

**MINUTES OF SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2004 IN THE SPEEN VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.P.M.**

PRESENT: E Vandyk (Chairman) A Snook C Woodhead WRB John
T Tyler R Wilson J Booth K Rai J Huntingford (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: G Foulkes (Vice Chairman) M Franks (District Councillor)

Members of the Public: 5 including Newbury Weekly News Representative.

District Councillor: P Bryant.

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:** E Vandyk proposed that the present Vice Chairman, G Foulkes be elected Chairman and this was seconded by K Rai. All in Favour. A signed declaration of Acceptance of Office was filed by the clerk.
2. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:** this was felt to be unnecessary. E Vandyk was proposed as Chairman for tonight's meeting, by C Woodhead and seconded by J Booth. All in Favour. E Vandyk was therefore Chairman for this meeting.
3. There were no Councillors to co-opt, but it is hoped that more may be co-opted at the next meeting.
4. E Vandyk reminded Councillors that the Code of Conduct should at all times be maintained, and any alterations to those already on file should be notified to the Clerk. At the next Meeting the schedule of Committees would be circulated and re-compiled. R Wilson expressed an interest in the Stockcross Street Fair which was scheduled on the Agenda tonight. Noted.
5. **THE MINUTES** of the previous meeting on March 8th 2004 were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
6. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - (a) Speen Church – no official report but apparently the Services are well attended, and there are plans for extra Services after September.
 - (b) The Memorial seat is in hand – we are waiting to hear from the family when it is to be delivered.
 - (c) The Bus Stop is now up and in evidence in Stockcross.
 - (d) SID – P Bryant to chase and report back.
 - (e) The Parish Plan is to be debated at the next Meeting.
 - (f) The Calor Gas competition is being organised by J Booth and papers have been despatched.
7. **SPEEN RECREATIONAL GROUND.** A Snook reported that the new Contracts for Football are going ahead. A Snook proposed a resolution that these should be accepted, seconded by R Wilson and All were in Favour. A Snook then listed the required maintenance work and E Vandyk proposed that three Quotes be obtained, seconded by C Woodhead. All in Favour. A Meeting would take place to arrange Quotations, and would be attended by C Woodhead, A Snook, K Rai and P Calder.

8. **STOCKCROSS CHANGING ROOMS:** Various Quotes were discussed – from £140k downwards. Grants are now difficult to obtain. Finally a pitched roof unit was favoured, pending Planning Permission. A Snook said that this could cost us approx. £320 per year finance. There may be additional income from the Tennis Club, for use of the facilities. E Vandyk thanked A Snook for his excellent work. The Council were therefore asked to consider a portable cabin, photos and exact costings to come, with pitch roof and tiles, lists of the services and revised planning application. This package would be submitted if possible at the next meeting. E Vandyk proposed the package be compiled and R Wilson seconded. All those who had helped with this project were mentioned by the Chairman, and thanked.
9. **INSURANCE PREMIUM:** The Clerk stated that the Premium due June 1st was £1114 and after discussion it was agreed that the Council should pay. It was noted that a proviso on the Insurance was to have all work completed as per RoSPA report within 60 days. The Clerk doubted if this was possible.
10. **RoSPA:** The Quote from Playground Services on the medium list work required on all three Recreational Grounds has just been received. It is over £2k. The Clerk said that she had already written off to another firm, in order to compare. The Clerk was authorised to buy signs as required for dog fouling. RoSPA Report would be discussed at the next meeting.
11. The original thought on buying a new light in Station Road to deter vandalism near the Pavilion, was altered when the costings were known. SEC Contracting quoted over £1k for this work. A Snook and C Woodhead would try to find alternatives.
12. **DONATION REQUEST – ST JOHNS PARISH CHURCH:** This was proposed by C Woodhead and seconded by a Snook - £250 towards the upkeep of the Churchyard.
13. **STOCKCROSS STREET FAIR – DONATION REQUEST:** R Wilson declared an interest J Booth and T Tyler also declared an interest. The Street Fair raises Funds for Sutton Hall, Stockcross which is a Charity. E Vandyk asked that Mrs Viv Wilson could produce a proper request with full details of where the money would be going and for what, and how much she wanted. This would be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.
14. **Vodafone Mast at Marsh Benham:** A Snook said that there had been no complaints as it was hidden in the trees and was likely to cause no distress amongst nearby residents.
15. A Letter from Cold Ash Parish Council was read out by E Vandyk, regarding planning. The Clerk was asked to write back saying that this Council would support any initiative designed at extracting 106 money for the benefit of the local Community.
16. **ACCOUNTS:** The Clerk circulated a copy of the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2004. She said that the Internal Auditor had visited and checked them over. The official Forms from UHY Hacker Young were proposed by T Tyler and seconded by R Wilson, All in Favour. They were completed and signed. Various cheques for the current month were circulated for signature.

Cheques drawn since the last Meeting:

Thames Water	1147	£	13.15
Sutton Hall	1148	£	23.20
S & J - Clerk	1149	£	446.39
A E Butcher	1150	£	72.00
Speen Hall	1151	£	7.95
SEC	1152	£	159.59
SEC	1152	£	25.36
Southern Elec	1153	£	83.93
Cottrells	1154	£	52.19
S & J - Clerk	1155	£	446.39
A E Butcher	1156	£	72.00
S & J - Clerk	1157	£	446.39
A Kirke Int Audit	1158	£	125.00
St Johns	1160	£	250.00
Chq 1159 not yet completed			£2,223.54

17: **CCB SUBSCRIPTION:** It was decided not to join the CCB this year.

18: It was agreed to renew the **BERKSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS** this year. The cheque would be raised at the next Meeting.

19: CORRESPONDENCE: The Chairman of the meeting went through a pile of Correspondence, item by item. B T are planning to remove a pay phone at Marsh Benham. The Clerk was asked to make a notice. The pay phone at Bagnor is under threat and E Vandyk and C Woodhead would visit and see the Landlord at The Black Bird public house, near where it is situated.

20: MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION:

- a) T Tyler reported that vehicles are driving down a one way road near the school. The Clerk was asked to write to the Police.
- b) A Snook reported that during a friendly match on Stockcross Ground at the weekend, a man had collapsed and died.
- c) K Rai asked the clerk if she had received a telephone call from Mr Hillier, regarding a donation for some bulbs. Negative.
- d) A Snook advised that he had responded to a letter from Lambourn P C regarding time constrictions on Planning Application.
- e) C Woodhead mentioned that his brother in law was interested in being our contractor for cutting all the grass. Details to follow to the Clerk.
- f) J Booth reported that a rubbish bin situated opposite Elm Villa in a lay by was always full to overflowing. The Clerk was asked to write to the school, who used it.
- g) A letter would be drawn up to go to Suttons Estate, regarding stiles for Footpaths 16 and 13.
- h) A E Butcher (Greenkeeper) offered to buy a wheelie bin on Council's behalf, for Stockcross Car Park. He would secure it firmly. E Vandyk thanked A E Butcher for all his continued hard work and support.
- i) The Clerk was asked to get a quote for a new metal Notice Board at Stockcross.

- j) The Grapevine need an article each quarter from the new Chairman, on Parish decisions in Stockcross. This was approved in G Foulkes' absence.
- k) The Clerk was asked to ask B Burgess how many 'hits' there had been on Stockcross website.

The Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m. and the next meeting is scheduled for 21st June 2004 at Stockcross.