



SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SUTTON HALL STOCKCROSS ON MONDAY 12TH JULY 2021 AT 7PM

Present	Parish Councillors	Cllr Dudman (Chair), Cllr Amirtharaj (Vice-Chair), Cllr Newell-Hart Cllr Clifford, Cllr Butter, Cllr Gourley, Cllr Booth
	In Attendance	None present
	Members of the Public	None Present
	Clerk & RFO	Jean Lindsell

Meeting started at 7.06

Resolution	Item	Action
Resolved	<p>1. Apologies: Cllr Phillips Cllr Masters (WBC)</p> <p>2. Declaration of Interests:</p> <p>Cllr Gourley declared an interest in Item 9.1. Cllr Gourley lives near to Station Road.</p> <p>Cllr Clifford declared an interest in Item 16. Cllr Clifford is Chair of St Barts Foundation whose treasurer is married to an individual connected to Item 16.</p> <p>3. Chair Opening Remarks</p> <p>Cllr Dudman welcomed everyone to the first face to face meeting to be held since March 2020 and thanked all Councillors for their commitment to virtual meetings over the past 15 months.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman advised that although all Councillors were already aware of Cllr Black's resignation he wished to formally thank Cllr Black for his contribution to SPC.</p> <p>4. Open Session: No members of the public present</p> <p>5. Minutes – to approve the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and Full Council meeting held on 06-05-21 (draft)</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Dudman Seconder: Cllr Newell-Hart Abstention: 1 In Favour: 6</p> <p>6. Financial Report Clerk as RFO</p> <p>6.1 Balance in bank as at 30-06-21 reported as £61,823.93</p> <p>6.2 To retrospectively note payments for May and June 2021</p> <p>Cllr Newell-Hart queried a payment made to CJM Services in respect of doors for Speen Pavilion.</p> <p>The Clerk advised due to a significant delay in the new doors being delivered all other upgrade works had been completed and paid for and this was the balance now that the doors had been delivered and fitted.</p> <p>Cllr Booth queried the amount of SSE's invoice for Speen Pavilion electricity supply.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that when the upgrade works had been carried out it in March it</p>	



Resolved	<p>had been necessary to have the heaters on continuously for almost three weeks as the building was too damp for the repainting of the floors.</p> <p>Cllr Newell-Hart queried the number of payments being made to CJM Services and asked if the tender process was being followed.</p> <p>The Clerk advised the process was being followed however there were items that did not require more than one quote due to the value and others had had at least one other quote obtained and approval given by Full Council. The Clerk added that it was difficult to obtain quotes particularly as Full Council had previously requested that only known contractors be approached.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman confirmed the process was being followed but acknowledged it was important SPC remain transparent in its selection of contractors</p> <p>All Councillors noted payments made</p> <p>6.3 Proposal: To accept Finance Reports to 31-05-21</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Amirtharaj Secunder: Cllr Newell-Hart All in Favour</p>	
Resolved	<p>6.4 Proposal: To accept Finance Reports to 30-06-21</p> <p>Cllr Dudman queried why the June projected unallocated reserves were higher than May.</p> <p>The Clerk advised this was due to the change in the level of earmarked reserves - £2500 as approved by Full Council had been transferred in respect of the War Memorial project Members' Bid application which increased the reserves from May.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Dudman Secunder: Cllr Clifford All in Favour</p>	
Resolved	<p>6.5 Proposal: To accept Quarterly Budget v Actual Report (Q1)</p> <p>Cllr Amirtharaj asked if this report could be presented with graphs rather than waterfall charts,</p> <p>Cllr Dudman advised he had attempted to do this but found it impossible due to the way in which expenditure is spread over a year.</p> <p>Cllr Gourley suggested looking at historical budget data and using accruals.</p> <p>Cllr Amirtharaj to look at creating budget v actual graphs.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Dudman Secunder: Cllr Newell-Hart All in Favour</p> <p>7. District Ward Report (previously circulated)</p> <p>All Councillors confirmed they had read the report.</p> <p>Cllr Newell-Hart advised more and more people were enquiring about the Stockcross to A4 footpath and there had been an article in the Sunday Times regarding Lonely Planet which had made special mention to the Newbury area and its footpath network.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman noted that WBC were holding hybrid meetings and was interested to know how they could do this when legislation states this is not permitted.</p> <p>Cllr Gourley advised WBC had ensured all political parties were equally represented in chamber for the purposes of being quorate, hearing all opinions and voting.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that representations continued to be made regarding permitting</p>	Cllr Amirtharaj



<p>Resolved</p>	<p>Councils to hold virtual meetings.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman offered to write to Laura Farris MP on this matter.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman noted from the report that only 19 electric vehicle charge points were planned and felt this was a very small number for whole of West Berkshire.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman asked the Improvements WP to look at the possibility of charge points at Stockcross & Speen Recreation Grounds.</p> <p>Cllr Booth queried why new buses were being provided to Handibus when Readybus has been discontinued.</p> <p>Cllr Clifford advised that Handybus was volunteer run while Readibus a much larger organisation with paid employees had advised that it was withdrawing from transport operations in Newbury and Thatcham. WBC's support for different community transport organisations was largely determined by usage levels.</p> <p>8. Standing Orders</p> <p>8.1 Proposal: To approve adoption of the updated SPC Standing Orders (based on NALC Model Standing Orders 2018 revised 2020)</p> <p>Cllr Dudman suggested Standing Orders should be revised to be gender neutral.</p> <p>All Councillors agreed to this and the proposal amended to include Clerk to revise document to be gender neutral in due course.</p> <p>Proposer: Cllr Dudman Secunder: Cllr Booth All in Favour</p> <p>9. Planning & Highways</p> <p>9.1 Traffic Air Pollution Station Road/A4 Bath Road</p> <p>Cllr Dudman updated all Councillors on the issues raised by a parishioner regarding traffic air pollution at the junction of Station Road and A4/Bath Road and his response to the parishioner.</p> <p>The Clerk advised the issue had been highlighted to Cllr Doherty who had passed the matter to the PPP who had indicated they would look into potentially siting pipes in the area to collect data.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman asked the Clerk to contact PPP formally and to request the pipes be placed outside the parishioner's property.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman to update parishioner.</p> <p>Cllr Amirtharaj asked if SPC would also be willing to raise the question of air pollution at the Brummel Rd/Old Bath Rd/A4 Bath Road junctions.</p> <p>It was agreed to defer this to a later date.</p> <p>Cllr Gourley advised WBC published an air quality report in 2020.</p> <p>Cllr Dudman advised he wished to discuss SID training and the equipment used at September's meeting. Cllr Dudman felt the current devices did not give the best results regarding potential speeding as drivers automatically slowed down as they approached at a future meeting and the key to getting speeding issues addressed by WBC was to provide accurate data.</p> <p>Clerk to add item to September Agenda.</p> <p>10. Development</p> <p>10.1 Parish Improvement Plan – update from WP</p> <p>Cllr Gourley advised the WP were meeting on 26th July to discuss potential projects for 2021/22.</p>	<p>Cllr Dudman</p> <p>Improv WP</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Dudman</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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<p>Signed:</p>	<p>Name (print):</p>	<p>Date:</p> <p>28/09/21</p>
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Page approved by (initials) & date:
28/09/21



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Abbreviations Used:

- SPC = Speen Parish Council
- WBC = West Berkshire Council
- WP = Working Party
- PPP = Public Protection Partnership

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