

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN SPEEN PARISH HALL ON 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2003 AT 7 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** E Vandyk A Snook G Foulkes R Wilson WRB John. T Tyler

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS:** Dr P Bryant and M Franks

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: 2**

1. **APOLOGIES** P Calder
2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:** T Tyler nominated E Vandyk, and R Wilson seconded. All in favour.
3. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:** E Vandyk proposed G Foulkes, and WRB John seconded. All in favour.
4. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS:** P Calder, C Woodhead and a new Councillor, J Booth, were all nominated en bloc by E Vandyk and seconded by R Wilson. A Letter from J Booth was read out. Council voted unanimously to co-opt the above named nominees. More nominations are needed, and the Chairman urged Councillors to seek new members.

The Chairman welcomed those present and thanked the Councillors who had stood again for their support. He also welcomed P Bryant and, as our other new ward member, M Franks, as District Councillors. They said it would be an interesting time with the situation at West Berkshire Council. M Franks lives in Speen Parish. Both District Councillors would be looking after the interests of Council, in the Downland ward for Planning and for the Forum.

5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations at this time.
6. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** After the insert of the word 'draft' and one spelling mistake the Minutes of the meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> May 2003 AGM evrev.doc were duly agreed and signed.
7. **MATTERS ARISING:**
  - a) There had still been no reason forthcoming from WBC on why Council had not been invited to the opening of the B4000.
  - b) The Speen VDS was on the Website and a cheque in rebate for the sum of £49.16 had been handed to the Clerk before the Meeting.
  - c) The taxis causing concern in Ermin Street had been moved on.
  - d) The concern about the strip of land at the recreational ground at Stockcross was not yet solved – Council needs to determine the ownership. Suttons Estates are working on this, looking through archives.
  - e) The Clerk explained that she had heard from the Standards Board regarding the November Minutes last year. This matter is nearly

concluded. E Vandyk reminded those present that Minutes are not definitive until after they have been signed at the following meeting.

- f) M Butcher ( Member of the Public ) said that The Ladywell would be cut this week.
  - g) E Vandyk asked if there was any further news on the Speen Church closure. Report – imminent.
- 8. OBELISK :** It has been confirmed that WBC own the Obelisk and the land, Clerk has received a letter.
- 9. NOTICE BOARDS:** The Clerk reported on her ‘findings’ and gave prices. After discussion it was agreed to replace Marsh Benham only, keeping the old Board in case it can be used elsewhere. It was agreed to order a aluminium framed exterior notice board from Filcris, at a cost of approx £380 plus VAT. This includes aluminium posts which would have to be bedded in concrete, and magnetic strips. The Board will hold 6 sheets of A4 and comes with a free Header Board saying Speen Parish Council. Proposed by E Vandyk and seconded by R Wilson.
- 10. CHANGING ROOMS AT STOCKCROSS –** A Snook proposed that we proceed with the Planning Stage, and G Foulkes seconded. The Financial side of the project is yet to be proposed and finalised.
- 11. THE CAR PARK AT STOCKCROSS –** a discussion to place on the information given by A Snook. The Clerk has a list of vehicles parked for any length of time. A Letter would be drafted to one family who had three cars, one of which has no tax. A Snook proposed and J Booth seconded.
- 12. SPEEN RECREATIONAL GROUND:** E Vandyk said he would like a sub-committee list prepared at the next meeting. This would be an Agenda item. The Clerk gave a resume on the impasse regarding the Roller and Line Marker. P Calder was sure that they were ours, but he needs to know the registration number of the Roller, which had been taken by the Cricket Club to their new premises. M Butcher agreed that they were the property of Council.
- 13. NEWBURY CANCER CARE TRUST –** A Snook proposed £50 be donated and this was seconded by G Foulkes. A Letter to be written by the Clerk.
- 14. STOCKCROSS BOWLING CLUB:** After a short discussion it was decided to leave this matter until the next Agenda.
- 15. STOCKCROSS BUS SHELTER -** Mr C Westwood had done a marvellous job, it was agreed, but he has written to the Clerk to ask for extra money. He wants over £400 on top of the Quote, which had originally gone to Tender. The Council decided that the Clerk should write and make him an offer of £200. They could not pay all the extras, as this is not the policy of the Council who have standards to follow and adhere to.
- 16. PLANNING:** A Snook reported on the situation with the proposed Mast in Bath Road, which would be very near to some properties. It was agreed to

'Object' and this was proposed by G Foulkes and seconded by T Tyler. All in favour.

#### 17. ACCOUNTS:

	1006 void	
10/03/2003	1007 Water Rates	12.86
	1008 Clerk March salary	407.42 Including postage
	1009 SEC re obelsik	65.80
	1009 SEC - maintenance	156.45
	1010 Southern Elect	83.83
01/04/2003	1011 NWNews	65.80 re Parish Assembly
	1012 County Elec Servs	47.00 re Speen Pavilion repair
	1013 A E Butcher	62.00 bolt lock on gate & litterpick
	1014 AJH - Clerk Apl	419.54 incl photocopies
	1015 Speen V Hall	5.30
19/05/2003	1016 A E Butcher	50.00
	1017 Sutton V Hall	34.80 Oct, Nov last year
	ditto	30.80
	ditto	23.60
	1018 AJH Clerk May	426.06 incl. Postage & Photocopies
	1019 Internal Auditor	105.00 discount given.
		1996.26

Cheques were drawn and agreed as per above list. The Clerk said that she would be working the VAT refund very shortly. She also reported that S Pascall had asked for copies of the draft accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003. A letter declining had been despatched.

**18. ACCOUNTS APPROVAL.** The Accounts for the years ended 31 March 2003 were circulated. The Clerk reported that the internal auditor had approved the same. Following discussion Council approved the accounts.

**19. FREIGHT QUESTIONNAIRE** – this had been completed and been sent into West Berks Council.

**20. CORRESPONDENCE** : as the Parish Council were under pressure to vacate the Village Hall due to overbooking, the correspondence was left until the next meeting.

**21. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION:** -M Butcher said that the trees were overhanging near the Golf Club, at the approach to Bagnor. She would speak to C Woodhead about it.

**The Meeting Closed at 8.40 p.m. and the next Meeting is scheduled for July 21<sup>st</sup> 2003 at 7 p.m. at Speen.**