

Spaxton Parish Council – Meeting MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held at 8:00 pm on Monday 2nd June 2008 at Spaxton Village Hall.

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| i) | Members present: The Chairman - Mr D Jeanes, Mr V Hughes, Mr J Edwards, Mr S Stretton, Mr R Adcock and Mr V Massey. | Action | |
| ii) | District Councillors present: Mr D Joslin. | | |
| iii) | Members of the public present: Mr T Fear, Mr R Snook. | | |
| | <p>Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, a public session took place, at which emails that the clerk had received from Colin Arnold in Development Control at SDC concerning Mr Fear's planning application for race training gallops were read out. These concerned mainly the health & safety issues raised by the Parish Council at a previous meeting, together with various statements concerning the precedent already set by the granting of permission for gallops to Mr R Barrow about a year ago.</p> <p>With reference to the latter point, Mr J Edwards reminded members that the meeting at which Mr Barrow's application had been discussed was in fact inquorate, which meant that the Parish Council could neither object nor support it formally. The Council could not, therefore, be deemed to be acting inconsistently or unfairly with regard to Mr Fear's proposals.</p> <p>The safety issue gave rise to much discussion, and it was generally felt that there would be no objection to the proposal per se if only this issue could somehow be overcome.</p> <p>The formal meeting commenced at 8.17pm.</p> | | |
| 1. | Apologies for absence: Mr B Porter, Mr M Stevens, Mr J Edney & Mr K Dyer. | | |
| 2. | Declaration of member's interests: None | | |
| 3. | The minutes of the meeting held on Monday May 12 th 2008 were read and approved, with the following amendments: item 4(ii) – the words “because apparently there are wranglings over whether it is to be designated as an agricultural or an industrial use” were deleted: item 7 – with regard to planning application 45/08/00007 the words “Both points of view were therefore conveyed to SDC” were added after “A vote was finally taken.....3 members abstained”. | | |
| 4. | <p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>i) The clerk was asked to seek clarification yet again from SDC with regard to both the Certificate of Lawfulness and the issuing of a planning certificate for the building of the biodigester plant at Swang Farm.</p> | <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1353 1529 1447 1608">SF</td> </tr> </table> | SF |
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| 5. | <p>Footpath: SALC: QHJAC: Parish Cluster Reports (as appropriate) – with regard to footpaths, there had been good news regarding the upgrade proposals for RUPPs, in that a test case brought by the Trailriders Association in Winchester had failed on a technicality. It is not yet known whether this will go to Appeal, but the case cannot be brought again as the deadline for this to be done has expired. Other footpath news - footpath 30/7 from Church Lane across to the Rectory Rooms had recently acquired a “no dogs” sign, which will need to be changed to a “please keep dogs under control” sign. There had been severe erosion at Hunts Lane, and the footpath team had visited pathway 30/55 for a site visit in respect of Mr Fear's recent planning application.</p> <p>There were no other reports.</p> | | |

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| 6. | <p>Financial items:</p> <p>i) Statement of Accounts: current account £1919.78 credit, capital reserve account £22771.02 credit.</p> <p>ii) To agree payments as necessary – the following payments were approved: £5.00 to Richard Young in respect of the internal audit 2007/08, and £300.80 in respect of sanitary ware for the disabled toilet facility at Aisholt Village Hall. However, the clerk had omitted to bring the cheque book, so the actual cheques will be issued at the July meeting.</p> <p>iii) Recreation & Amenity Grant – to be submitted along the same lines as last year.</p> <p>At this point Mr D Jeanes mentioned that he had received a complaint about the state of the cemetery, but it was acknowledged that Mark Husband does tend it regularly and that the recent spate of warm, wet weather has encouraged unusually rapid growth.</p> | SF |
| 7. | <p>Planning items:</p> <p>Mr D Joslin left the meeting at 8.36pm, and did not return.</p> <p>i) Applications decided since last meeting: as per the agenda.</p> <p>ii) New Applications: 45/08/00009 Mr T Fear, formation of gallops for horse race training on land at Rowdens Farm, Radlet, Spaxton – the three footpath representatives were very concerned following their site visit, as they felt that the gallops cross the footpath at the point where visibility is poorest. Whilst the footpath could probably be diverted, this would be a lengthy and costly option and was therefore to be avoided.</p> <p>Mr J Edney arrived at 8.38pm.</p> <p>After much discussion, Mr Fear offered a solution, whereby he would place traditional styles at the point at which the gallops cross the footpath, thereby giving a height advantage to people wishing to cross at the obvious point. However, he also offered to erect signage directing people to a new, gated crossing at the brow of the hill which would be far safer. It was acknowledged that it would possibly be human nature to choose the more direct, but more dangerous, crossing point but the suggestion was felt to be a reasonable compromise. When put to a vote, 5 members were in favour, and 2 were against.</p> <p>There remained the question of why the application had been designated as a major application and why the required consultation with the public had not been carried out in line with policy, and the clerk was asked to seek clarification on these points from SDC.</p> <p>Messrs. Fear and Snook left the meeting at 9.02pm.</p> | SF |
| 8. | <p>Correspondence received: circulated at the meeting other than:</p> <p>i) A letter from SCC regarding road closures on Jack O'Knights Hill for repair works in June/July was read out.</p> | |
| 9. | <p>Matters of report & items for the next meeting: Mr J Edwards offered his apologies in advance of the July meeting.</p> <p>The clerk was asked to place the issue of the £500 County Councillor grant on the July agenda.</p> | SF |
| 10. | <p>Date & time of next meeting: Monday July 7th 2008 at Aisholt Village Hall.</p> | |
| | <p>The meeting closed at 9.05pm.</p> | |