

**MINUTES OF THE SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN SPEEN
VILLAGE HALL ON 14TH JANUARY 2008 AT 7.30 P.M.**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: G Foulkes (Chairman) E Vandyk (Vice Chairman) K Philiips A Martin K Sullivan L Warner A Snook R Tolcher J Ives (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES: M Franks (District Councillor) P Bryant (District Councillor) P Calder.

2. DECLARATIONS: nil

3. MINUTES: Minutes of the last Meeting (November 19th 2007) were agreed and passed. All in Favour.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

- a. Quotes for the extra piece of ground at Speen Rec had been difficult to obtain. A Snook said that he would contact K and S Gibberd who had tarmaced the rest of the patch, and report back.
- b. Crime in Speen: R Tolcher reported that a survey in November 2007 showed that there is a great deal of support for Gating, and a decision has to be made. Decision date by West Berks Council is 26th February. Meanwhile there is still petty crime in the alley way at Speen Lodge Court, and milk is being stolen. The Clerk was detailed to write a formal letter to Alex O'Connor , Assistant Community Safety Manager.
- c. The Neighbourhood Action Group in Kintbury (which covers Stockcross) is meeting on 7th February and K Sullivan will represent. R Tolcher will attend the Newbury NAG on 31st January.
- d. The Parish Council agreed to employ the services of the Moleman in Stockcross, for the sum of £20 per mole. Proposed and seconded All in Favour.

5. SPEEN RECREATIONAL GROUND: Secure Systems UK Ltd – Mosquito youth crowd dispersal equipment. After discussion it was agreed to go ahead and purchase this equipment, for installing in the Pavilion rafters. The sum of £780 plus VAT was proposed and seconded. All in Favour. An alternative quotation had been sought but the price was similar.

6. BARRIERS FOR TRAVELLERS: R Tolcher had spent some time with this project and reported that there is a barrier at Woolhampton that the Parish Council have just purchased and it is nearly perfect for our requirements. Details of the Manufacturer and costs were available. Further quotes are to be obtained, and the Parish Council gave their support. The Chairman thanked R Tolcher for all drawings, and all the work he had put in with ill health.

7. ROSPA WORK: The Clerk was asked to get further quotes for the medium and low risk work to be done.

8. GRANT AID – GREENHAM TRUST. Application Form had not been completed and the date to be in is drawing close, so L Warner took over the job. We are trying to get grant money to support our project with Speen Pavilion.

9: PLANNING – A Snook reported a quiet time. 2 Speen Lane – another application to come. 8 Lambourne Rd Speen has been handed to L Warner.

10. PRECEPT: a draft proposal was circulated and a small increase of £1635 to £20K was suggested. It was noted that the Parish Council are making their properties more secure (Speen Pavilion) and guarding against vandalism. The Precept of £20k was proposed, seconded and All in Favour.

11. FINANCES: Balance at Bank of Ireland: £26738.83 Lloyds £1773.50
The RFO (Clerk) reported that there is a possibility of cheaper insurance with the Norwich Union. We will receive a quote in March. We are trying to migrate our Speen Gov.uk domain and the Clerk would update the website regularly.

CHEQUES PAID SPEEN JANUARY 2008

05/12/2007 A J Ives back pay due	1334	
		92.70
05/12/2007 A J Ives - Clerk	1334	
		425.00
05/12/2007 A J Ives expenses	1335	
		40.10
06/12/2007 Animated Laser Co	1336	
Comp		35.25
06/12/2007 A E Butcher	1337	
		62.00
06/12/2007 Speen Hall	1338	
		12.00
05/01/2008 SEC	1339	
		224.72
05/01/2008 Sutton Hall	1340	
		21.00
05/01/2008 R W Sutton	1341	
		170.38
05/01/2008 A J Ives - Parish Clerk	1342	
		425.00
05/01/2008 A J Ives expenses	1343	
		47.58
14/01/2008 Southern Elec	1344	
		151.93
14/01/2008 Sir R Sutton's Estates	1345	
		0.25
14/01/2008 AEB - War Memorial	1346	
		100.00
14/01/2008 AE Butcher	1346	
		62.00
14/01/2008 AEButcher - Ladywell	1346	
		20.00
14/01/2008 AE Butcher The	1346	
Pound		18.00
		1,907.91

12. CORRESPONDENCE: 9 items were read and circulated,

13 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION.

- The Clerk to write to Mr D Halls about the moles at Stockcross.
- A Snook reported that the long awaited hedgecutting at Lambourne Road has now been actioned.
- Representatives of the Fete Committee at Speen put forward their ideas of installing a permanent Basket Ball Hoop in the Speen Rec Car Park. This was discussed at some length, and the Chairman asked them to produce a written report for the next Meeting in March. Meanwhile we would ask our Insurers, RoSPa and others.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.P.M. AND THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 10TH AT STOCKCROSS.