their comments to WBDC by 21st December. Any comments will be forwarded onto the Planning Inspector.

The Hill Road site was rejected but the Bath Road site in Speen is included in the HSA DPD. There has been no planning application yet. All we know is that the allotments will be retained and there will be about 100 houses.

Cllr Apicella has contacted the local schools to see if they have any capacity to accommodate more pupils, should the development be built. There was no reply from Speenhamland but Robert Sandilands stated that they were at full capacity and would struggle if more houses were to be built in Speen. They have the odd place open.

Cllr Hook has contacted the local doctor's surgeries to see if they have any space. He has had no formal reply but from anonymous sources it was indicated that there won't be any more capacity when the two surgeries merge.

WBDC Cllr Paul Bryant spoke briefly about the proposed development. His main points were:

- The Bath Road site is considered as one of the less contentious sites. This is because fewer objections were received regarding the site and from analysis the site proved to be deliverable.
- If a local plan isn't adopted, developers can build on any piece of land.
- The council won't look at any comments received in this consultation; they will go straight to the government inspector.
- We should know the decision by the middle of 2016.

- The strategic housing needs assessment has shown that not enough housing is being built. WBDC needs to produce more than the original figure. This means the local plan will be rolled forward, going up to 2036. The whole process will be done again in the future.
- The inspector will see what is written in the 3,000 page document.
- The traffic will be analysed and the experts in the council will need to be satisfied that it meets the criteria.
- The developer will be obliged to make road improvements.
- Planning regulations will still need to be complied with.

Parishioners made the follow points:

- There is currently a traffic counter along Station Road but it is quieter now than it usually is.
- Speen has already taken the impact from the bypass. No infill was promised.
- It is a historic site.
- Will more land be built on?
- They didn't feel the site was suitable for development.
- They had concerns over the provision of local services; doctors, schools.
- There were concerns over traffic and access. It is difficult getting onto the A4 from Station Road.

At this point Speen Parish Council (SPC) isn't taking a view on the development but it will represent the parishioner's views.

It was proposed by Cllr Booth that Speen Parish Council sends its objections to the planning inspector regarding the development because of lack of local services (doctors and schools), access issues and the increased traffic on to the A4. Access from the A4 and Station Road would be unacceptable (on safety and traffic grounds). Access directly onto the roundabout would be acceptable. This was seconded by Cllr Hook and agreed by all.

It was resolved that Speen Parish Council sends its objections to the planning inspector regarding the development because of lack of local services (doctors and schools), access issues and the increased traffic on to the A4. Access from the A4 and Station Road would be unacceptable (on safety and traffic grounds). Access directly onto the roundabout would be acceptable.

CLERK

It was noted that any evidence or examples SPC has should be sent to the inspector.

It was noted that a planning application still needs to be submitted. If the planning application doesn't work, it is still possible to object then. We will know more at the application stage.

WBDC Cllr Paul Bryant suggested that SPC consults with the developers at an early stage, so then the application can be moulded to be more appropriate to the area.

5. Matters arising that do not appear later on the agenda:

a) Proposed cycle routes for Speen Parish

It was discovered that one of the routes proposed by SPC goes through Cllr Mathers land. *Cllr Mathers left the room for the discussion on this agenda item.* It was suggested that the proposed cycle route should be re-routed to avoid his land. It was noted that the route went through other people's land too. The council agreed that if we were to re-route it for one landowner, we should re-route it for all. At this stage it was decided to leave it as it is and if needed, it can be amended in the future.

6. Financial Report – Clerk

a. Balance in bank as at 07.12.2015

The total bank balance on 07.12.2015 was £48,636.56.

- b. Finance Report:** The clerk presented projections for 2015/16 to the council. The amount of unallocated money is £1,281.59.

c. To endorse invoices paid since last meeting (see separate sheet)

Cllr Apicella proposed that the following invoices be endorsed. Seconded: Cllr Sullivan. All in favour.

It was resolved to endorse the following invoices:

			£
16/11/2015	2272	Marmax Products Ltd.	53.86
16/11/2015	2273	cancelled	0.00
16/11/2015	2274	S. Pearce	136.00
16/11/2015	2275	St. Mary's Speen PCC	32.00
16/11/2015	2276	Infast Fire Protection	60.00
16/11/2015	2277	Sundog Grounds Maintenance Ltd.	400.00
16/11/2015	2278	C.Gorvin (expenses)	255.63
16/11/2015	2279	Southern Electric	83.78
16/11/2015	2280	Poppy Appeal	34.00
24/11/2015	2281	The Label People Ltd.	68.76
24/11/2015	2282	Vodafone Ltd.	17.00
TOTAL			1141.03

d. To approve further invoices and expenses for payment and sign cheques (see separate sheet)

Cllr Mathers proposed that the following invoices and expenses be approved. Seconded: Cllr Newell-Hart. All in favour.

It was resolved that the following invoices and expenses be approved:

C. Gorvin	Mileage, postage, stationary	£74.59
Total		£74.59

7. Working Party reports with proposals for approval by the full Council:

a) Communications – (Cllr Sullivan)

A meeting was held on Thursday 26th November. Work will start on the next newsletter, which will hopefully be published by April. Ideas for articles included: standard items, more human interest stories such as; family history and stories behind the people on the War Memorial. A local historian will be contacted. It was noted the right picture of the Majendie Hall will need to be included in the newsletter.

Facebook is going well. Posts about the Christmas tree and the old folks Christmas party will be put up.

b) Finance & General Purposes - (Cllr Larkins)

They will meet on 21st December to discuss the budget.

c) Recreation Grounds – (Cllr Apicella)

- **Update on fence at Speen**
The installation of the fencing has started. It should be completed by the end of the week.
- **Update on Stockcross car park**
The draft plans have been drawn up. The council agreed these were fine.
- **Update on dog proofing at Marsh Benham**
This has been completed. There are still instances of dog foul. The wardens think they know who it is.
- **Update on tree survey**
The trees are owned by Sutton Estates and they will be undertaking a tree survey shortly.
- **Update on refitted picnic table planks at Speen**
The new planks still need to be installed.
- **Update on Notice Board**
This has been installed.
- **Proposal to agree the date when to implement the new dogs policy and purchase the associated items.**
It was proposed by Cllr Apicella, seconded by Cllr Tull and agreed by all that the new dog policy is implanted in April and the associated items also purchased then.

BUDGET

<p>It was resolved that the new dog policy is implanted in April and the associated items also purchased then.</p> <p><u>d) War Memorial</u> Improving Pedestrian Accessibility to the War Memorial; This item was deferred.</p> <p><u>e) SID Working Party</u> - Speeding on Lambourn Road A health and safety check needs to be undertaken on Lambourn Road before the SID can be used there.</p> <p><u>7. Other Reports</u></p> <p>a) General maintenance: Nothing to report.</p> <p>b) Neighbourhood Wardens: The report was taken as read. A steering group meeting will be held on 16th November at Speen Pavilion. Councillors were asked to circulate any items they would like the Wardens to be doing before the meeting. It was asked if it is possible to reduce the funding.</p> <p>c) Planning Committee: The planning committee met on 26th November and they had no objections to the applications they considered. At Benham Park there was an application to reinstate the bridge and to restore it to Capability Brown's vision. This year is the 300year anniversary of Capability Brown.</p> <p>d) SSDNAG: A meeting was held on 12th November. The next one will be on 14th January at Robert Sandiland School at 6.30pm. Unfortunately Sovereign Housing hasn't been attending the meetings. The SSDNAG are currently focusing on speeding and overgrown/problem footpaths. It was asked if the meeting dates could be put up on Facebook.</p> <p><u>9. Making use of the Pound in Speen.</u> Newbury Christmas tree farm has kindly donated a Christmas tree for the Pound at Speen. There is also an advert there. It was suggested that we use battery powered lights on it. It was proposed by Cllr Phillips, seconded by Cllr Sullivan and agreed by all to purchase lights and accessories for the Christmas tree at a cost of no more than £200. It was resolved to purchase lights and accessories for the Christmas tree at a cost of no more than £200.</p> <p><u>10. Proposal to take on the responsibility of the five salt bins in the Parish and the refilling of them at a cost of £67 per refill. Starting April 2016</u> The above was proposed by Cllr Mathers, seconded by Cllr Newell-Hart and agreed by all. It was resolved take on the responsibility of the five salt bins in the Parish and the refilling of them at a cost of £67 per refill. Starting April 2016 It was noted that if SPC didn't pay for it, the salt bins would be removed. The bins will need to be added to our insurance. The refilling of the bins will mean an increase in the precept. The wardens can monitor when they are empty.</p> <p><u>11. Proposal to purchase NALC's 'Local Council's Explained' at a cost of £50 + P+P.</u> The above was proposed by Cllr Phillips, seconded by Cllr Apicella and agreed by all. It was resolved to purchase NALC's 'Local Council's Explained' at a cost of £50 + P+P.</p> <p><u>12. Correspondence</u> – All correspondence received but not on the agenda will be placed on a table near the entrance to the hall for consideration by the Councillors.</p> <p><u>13. Matters for consideration and information</u> – all Councillors None.</p> <p><u>14. Date of next meeting.</u> Monday 18th January 2015</p> <p><u>15. Exclusion of the Press and Public</u> Proposed: Cllr Larkins, seconded: Cllr Mathers. All in favour. To Resolve: That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and in the public interest the Press and Public be excluded for Agenda items 15– 18 under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960</p>	<p>DEFERRE D</p> <p>CLERK</p> <p>CLLR HOOK</p> <p>BUDGET £1500</p> <p>CLERK</p>
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16. Minutes: To consider, approve and sign the confidential part II minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th November 2015.

These were signed as a true record.

17. Update on the lease with AFC and the proposed pavilion.

There was nothing to report.

18. Tennis Club

A meeting has been held with the tennis club. They have agreed to all of the following proposals. They would like SPC to keep costs to a minimum. The tennis club will enquire if the Lawn Tennis Association is able to help with producing the lease.

A) Proposal to allow the tennis club to produce the new lease, with our solicitors checking it before we sign it.

The above was proposed by Cllr Apicella, Seconded by Cllr Tull and agreed by all.

It was resolved to allow the tennis club to produce the new lease, with our solicitors checking it before we sign it.

b) Proposal to agree the length of the lease.

It was proposed by Cllr Apicella, seconded by Cllr Tull and agreed by all that the new lease be for a period of 10 years with the option to extend it after a review.

It was resolved that the new lease be for a period of 10 years with the option to extend it after a review.

c) Proposal to ask the tennis club to pay for the new lease, the FIT fees and our solicitor fees.

The above was proposed by Cllr Apicella, Seconded by Cllr Tull and agreed by all.

It was resolved to ask the tennis club to pay for the new lease, the FIT fees and our solicitor fees.

d) Proposal to lower the rent to £1 a year on the new lease.

The above was proposed by Cllr Sullivan, Seconded by Cllr Newell-Hart and agreed by all.

It was resolved to lower the rent to £1 a year on the new lease.

e) Cesspit

The tennis club agreed to arrange to have this emptied.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Date:.....

Abbreviations: WBDC = West Berkshire District Council

SPC = Speen Parish Council

Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document = HSA DPD