

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 22nd SEPTEMBER 2008 IN SPEEN PARISH HALL.**

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

Members of the Public: 4 (including N W News)

1. Apologies: M Franks P Bryant (District Councillors)

2. Declarations: nil

3: Minutes of the last Meeting (July 14th 2008) were agreed and signed. All in Favour.

4. Matters Arising: a) Crime in Speen. Cllr R Tolcher has little to report. Some small incidents at Speen Lodge Court involving youths/girls.

b) Cllr R Tolcher has attended a NAG Meeting on 31st July, and is due to attend on 24th September. A new Chairperson has been appointed – Louise Bolton. The question of transferring Stockcross and Marsh Benham from the Hungerford NAG to the Shaw/Donnington NAG was discussed and the inclusion of the whole Ward (ie Boxford, Bagnor and Winterbourne) is now being discussed. Cllr R Tolcher will attend the next Meeting on October 9th 2008. The Parish Council agreed and thanked Cllr R Tolcher for attending on their behalf.

5. Speen Recreational Ground. The new fascia boards are nearly completed on the Pavilion. Cllr L Warner will get special graffiti proof paint. The Invalid door at the back has been replaced and now opens ‘out’. More room inside. A Good job done and thanks to the ‘Garden Carpenter’. The waste bin has been concreted into the ground, and there is a key for the inner unit which will be held by the litterpicker. The remains of the old brick unit will be disposed of shortly. Tiles have been replaced and there are two more to do. The fencing has been completed along Grove Road and behind the Pavilion. It is looking much tidier now.

6 RoSPa work: The Mound playing unit at Speen was discussed and a quotation of £1310 plus VAT by Playground Services was proposed and agreed. The Mound is dangerous and is Medium Risk. A new access platform will replace the old, and the tyres/concrete will be removed. All in Favour. Regarding bark at Marsh Benham – the Clerk to ascertain where we can buy direct and Cllr K Sullivan will arrange collection if possible. All in Favour.

7. ISS Waterers. The Clerk reported a good working relationship with Waterers, as extra cuts had been needed for AFC Football on both locations. She also said that they have agreed to trim around the play area at both locations, and also kill off the weeds in Stockcross Car Park. An extra amount of £66 will be charged to our account for the second cut at Speen and AFC are re-imbursing this amount.

8. AFC at Stockcross: Sunday only for two not-full-size pitches and Agreements have been signed and accepted. A sum of £200 for Stockcross juniors. Mid September to end April. Payment by December 1st. The boundary hedges in two places have been cut back by C S Wellman. There are a few more head high shoots to be cut back and the Clerk will contact the Contractor again. No trees to be cut back. Cllr K Philips agreed.

9. Planning. The Planning Applications that had come in since the last Meeting had been dealt with promptly and efficiently. Cllr K Sullivan had been away for one week, and the plans had been re-routed to the members of the Committee and were due in after this Meeting.

Speen Hill Cottage: The Cuttings. This has been discussed by some members of the Parish Council at an impromptu working group get together, and a response of Objection was lodged with West Berkshire Council upon return of the Plans. Later, a letter of Complaint on the way in which West Berkshire Planning Department had handled the Application, was sent to Nick Carter Chief Executive. An acknowledgement has been received. Mr Allan, an interested party (member of the Public) said that he wished to discuss this with the Parish Council, but it was agreed that the Parish Council have no wish to upset members of the electorate, and the complaint was with WBC and not Mr Allan. The matter was closed.

10. Finances: The Clerk advised the balances in the bank: C/A £1906.61 and Bank of Ireland: £34,894.42. The Accounts up to 31st March 2008 are in the post to us and have been agreed.

Cheques paid since the last meeting:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|-----------------|
| 06/08/2008 Thames Water | 1397 | 19.04 |
| 06/08/2008 Numbercraft | 1398 | 38.26 |
| 06/08/2008 A J Ives - Clerk | 1399 | 436.45 |
| 06/08/2008 M J Linn Acctcy | 1400 | 200.00 |
| 09/08/2008 A W Land and Tree Care | 1401 | 1,100.00 |
| 09/08/2008 ISS Waterers | 1402 | 322.98 |
| 14/08/2008 A E Butcher | 1403 | 65.69 |
| 12/08/2008 postage | 1404 | 17.28 |
| 19/08/2008 Southern Electric | 1405 | 46.84 |
| 08/09/2008 Animated Laser Co | 1406 | 17.62 |
| void | 1407 | |
| 08/09/2008 M W Sutton | 1408 | 170.38 |
| 08/09/2008 Use of Home A J Ives | 1409 | 125.00 |
| 08/09/2008 A J Ives - Clerk | 1410 | 435.00 |
| 08/09/2008 ISS Waterers | 1411 | 322.98 |
| 10/09/2008 garden carpenter | 1412 | 118.83 |
| 11/09/2008 postage | 1413 | 19.04 |
| 15/09/2008 R Tolcher - Bark | 1414 | 5.96 |
| 15/09/2008 garden carpenter | 1415 | 75.00 |
| 15/09/2008 A E Butcher | 1416 | 94.98 |
| 22/09/2008 Earth Anchors Ltd | 1417 | 259.68 |
| 22/09/2008 C S Wellman - hedges | 1418 | 180.00 |
| 22/09/2008 garden carpenter | 1419 | 976.77 |
| | | 5,047.78 |

11. Correspondence: The Chairman went through a pile of 9 items for consideration and delegation.

- 12. Matters for Consideration and information:**
- a) The Clerk should book next year;s Meetings and bear in mind that Stockcross are unavailable for Monday evenings. The Council agreed to meet another night if necessary.
 - b) Vice Chairman E Vandyk advised that he was talking informally with Johnathan Russell at Suttons, on the possibility of building in the future on land in Stockcross. J Russell wants to work with the Community and raise a liaison party. Vice Chairman E Vyndyk to raise a draft paper and come back to the Council. All agreed.
 - c) Cllr K Sullivan reported on the appearance of two new 'school' signs in the village, up and working.
 - d) Cllr R Tolcher to speak to Mr Hall regarding mole activity near the notice board in Stockcross.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8 3.0 p.m. AND THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 17TH AT STOCKCROSS, 7.30 p.m.