

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SPEEN PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON 12TH MAY 2008 AT SPEEN VILLAGE HALL AT
7.30 p.m**

Present: G Foulkes (Chairman) E Vandyk (Vice Chairman) P Calder K Sullivan
A Martin, L Warner, R Tolcher J Ives (Clerk)

Members of the Public: 2 incl Newbury Weekly News.

District Councillors: nil

1) APOLOGIES: A Lees K Phillips (late)

2) WELCOME

3) DECLARATIONS. Nil

4) ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

G Foulkes was nominated, proposed and seconded and accepted. All in Favour.
Declarations signed.

5) ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

E Vandyk was nominated, proposed and seconded and accepted. All in Favour.
Declarations signed.

6) MINUTES - 10th March 2008. The Minutes of 10th March 2008 were agreed and signed. All in Favour.

7) MATTERS ARISING:

(a) Crime in Speen – R Tolcher said that there was little to report since the Annual Parish Meeting in April. The gate has yet to be installed at Speen Lodge Court and keys distributed to residents. R Tolcher also advised that he had attended a meeting at WBC regarding restriction signage at Bagnor Rd/Lambourn Rd junction. A decision had already been made.

(b) RoSPa work – P Calder said that there were certain restrictions on the re-building of the ‘Mound’ in Speen Recreational ground and he would have more details later. The Clerk reported knocking on doors at Marsh Benham to ascertain how much use there is at the swings area there, and it is used, but the request was for a normal swing to replace one of the baby swings. Clerk to get quote.

(c) a bill will sent to the Clerk for one mole caught at Stockcross.

8) COMMITTEES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. The schedule for the forthcoming year was compiled and will be circulated by the Clerk.

9) TRAVELLERS SECURITY BARRIERS. Two Quotes had been received and compared. After discussion it was agreed to go to DLW Interiors and Fabrications (David Lane) of Henwick Road, Thatcham whose quote was marginally cheaper than PPS. It was agreed to have painted galvanised finish. Both sites Stockcross and Speen – total approx £4k. Both pedestrian gates at Speen are to be checked out, making greater improvement for wheelchair access. The spring is to be mended on one gate and padlocks and finials included in the work. Several keys will be available. Proposed, seconded and agreed All in Favour.

10) BAGNOR. E Vandyk has not heard anything from the committee at Bagnor.

11) SIGN AT SPEEN RECREATION GROUND. Clerk reported that a resident of Sutton Road has had her fence smashed by youths playing in the recreational ground. The original sign we put up in 2005 has gone missing. It was agreed to replace this for her. Proposed and seconded.

12) PLANNING: The new planning Committee discussed with the clerk on issuing of Planning Applications.. A query was raised on 8 Lambourn Road, and the Clerk to make contact with WBC.

13) INSURANCE: There was now competition for Allianz Cornhill by Norwich Union who had started a new Policy Scheme for Parish Councils. After discussion it was agreed to stay with Allianz Cornhill as they have served us well over the years and we have had 2/3 claims per year.

14) DONATIONS: (a) BALC £371.33 this was agreed in principle but the Clerk was asked to find out exactly how many Electors in Speen Parish before paying, as the Subscription was calculated at 2028.

(b) Speen Fete - £100 proposed and seconded. All in favour.

(c) St Georges Day in Stockcross K Phillips and K Sullivan

declared an Interest: £100 proposed and seconded. All in Favour.

(d) two other requests for donations were turned down.

15) FINANCIAL MATTERS: A detailed report from the Internal Auditors M Linn, was read by the Chairman. The Accounts are now finished and ready for signing, however R Tolcher expressed an interest in one figure and therefore the Chairman postponed signing the Accounts until the next Meeting. The Clerk to liaise with R Tolcher.

Cheques paid since the last Meeting:

DATE	CHQ	PAYEE	AMT
02/04/2008	1356	Speen Parish Hall	9.00
02/04/2008	1357	SLCC Enterprises	70.50
02/04/2008	1358	SEC	224.72
02/04/2008	1359	A J Ives - Clerk	451.49
02/04/2008	1360	Southern Electric	166.23
07/04/2008	1361	Sutton Hall - refund due	27.50
07/04/2008	1362	Staples - toner	74.49
07/04/2008	1363	ISS Waterers	322.98
07/04/2008	1364	A E Butcher - litterpicker	62.00
26/04/2008	1365	Secure Systems UK Ltd	916.50
21/04/2008	1366	N Weekly News	37.98
03/05/2008	1367	Thames Water	19.53
03/05/2008	1368	Staples	7.99
03/05/2008	1369	A J Ives - Clerk	456.28
12/05/2008	1370	A E Butcher - litterpicker	62.00
			2,909.19

16) Mrs A Styles' fence at Speen Lodge has caused some concern. Mrs Styles was at this meeting and explained in full how she had bought the property and had the one boundary fenced at the Vendor's request. She is now getting complaints from hikers and walkers who cannot get through. The path is not a Public Footpath but as the Vice Chairman said it may be, due to default. It has been walked for many years. This is a challenging topic, he said. The Parish Council understood the problem but do not have a view. The Right of Way by default was noted by the owner Mrs A Styles.

17) CORRESPONDENCE 5 items were read out and circulated.

18) MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION:

- (a) K Phillips gave his apologies for the next meeting July 14th.
- (b) The poles are up at Stockcross ready for the VAS equipment to be attached.
- (c) A new 'Admin Block' is being advertised at the Bagnor corner with Grove Road.
- (d) The Mosquito hours have been re-adjusted.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9 P.M. AND THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 14TH AT SPEEN 7.30 P.M.