

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

PRESENT: G Foulkes (Chairman) R Tolcher K Sullivan L Warner A Martin
A Lees

Members of the Public: 6 plus Newbury Weekly News

1. APOLOGIES: E Vandyk (Vice Chairman) M Franks K Phillips P Bryant (late)

2. DECLARATIONS: NIL

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (May 12th 2008) The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed. All in Favour.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

- a. Crime in Speen.** R Tolcher had little to report – the gate at Speen Lodge Court is working well, after a few teething troubles. The residents of Speen Lodge Court appreciate the support of the Parish Council. Crime is now down to zero in this locality.
- b. Recent NAG Meeting:** R Tolcher attended a recent Meeting and the question of the boundary alignment for Stockcross, Bagnor and Marsh Benham was again raised. The Councillors agreed to include this area with Speen, and not Hungerford and Cllr R Tolcher was asked to convey these requirements to the Police.
- c. Kersey Crescent Car Parking:** Sovereign are hoping to demolish some garages to make more hard standing for parking in Kersey Crescent.
- d. Newbury Area Forum 21st May.** Cllr R Tolcher had attended this last meeting of the Newbury Forum. There was some dismay that the Forums had been closed without another useful group being formed to take their place.
- e. The VAS sign in Stockcross** is now fully operational.

5. SPEEN RECREATIONAL GROUND:

- Notices to say ‘ please do not kick footballs against this building’ were agreed and motion passed. They will be delivered to A Butcher for installation within a week
- Two Quotes were examined for lowering the hedge height behind the Speen Pavilion and also behind the car park and all along Grove Road. The Contractor was awarded the contract which included removing the metal fence within the hedge at the back of the Pavilion. Proposed A W Land and Tree Care Ltd and seconded and all in favour.
- The brick litterbin will be built up and restored within two weeks, the Clerk said.
- The Invalid Door at the rear of the Pavilion has rotted and a quote was being obtained to replace.

- Fascias were discussed – need to be in wood – one Quote had been received and another two would be obtained. L Warner to action.
- The Garage door has been repaired by A Butcher and he was thanked for a good job done.
- Dog bins – the missing dog bin did not belong to us – the Clerk to contact Shaw cum Donnington. There are no plans to replace at present.
- The Barriers and gates recently installed are excellent and all were pleased.

6: RoSPa work: The Mound at Speen Recreational Ground needs attention (as per RoSPa report 2007) and some discussion took place. Playground Services have quoted. L Warner took to action. Also the swings at Marsh Benham need replacing to normal size, and more bark – L Warner to action and make enquiries.

7. STOCKCROSS: August 10th is another Charity cricket function and we have had the assurance from Waterers that the grass will be cut prior to the event. The hedge cutting is postponed to the September Meeting.

8. PLANNING: a) a request was made by the Clerk for Planning Committee Members to advise when they are on holidays.

b) Holt Cottage Speen: There was concern amongst the Council that work had commenced on building up the Cutting after slippage, without full Planning Applications going through. A Report by R Tolcher (Councillor and Chartered Engineer) was given to the Councillors and a discussion took place. WBC are ‘working on it’ and there is nothing more we can do. WBC will not stop the work (2 lorries per hour with ballast for 12 hours per day for 6-7 weeks) but agree that Planning Permission should have been sought,

9 FINANCES:

- 1) The Clerk gave the Balances in the Bank and asked that three more cheques be signed.
- 2) A Cheque was signed to transfer funds from Bank of Ireland.
- 3) The Accounts for y/e 31st March 2008 were agreed and signed – All in Favour. The Clerk to complete the paperwork and post.
- 4) Donations: The Chairman read a letter from St Marys at Speen asking for their donation (annual) to be increased. A sum of £300 was proposed and seconded and agreed. All in favour,
- 5) The Clerk asked that the Standing Order amounts of £500 be doubled but this was turned down by Council.

Cheques paid since last Meeting:

| | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|------|-----------------|
| 12/05/2008 | Post Office | 1371 | 8.32 |
| 12/05/2008 | ISS Waterers | 1372 | 322.98 |
| 17/05/2008 | Speen fete donation | 1373 | 100.00 |
| 17/05/2008 | Sutton Hall | 1374 | 100.00 |
| | cancelled | 1375 | |
| 17/05/2008 | Allinz Ins | 1376 | 1,345.55 |
| 17/05/2008 | Southern Electric | 1377 | 62.59 |
| 04/06/2008 | Animated Laser Comp | 1378 | 141.00 |
| 04/06/2008 | Numbercrafts sign | 1379 | 21.15 |
| 04/06/2008 | Post Office | 1380 | 38.40 |
| 04/06/2008 | A J Ives - Clerk | 1381 | 435.00 |
| 04/06/2008 | BALC - sub | 1382 | 371.33 |
| 06/06/2008 | ISS Waterers | 1383 | 322.98 |
| 06/06/2008 | Clerk - use of office | 1384 | 125.00 |
| 06/06/2008 | A E Butcher | 1385 | 62.00 |
| 18/06/2008 | M W Sutton | 1386 | 229.13 |
| 21/06/2008 | SEC | 1387 | 265.81 |
| 23/06/2008 | D Lane Welding | 1388 | 3,425.13 |
| 03/07/2008 | Timpsons | 1389 | 14.00 |
| 07/07/2008 | ISS Waterers | 1390 | 322.98 |
| 07/07/2008 | Southern Electric | 1391 | 155.16 |
| 07/07/2008 | A J Ives - Clerk | 1392 | 435.00 |
| 14/07/2008 | A E Butcher | 1393 | 62.00 |
| 14/07/2008 | A E Butcher | 1394 | 134.98 |
| 14/07/2008 | Speen Parish Hall | 1395 | 24.00 |
| 15/07/2008 | St Mary's Speen | 1396 | 300.00 |
| | | | 8,824.49 |

10: CORRESPONDENCE: 6 Items of Correspondence were read out – including details of Footpath 15 which were accepted. A Police Meeting ‘ Have your Say’ will be attended by Cllr. R Tolcher.

11. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION:

- Cllr K Sullivan announced that he is hoping to raise a local Committee in Stockcross to address the problem of the Playing Pavilion, and lack of facilities.
- There is a wasp nest outside Speen Parish Hall – R Tolcher (Trustee) took note.

The Meeting Closed at 9.15 p.m. and the next Meeting is scheduled for September 22nd at Speen 7.30 p.m. 2008.