

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT STOCKCROSS HALL ON JULY 15<sup>TH</sup> 2009 AT 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** G Foulkes ( Chairman ) E Vandyk ( Vice Chairman ) R Tolcher  
A Lees L Warner L Till A Martin K Sullivan K Phillips A J Ives (Clerk)

Members of the Public: 36

**APOLOGIES** M Franks P Bryant

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None

**SUTTON SETTLED ESTATES:** The Chairman welcomed Jonathan E Russell Estates Manager for Sutton's Settled Estates.

A letter from Jonathan setting out the draft submission to be made in respect of the local development plan had been circulated to all Councillors, as it raised the question of potentially including the recreation ground at Stockcross owned by the Council but over which Sutton Estates had the benefit of restrictive covenants as regards development. The map attached to the draft letter showed various pieces of land that Sutton Estates own within the cartilage of Stockcross village, and which they had chosen to identify to West Berks Council for possible development in the future. Jonathan stated that currently there are no specific plans in force to develop the land identified.

Jonathan said that he was pleased to attend the Meeting to answer questions although he felt that such questions and the unanticipated high turn out may reflect a note sent round the village by two Councillors which portrayed the draft letter as a firm intention to develop certain areas which it was not. He explained the context of the draft submission. He went on to say that all dealings between the Estate and the Village should be by co-operation as far as possible and any proposals would be discussed with Council during the relevant decision process, so that Council and villagers were involved in such process. The Estate is, however, obliged to maximise the assets it holds in trust for the benefit of the beneficiaries and land available for potential development is identified in that context.

The Vice Chairman, E Vandyk then asked Jonathan if anything new had happened, since the last conversation they had had together? E Vandyk recited a list of sites which had been reported and discussed at Council before, namely sites adjacent to the Lord Lyon, the allotments, and car parking for the school. The Estate has had a recent planning application for disused farm outbuildings down Snakey Lane to be replaced with residential and Council had supported that application with conditions.

E Vandyk stated he believed that the Council were right to continue to assess how and whether to get better facilities for the Recreation Ground and this meant considering all options.

A number of questions were taken from the floor and answered by Jonathan and E Vandyk on behalf of Council.

E Vandyk summarised by saying that if the village and Council, representing them, wanted the best solution – open, inclusive and with consultation on all options then Council should continue to interact with Sutton Estates and that all options should be considered however unpalatable as we had no way of knowing what (potentially equally unpalatable) requirement might be imposed by the district plan by local or central government. In continuing a dialogue at least agreed alternatives might be available to any such imposition. A Vote was taken and was unanimous in that it did not require including the Recreation Ground in the list of sites within the curtilage of Stockcross Village, as being potentially available for development to be submitted by Sutton Estates to the review process.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman thanked Jonathan Russell very much for attending.

**1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2009.** These were approved All in Favour, and signed by the Chairman.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING**

- a) Cllr R Tolcher reported that he had attended the Speen/Shaw/Donnington Neighbourhood Action Group Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> May. A copy of the Minutes is available. A NAG Questionnaire had been distributed and a high percentage response. A summary is also available from the Clerk or from Cllr L Tull. The new PCSO Adrian Coggins is now established, and the new NPC Ian Bibbins will start shortly. The Clerk was asked to invite both to the September Meeting.

**Action Clerk**

- b) The nettles at Stockcross had been dealt with very swiftly by the Contractors ISS and the clerk has thanked them

## **3. SPEEN RECREATIONAL GROUND.**

Cllr L Warner reported on the Playbuilder Lottery scheme – there is £50K available for 11 sites, and he advised Council that he had complete a form which expressed our interest. This has been lodged at West Berks Council and has been acknowledged. We have to wait for the next instruction, in August.

The gate at the side of Speen Recreation Ground, next to the Barriers which D Lane Ltd contracted for us, needs replacing. D Lane Ltd has quoted us and with a special hinge that is user friendly for wheelchairs. The Quote was under £500 and was proposed and seconded All in Favour and the Clerk was asked to start the work

**Action Clerk**

#### **4. STOCKCROSS**

Cllr K Phillips said that the Village Production of Alladin was scheduled for December. All are welcome. The Clerk said that she had received a letter from Mrs Wilson asking for a donation. This was agreed and the sum of £200 was allotted. All in Favour.

#### **5. PLANNING**

Cllr K Sullivan said that it had been very quiet until tonight when the Clerk had given him an enormous bundle of 09/01300/COMIND which referred to the proposed Aldi retail store in London Road. We are one of the 5 Parishes contacted to glance at the Plans. There is no obligation to put a return in, as it is not in our Parish.

#### **6. FINANCE**

The Clerk (RFO) read the balance at the bank £40,759.37 and the schedule of cheques paid since the last meeting has been circulated. She said that she had received a letter from Mrs K Hattersley St Mary's Church asking for a donation for the churchyard upkeep as per previous years. The Council proposed the same as last year £300 and this was seconded and actioned.

A cheque had been received from the Tennis Club £25.00.

A VAT Return had been compiled, sent and was now paid and in our Bank. £566.16

After a working party Meeting it had been agreed to leave the Current Account at Lloyds as it stands, as there is history in the account and the interest rates are so low at present that it was not considered a worthwhile objection to open a deposit account and get new Mandates signed.

Football monies had been credited in April £280 and the Precept had been credited to our Account on April 21<sup>st</sup> 2009 £10,000.

## CHEQUES DRAWN SINCE LAST MINUTED

12/03/2009	1467 A J Ives - Clerk	125.00
12/03/2009	1468 WBC Dog Bins	87.88
04/04/2009	1469 SEC	260.15
04/04/2009	1670 BALC sub	356.88
04/04/2009	1471 A J Ives - Clerk	435.00
04/04/2009	1472 Staples	51.37
04/04/2009	1473 WBC VAT dog bins	13.18
04/04/2009	1474 Newbury Internet	494.50
04/04/2009	1475 ISS Waterers	316.11
06/04/2009	1476 Southern Electric	215.10
06/04/2009	1477 GPO	23.60
20/04/2009	1478 Sutton Hall	7.50
20/04/2009	1479 Angelicas	28.95
20/04/2009	1480 A E Butcher	25.00
02/05/2009	1481 Thames Water	21.80
02/05/2009	1482 Speen Hall	6.20
03/05/2009	1483 A J Ives - Clerk	435.00
11/05/2009	1484 A E Butcher	62.00
11/05/2009	1485 Thames Water	21.80
11/05/2009	1486 Pave with Care	1,950.00
11/05/2009	1487 ISS Waterers	316.11
15/05/2009	1488 garden carpenter	375.00
20/05/2009	1489 Church Heritage	150.00
03/06/2009	1490 Southern Electric	35.16
03/06/2009	1491 ISS Waterers	316.11
03/06/2009	1492 Animated Laser Co	165.89
30/06/2009	1493 Storage A J Ives	125.00
03/06/2009	1494 A J Ives - Clerk	435.00
04/06/2009	1495 Allianz	1,494.31
15/06/2009	1496 A E Butcher	62.00
03/07/2009	1497 M J Linn Acctny	200.00
03/07/2009	1498 A J Ives - Clerk	463.08
03/07/2009	1499 SEC	263.30
03/07/2009	1500 ISS Waterers	316.11
03/07/2009	1501 Southern Electric	212.86
15/07/2009	1502 A E Butcher	62.00
15/07/2009	1503 Sutton Hall	200.00
15/07/2009	1504 St Marys Church	300.00
15/07/2009	1505 SLCC Ent	46.00
15/07/2009	1506 Timpsons	10.00
		10,484.95

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

9 items were discussed and circulated including

- A document had come from WBC regarding a Disaster Plan, which needs to be compiled. Cllr E Vandyk said that a working party should meet at his house to discuss. Clerk to arrange

**Action Clerk**

- A request from Charlie Woodhead ( Ex Councillor) to donate to a recent trip for charity was out of our boundaries as per standing orders.
- The District Conference is due 9<sup>th</sup> September to venue is to be advised.
- A letter from Mrs and Mrs Ireland Wickham, said that they were very worried about the lack of speed restriction in Bagnor. The Chairman reminded Council that the proposal of 30 mph in Bagnor had been requested at the same time as the B4000 in Stockcross. The latter had been won, after many years effort, and the Bagnor request had not been granted. Mr and Mrs Ireland mentioned that vehicles were travelling at 60 mph past the Blackbird Inn, but The Council could not agree this as being possible. Clerk to write.

**Action Clerk**

**7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION.**

Mrs McFarlane of Dairy Farm House at Marsh Benham, alerted the Parish Council to the dangerous corner at the bottom of the hill on the A4 from Newbury opposite the Stockcross entry. This corner is difficult to turn into from Hungerford side of the A4 and also crossing with horses from Stockcross. The Parish Council agreed with her, 100% and a discussion took place. Mrs McFarlane had contacted the Police and wondered if a SID or radar device could be placed there to monitor. Cllr R Tolcher said that the NAG Group would be pleased to look into this for her, and Cllr L Tull agreed. Telephone numbers were exchanged and it is hoped for a successful outcome.

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30 p.m. AND THE NEXT MEETING IS  
PLANNED FOR MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009 AT SPEEN PARISH  
HALL.**