

**MINUTES OF THE SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST
SEPTEMBER 2009, IN SPEEN PARISH HALL AT 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT: P Calder (Acting Chairman) R Tolcher L Warner K Sullivan A Lees
A Martin L Tull J Ives (Clerk).

MOP: 6

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS: P Bryant M Franks

P Calder was proposed and seconded – All in Favour – as temporary Chirman.

1. APOLOGIES: G Foulkes E Vandyk K Phillips

2. DECLARATIONS: NIL

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The Minutes of July 15th were checked, as there had been several alternative copies distributed to the Councillors due to the Open Meeting on July 15th, and the Chairman's reading of the same. They were agreed and signed – All in Favour.

4 MATTERS ARISING:

a) Crime in Speen. Cllr R Tolcher explained that he had attended a Meeting of the NAG group on 23rd July, when a variety of topics were discussed. It may be possible to share a Warden in the Parish, with neighbouring Parishes helping to support the cost. A Vote in Council supported the placement as long as control, percentage cost and joint effort was apparent. Cllr R Tolcher to report at the next PC Meeting. The next Meeting of the NAG is on 30th September when a new Chair will be appointed.

b) Hedge cutting in Station Road. The Clerk was asked to chase Ashley Walton who had promised to do the work last week and hadn't. The Clerk was asked to find out if Streetcare were cutting the roadside side of the hedge in Grove Road. ISS were mean to be cutting the inside of the hedge round the Recreation Ground

c) Suttons – The Clerk said that she had heard nothing from Suttons, since the Open Meeting on July 15th. She was asked to make contact again and see if there had been any submissions re planning potential in Newbury, as previously only Stockcross had been mentioned.

5) SPEEN RECREATION GROUND AND PAVILION. a) current situation:

Cllr L Warner summarised work that has been undertaken and completed – the paving stones, the gate, electrical repair in the pavilion including the installation of low energy bulbs. Cleaning needs to be done, and floors swept. When this work is completed then a memo to both AFC and Braziliant to be sent by the Clerk to say that cleaning will have to be maintained or a professional company brought in and charged to the Football Clubs.

b) Playbuilder Grant – progress: Cllr Warner reported on 2 meetings with three/four Councillors and Clerk and summarised his plans so far. All documents had been submitted to West Berks Council today. The next stage is to study the tenders and pool questions at another meeting – this was planned for Wednesday 23rd September at 6.30 p.m. Then two officers from the company's could come and meet in person. Then one would be chosen. 50% funds will be with us shortly and the remainder on completion in March 2010.

6. STOCKCROSS REPORT: Cllr K Sullivan read a report compiled by K Phillips mentioning two Cricket matches that had been played. They were both good successful days for the village. An all weather strip would be nice! Villagers working out costs. Hedges need pruning in the recreational ground.

7. PLANNING Cllr K Sullivan said that 7 applications had passed through his hands, but it was quiet recently. There had been no problems. The Supermarket ALDI on the London Road had been given to us for assessment although not in our Parish and Cllr R Tolcher had looked at the pro's and cons very thoroughly and submitted the document on behalf of Council. The Chairman thanked him for his efforts.

8. SUTTONS ESTATES – PROPOSED NEW HEN COOPS: Letters regarding this had been circulated before the Meeting and plans were available to look at. There were no objections and when the Planning Application comes through it will be signed off and agreed..

9. DONATIONS: BELL RINGERS GROUP AT ST MARY'S CHURCH. The Bell ringers group were represented at the Meeting and a draft copy of their requirements was introduced by Cllr Tolcher. Their total need is £1170 and after much discussion and a plea of caution from the Responsible Finance Officer (Clerk) a proposal of 3 x new bellropes at £120 each ie £360 was suggested and seconded and all in favour. Brian Nobes to provide an Invoice to the Clerk.

10. FINANCES. A schedule of cheque payments had been circulated electronically, and there were no more cheques to sign. The Clerk explained why the Council's money was still in Lloyds Bank – for ease of access and because interest rates are so low everywhere else.

11. CORESPONDENCE: 4 items were read out and circulated.

12. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND INFORMATION:

- Cllr Tolcher reported the digger at Bagnor which is cutting up the banks of the River Lambourn. The Department of Environment had rung him and is concerned.
- The Clerk advised that the Land Registry in Gloucester had been in touch with her, but had addressed correspondence to a house where a clerk lived 29 years ago. She promised to get the necessary form to alter this. The Land Registry have updated and re registered the access to Winterton Drive.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.35 P.M. AND THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 18TH AT STOCKCROSS AT 7.30P.M.