

# Spaxton Parish Council – Meeting MINUTES

**Minutes of the meeting held at 8:00 pm on Monday December 7th 2009 at Spaxton Village Hall.**

i)	Members present: the Chairman – Mr D Jeanes, Mr V Hughes, Mr S Stretton, Mr P Williams, Mr T Bird, Mr B Porter, Mr J Edwards and Mr R Adcock.	Action
ii)	District Councillors present: none.	
iii)	Members of the public present: Ms Alison Jarrah, Ms Jackie Winschief.	
	<p>Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, a public session was held. Alison explained that the Village Hall had had a difficult year financially, but that the assistance of the Parish Council coupled with stringent cost-cutting measures had helped them to survive and to get back into the black on a month-by-month basis.</p> <p>Mr V Massey arrived at 8.05pm.</p> <p>Alison asked whether the Parish Council would consider financing the upkeep of the top field at the Village Hall during 2010/11, bearing in mind that the children's play equipment would also need refurbishment soon, and that no income is derived from either the field or the play facilities.</p> <p>Mr R Adcock wondered whether Matthew Carver could also be asked to quote for trimming back the perimeter undergrowth at the same time, in order to benefit from economies of scale.</p> <p>The formal part of the meeting commenced at 8.13pm.</p>	
1.	Apologies for absence: Mr D Joslin, Mr K Dyer, Mr J Edney & Mr M Stevens.	
2.	Declaration of members' interests: Mr J Edwards declared a personal and prejudicial interest in any discussion that might ensue regarding financial assistance for the Village Hall, as a Village Hall committee member.	
3.	The minutes of the meeting held on Monday November 2nd 2009 at Spaxton Village Hall were read and approved.	
4.	Matters Arising: none.	
5.	Footpath: SALC: QHJAC: Parish Cluster Reports (as appropriate) – none.	
6.	<p>Financial items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Statement of Accounts: current account: £876.33 cr, capital reserve account £9449.98 cr.</li> <li>ii) The following payments were agreed: cheque no. 466 for £130.00 in favour of Gammon's Take in respect of website hosting and maintenance for 2009. Cheque no. 467 for £119.50 in favour of Spaxton Village Hall in respect of meeting hire fees for 2009. Cheque no. 468 for £184.00 in favour of Moore Stephens in respect of the Annual Audit fee. Cheque no. 469 for £61.00 in favour of the SLCC in respect of subscription renewal. Cheque no. 470 for £14.98 in favour of S Stretton in respect of the renewal of the website domain name. Mr J Edwards left the room at 8.32pm.</li> <li>iii) Precept: in view of the recession, and of the County Council's plea that precepts be held at last year's level, it was agreed that no increase would be levied in 2010/11 and a request for £7500 would be submitted, enabling funds to be allocated towards the maintenance of the top field and, possibly, new play equipment. Alison was asked to work with the Village Hall committee to put together a play equipment inventory plus a schedule for renewal. Mr J Edwards returned to the room at 8.40pm.</li> <li>iv) The Reverend Watkins had responded to the Parish Council's letter regarding the state of the churchyards at Charlynch and Spaxton, and agreed that the formal closure of Charlynch should be sought at the earliest opportunity. She also observed that in recent months the maintenance work had not been carried out satisfactorily, and alternative contractors were being sought. Some Parish Council members felt that the Parish Council should perhaps increase its contribution towards the upkeep of the churchyards, but after a brief discussion it was decided to await the sale of the Rectory Rooms and see how the proceeds were to be allocated.</li> </ul>	

7.	<p>Planning items:</p> <p>i) <u>Applications decided since last meeting</u>: as per the published agenda.</p> <p>ii) <u>New Applications</u>: <b>45/09/00037</b> Mr Ogden, erection of two-storey extension to front elevation partly on site of existing (to be demolished) and extension to existing front porch at Shepherds Cottage, Aisholt – no observations. <b>45/09/38</b> Mr J Mann, reinstated chimney to north elevation of chapel at Agapemone Chapel, Four Forks, Spaxton – no observations. <b>45/09/00038</b> Mr G Harrison, construction of double garage at Crossmoor Barn Spaxton Road, Spaxton – it was felt that this would be very visible from the highway and could mar the landscape if insufficient screening were not implemented. It was also felt to be overlarge in relation to the size of the dwelling itself. <b>45/09/00040</b> Mr &amp; Mrs P Olson, erection of car port with storage loft, accessed by external staircase, on site of greenhouse (to be demolished) at The West Gate, Four Forks Lane, Spaxton – it was felt that this proposal was not in keeping with the Arts &amp; Crafts style of the dwelling itself and that, although no scale was provided on the plans, it appeared over-large, particularly in height. Members could see no justification for such a large structure, which would overshadow the house completely.</p>	
8.	Correspondence received: circulated at the meeting.	
9.	<p>Matters of report &amp; items for the next meeting: the clerk was asked to contact Mr D Brohn regarding the wall surrounding the village pump. She was also asked to request that he remove his rubbish bin from the site.</p> <p>Mr T Bird complained at the state of the road on the route out of Spaxton, where flooding always seems to occur just beyond Ms Chase's property. The clerk was asked to contact Highways to investigate the possibility of a blocked drain or ditch.</p> <p>Affordable Housing – another meeting was due to take place in December and the sub-committee will report to the January meeting.</p>	
10.	Date & time of next meetings: as already decided, namely January 4 <sup>th</sup> , February 1 <sup>st</sup> , March 1 <sup>st</sup> , April 5 <sup>th</sup> and May 10 <sup>th</sup> 2010. All at 8pm at Spaxton Village Hall.	
	The meeting closed at 9.15pm.	