

**MINUTES OF SPEEN PARISH MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2009  
IN SPEEN PARISH HALL.**

**Present:** G Foulkes ( Chairman ) R Tolcher L Warner J Ives ( Clerk)

**Apologies:** K Phillips A Martin M Franks

**District Councillor:** P Bryant

**Members of the Public:** 2

The Chairman announced that there being no quorum, decisions could not be made, and he apologised to the MOP and Councillors for the absenteeism.

- 1. TALK BY B NOBES, CHURCHWARDEN AT ST MARY'S CHURCH SPEN.** Mr Nobes explained that the Heritage Weekend on 12/13 September would be a valued event and he was keen to inspire interest in the Church and surrounding grounds such as the Ladywell. The Heritage Weekend is an Annual Event and this will be the first time St Mary's has opened its doors to visitors for a 'Value Visit'. There is an Art Exhibition planned, refreshments and BBQ – hoping to raise the position of the Church and the Village of Speen. It is part of 'Discover Newbury' and is well covered by the Press and Meridian TV. He is hoping for a donation from the Parish Council to help cut the grass and support the venture. The Chairman warmly thanked Mr Nobes and a decision would be made when the Council next meets.
- 2. NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR:** Linda Tull introduced herself as a Speen born and bred resident. She has connections with the local Neighbourhood Action Group and is their Chairwoman. She would like to see Speen Village maintained at a good level as she feels strongly that it is a place of beauty and has a good 'feel' about it. She would like to 'put something back' and would very much enjoy her work as a Parish Councillor. She was thanked by those present and invited to come to the next meeting to join the Council.
- 3. CRIME IN SPEEN.** Cllr R Tolcher explained that the lock and the fittings at the alleyway gate at Speen Lodge Court has been attended to, and mended. There was a Meeting of the NAG group on 25<sup>th</sup> March which he had attended, and various topics had been addressed such as footpath lighting, areas for youngsters to play in the evenings, speeding cars and graffiti. The Council noted that an NPO and a PCSO should be appointed soon for our Parish. The next NAG Meeting is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> May.
- 4. 106 MONEIES:** The Chairman looked at a document which showed that approximately £6K may come to the Parish for use in Open Spaces, some at Marsh Benham. This was discussed.
- 5. SPEEN RECREATIONAL GROUND:** Cllr L Warner said that the anti-climb paint was now installed and it was obvious that it had been tested. Signs are also up – and the wooden posts are cemented in. The Complete Gardener is working on the pegs for the mats on the Mound. There had been a great deal of litter left around recently. The Interior of the Pavilion needs to be painted. The Clerk to offer an address for a Painter in The Sydings. Cllr

Warner is to make enquiries regarding new equipment for youngsters at Speen Recreation swings area.

6. **FINANCE:** Cheques were signed and the Clerk (RFO) said that the Precept has been received. It was now essential that the Finance Committee meet to decide which Account they would chose for investment.
7. **FLOWERS TO A. E. AND MARY BUTCHER:** A card was read out and it was noted that they had been appreciated.
8. **MOBILE YOUTH WORK:** Clerk had replied to Newbury Town Council saying the vehicle they suggested for Youth Activity was a worthwhile idea, but expensive to maintain.
9. **RENEWABLE ENERGY:** Cllr L Warner had a ticket and would take Cllr R Tolcher to the Meeting.
10. **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:** Cllr P Bryant explained that M Franks had now taken over the portfolio for Roads. There had been a reorganisation of the Committee Structure at WBC.
11. **CORRESPONDENCE:** 2 items were read and discussed.

**FOR THE AGM AS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30 AND THERE WILL BE ANOTHER MEETING SOON AS CAN BE ARRANGED.**