

**MINUTES OF THE SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER 2007 AT STOCKCROSS
SUTTON HALL AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: G Foulkes (Chairman) A Martin R Tolcher K Phillips
A Snook A Lees K Sullivan L Warner J Ives (Clerk)

MOP : 2

District Councillor: M Franks

1. APOLOGIES: P Bryant (DC) and Paul Calder

2. DECLARATIONS: nil

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (17th September 2007): after adding L Warner as an apology as he had text the Clerk, the Minutes were agreed and signed. All in Favour.

4. MATTERS ARISING: a) The Clerk was asked to get a quote from the same company to complete the tarmacing, at the Pavilion Speen.
b) **Crime in Speen:** R Tolcher gave a summary of the position, and said that in his view the land between Speen Lodge Court and the Bath Road is not owned by WBC, and is not a Public Right of Way. The Survey continues. If keys are issued for the locked gate, the Parish Clerk should not be responsible for them. Agreed by Council – to be discussed at a later meeting, if and when the possibility arises. R Tolcher had attended a NAG meeting and the Newbury Area Forum. The Clerk would find the date of the next NAG meeting in the Hungerford area, to cover Stockcross.
c) **Speeding in Grove Road.** One member of the public also mentioned concerns for speeding in Stockcross, and a discussion took place. The Clerk has not heard back from WBC regarding speeding in general. The member of Public said that she would chase and get petitioners aroused, and was thanked for her interest. K Phillips and K Sullivan to help her in her efforts.

5. SPEEN RECREATIONAL GROUND. A lengthy discussion took place and the outcome was that the Pavilion would be fitted with a Mosquito device (approx £800 plus) and further quotes on this would be obtained. The light under the eaves is to be fitted in two weeks, and is under Insurance. The tiles have been promised and are now urgent. The square of ground near the wall needs tarmac, and the same company should be told that some areas already done have gone soft. Clerk to advise company. The hedge cutting was put on 'pause'. A Snook would draft a letter to the residents bordering the recreational ground and tipping waste over their hedge.

6. RoSPa A Snook had compiled a summary of work required and the Clerk said that she would ask a contractor to quote and action the medium risk first and the low risk second. All in Favour.

7. STOCKCROSS FOOTPATH: K Phillips and G Foulkes had asked for meetings with the Governors, but this had not taken place. The Head Master feels that the

dropping off of children at his school gates was not his problem. It is a negative situation with the school.

8. PLANNING: A Snook advised that we had had 27 applications since May 1st, and we have objected to one, which was subsequently passed by WBC. He has a current one with plans for central heating – unusual – but needs pipe entry in outside wall. No objection.

9 FINANCES: Balances at the Bank are £1922.38 C/A and £26807.17 Treasury Account. The Clerk has been in contact with Internal Auditor. E Vandyk was not present tonight to talk about the proposed new software. The Clerk reported that Lloyds has ‘lost’ the latest Mandate with two Councillors signatures on, but that it had turned up One month later. They also said that they had not agreed a previous Mandate in 2006 and all the cheques we had signed on it were not legally valid, which was their error. The Clerk was asked to get Mandates from National Westminster, and K Sullivan would liaise. An annual increase recommended by NALC was proposed and seconded in favour of the Clerk, back dated to April 1st.

**CHEQUES PAID AND TO BE PAID SINCE LAST MEETING
SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL**

01/10/2007 SEC	224.72	1321
01/10/2007 Southern Electric	153.55	1322
06/10/2007 A E Butcher	62.00	1323
06/10/2007 MCD/Cottrells stny	46.02	1324
06/10/2007 A J Ives Clerk	468.64	1325
18/10/2007 K & G Gibberd	2,621.43	1326
18/10/2007 Thames Water	18.31	1327
08/11/2007 A E Butcher	78.00	1328
08/11/2007 A J Ives/postage etc	495.83	1329
08/11/2007 B Forkin padlock	20.99	1330
19/11/2007 Southern Electric	50.99	1331
19/11/2007 The Royal British Legion	40.00	1332
19/11/2007 St John's Church StkX	250.00	1333
	4,530.48	

10: DONATION TO ST JOHNS CHURCH FOR UPKEEP OF GRAVEYARD.

This was proposed and seconded and All in Favour. A cheque for £250 was drawn.

11 TRAVELLERS: A discussion took place and the seriousness of our position was felt by all. The Clerk to keep in touch with WBC regarding movement. R Tolcher reminded the Council that we have £300 donated from Speen Fete for use on the gates, and maybe we should use this money wisely.

12. CORRESPONDENCE a) T Butcher's letter re sky dishes put up in Conservation areas – Clerk to place map on Speen Notice Board showing Conservation area. 11 other others were read, circulated or distributed.

13. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION: K Sullivan will get a quotation from the Mole Catcher Jeff Nichols, and report back to Council and member of public, David Halls.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.25 P.M. AND THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 14TH AT SPEEN 7.30 P.M.