

SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN STOCKCROSS VILLAGE HALL ON 13th JANUARY 2003.

At 7 p.m.

PRESENT: E Vandyk (Chairman) M Butcher A Martin WRB John R Wilson
C Woodhead G Foulkes (Vice Chairman) A Snook T Tyler
P Calder (late) J Huntingford (Clerk)

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR : Dr P Bryant

APOLOGIES: R Tolcher K Titcombe

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Representative of Newbury Weekly News,
S Thompson. A Kirke (Internal Auditor)

1. **DECLARATIONS:** A Snook declared an Interest in one item on the Planning List – Deanwood Farm. There were no other declarations of Interest.

2. **MINUTES:** after two small alterations, one of which had already been actioned in the Minute copies, the Minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3.. **MATTERS ARISING:**

- (a) Footpath 15 – a letter was read from West Berkshire Council stating that they would try to get a meeting together, involving all parties. This had not yet been achieved and the Council wished it to go on record that it supports a favourable outcome, for all concerned. The Clerk was asked to chase the contact at West Berks Council.
- (b) Bank of Ireland – the Account is now open, but we have to give Lloyds 90 days notice.
- (c) The Village Design Statement is completed and copies were given to the Councillors. It was agreed that it is an impressive document. It would soon be on the Website.
- (d) An update on the Changing Rooms at Stockcross was given by C Woodhead and A Snook. After several designs had been turned down by Sutton Estates (the freeholder), a revised plan balancing aesthetics and security had been submitted to Sutton Estates and they have a Board Meeting shortly. This is to be an Agenda item at the next Meeting.

4.. **B4000** – The clerk reported on a conversation with Highways at West Berkshire Council. It was noted that of all the legal and consultation requirements had been met, and it was now a matter of implementation only. This is top priority at present, with West Berkshire Council and is being discussed today. P Bryant agreed, and said that there is not much more known about the plans.

- 5.. **Stockcross Recreation Ground** – Contracts for the Football Clubs have been drawn up by A Snook and sent out by the Clerk. Signed Contracts are still to be returned. Some money is in and has been banked in the Bank of Ireland £250 each and there are 3 interested clubs. The Chairman thanked A Snook for the organisation and preparation that had been undertaken.
- 6 **Speed Traffic Calming.** P Byrant reported that things were progressing slowly, and M Butcher reported that Speen Lane was quieter now that Vodafone had given up some of their offices in town.
- 7 **Bus Shelter in Stockcross:** two more Quotes had been obtained, W R B John reported. Westwood Renovations were the lowest and E Vandyk proposed that this Quote should be accepted and C Woodhead seconded. All in favour. A Start Date was to be ascertained.
A discussion then took place on the Speen bus shelter. It is dilapidated. WRB John was asked to inspect the Speen bus shelter and see if it could be relocated in Station Road.. This is to be an Agenda item next meeting.
- 8.. **Speen Ancient Parish Relief in Need Charity.** Clr A Martin already stands as a representative of the Parish Council and the Trustees of the Charity need one more person. G Foulkes offered and the Clerk was asked to write a letter to the Secretary Mr R M Burton. The Council would review this position in May, if Clr A Martin is not standing again as a Parish Councillor.
9. **Speen Obelisk** – a letter from the Fund raising secretary was read out. A discussion took place on how much to donate. M Butcher mentioned that the light on the Obelisk meant that young people were around playing until late, and skate boarding. She said that the paving stones were slippery and dangerous. G Foulkes offered to talk to the Secretary the next day and establish a few facts. E Vandyk proposed that some money should be given, and R Wilson seconded. The amount was to be decided at a later date.

10. FINANCIAL

(a)

CHEQUES WRITTEN SINCE LAST MEETING

		VAT
984 16.12.02	10.60 Parish Hall Hire Speen	
985 20.12.02	410.96 Clerk - Salary Dec/post etc	
986 13.01.03	156.45 SEC - maintenance Dec qtr	23.30
987 13.01.03	35.23 Cottrells - stationery	5.25
988 13.01.03	14.51 Thames water	
989 13.01.03	82.08 Southern Electric	3.90
990 13.01.03	20.00 AE Butcher The Ladywell Annual Fee	
991 13.01.03	100.00 AE Butcher - War Memorial Annual	
992 13.01.03	20.00 AE Butcher - Speen Pound 03-11	
993 13.01.03	110.00 AE Butcher - Litterpick QTR end 31/12	
994 27.01.03	408.47 Salary for Jan /postage etc	
995 14.01.03	112.50 Univ of Glos - Clerk's Course	
996 14.01.03	158.63 Photo copier repair	23.63
TOTAL	1639.43	56.08

(b) Precept. E Vandyk introduced the schedule which had been prepared at a Working Party meeting attended by the Finance Committee members. A Precept of £13000 was proposed by G Foulkes and seconded by WRB John All in Favour. The Clerk was asked to complete the necessary paperwork.

11.. **PLANNING:** A Snook (Chairman of the Planning Committee) summarised, and C Woodhead said that Deanwood Farm had no problems (A Snook had an Interest).

Planning Applications since last Meeting:

02/01952	House	Extension & Garage	Old Laundry	Stockcross	No Obj
02/01997	Full	Rooms and Plant Room	Vineyard	Stockcross	No Obj
02/01977	House	Conservatory	1 Rectory Farm Cottage	Speen	No Obj
02/02140	House	Conservatory	Tall Gables, The Sydings	Speen	No Obj
02/02117	Full	Driveway	33 Caunter Road	Speen	No Obj
02/02172	Full	Drainage	South of Disused Railway	Speen	No Obj
02/02027	House	Conservatory	1 Elmfield Gardens	Speen	Returned.
02/02254	House	Conservatory	Westside, Belmont	Woodspeen	No Obj
02/02192	Full	Conversion from 4 to 8 units	Deanwood Farm	Stockcross	No Obj
02/02507	House	Conservatory	Elmfield Gdns	Speen	No Obj
02/02249	House	Conservatory	22 Speen Place	Speen	No Obj
02/02714	House	Conservatory	Woodbine Cottage, Bath Rd.	Speen	
02/02709	House	Extension & Garage	18 Lambourn Rd	Speen	

Application NOT received

02/01998	House	Conservatory	1 Groveland Road	Speen	Approval
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11. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Stockcross Car Park – letter read out from Stockcross Primary School, asking if they could park their cars on the Rec. A Snook and T Tyler had refused but offered them the hard standing area. A Snook mentioned that 4 cars were parked there regularly. He has their registration numbers. They probably belong to the nearby houses. The Clerk was asked to get a quote for a sign, to be put up.
- b) The Clerk said that details of the Mobile Library routes would go on Speen board shortly.
- c) A letter from a resident in April Cottage, behind The Vineyard explained that their privacy was being eroded by neighbours who appear to have a commercial taxi service running from their premises. R Wilson declared an Interest. A lengthy discussion took place, and the Clerk said that G Leach from Downers, the Letting Agents had been in touch. She said that matters were in hand, and investigations were

taking place. E Vandyk suggested that the Rating Officer be advised. P Bryant said that the Enforcement Officer at West Berks Council is dealing with it.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) M Butcher said that the Ladywell needed attention and so did the chains of the War Memorial. The posts also need attention. The seats in the Recreation Ground at Speen need painting with protective oil. A E Butcher was asked to go ahead, and the Clerk said that she would arrange an Invoice accordingly when he advises that the work completed.
- b) P Bryant mentioned affordable housing in the area. Opinions vary and we do not know how much more we should be anticipating in Speen. A discussion took place.
- c) A Snook said that he would let the Clerk have a letter to send to Suttons, regarding the Deeds of the footpath at Stockcross Recreation ground

The Meeting closed at 8.50 p.m. and the next Meeting is scheduled for 10th March at 7 p.m. at Speen Parish Hall..