

Spaxton Parish Council – Meeting MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held at 8:00 pm on Monday March 2nd 2009 at Spaxton Village Hall.

i)	Members present: The Chairman – Mr D Jeanes, Mr B Porter, Mrs D Richards, Mr J Edwards, Mr S Stretton & Mr V Massey.	Action
ii)	District Councillors present: Mr K Dyer, Mr J Edney.	
iii)	Members of the public present: Mr K Edwards.	
	<p>Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, a public session was held at which Mr K Edwards gave a short presentation regarding the Village Hall playing field. He explained that the location of the goalposts on the top field meant that parked cars were at risk of damage, and that the adjacent play area had become worn out and virtually unuseable. The half-pipe was under construction, but progress had been hampered by poor weather. The proposal is to construct a new play wall on the top field, for use as a practice wall for football, tennis, cricket and basketball. The design and construction costs will total £8k, towards which funding from the RLT3 “pot” is being sought via the Quantock Cluster Group; the application does, however, require ratification by the Parish Council before it can be put forward, and the Cluster Group’s deadline for this is 31st March. Mr Edwards therefore asked that this ratification be considered during the formal part of the meeting, which commenced at 8.24pm.</p>	
1.	Apologies for absence: Mr V Hughes, Mr M Stevens, Mr R Adcock, Mr P Williams & Mr D Joslin.	
2.	Declaration of member’s interests: Mr J Edwards declared a personal & prejudicial interest in the discussions regarding the play wall, as a Village Hall committee member.	
3.	The minutes of the meeting held on Monday February 2 nd 2009 were read and approved.	
4.	<p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cannington Cold Stores – there remains some doubt as to whether the Certificate of Lawfulness has yet been issued, but for most members this is not of concern since they were in support of the proposals anyway. A discussion ensued as to whether it is the role of the Parish Council to “police” planning matters, and the conclusion was drawn that it is not, although individual members are entitled to make enquiries in a personal capacity should they wish to do so. ii) Enforcement matters – the clerk explained to members that Shepherds Barn had been the subject of planning permission no. 45/05/0005, and that although rather more demolition had occurred than had been given permission for, the Enforcement Team were not minded to take action, given that the works carried out thus far had – in their view - improved the quality of the building overall. iii) The clerk had obtained a sweeping schedule which would partly solve the problem of the blocked drains in the village. However, Mr J Edwards would check that a comprehensive drain-clearing schedule was planned also. 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">JE</div>
5.	Footpath: SALC: QHJAC: Parish Cluster Reports (as appropriate) – circulated with agenda.	
6.	<p>Financial items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Statement of Accounts – current account £678.82 credit, capital reserve account £6446.29 credit. ii) Cheque no. 000451 for £228.06 in favour of SALC in respect of our subscription renewal was confirmed. iii) Bank signatories – it was decided to defer this until the next meeting. 	

	<p>iv) RLT3 payment for play wall – Mr J Edwards left the room at 9.25pm. There was some uncertainty as to whether the Parish Council’s endorsement of the scheme would have to also include a financial contribution, as it was felt that the Village Hall had been the beneficiary of significant contributions from the Parish Council in the recent past. After a brief discussion, it was decided to endorse the scheme and to pledge a nominal contribution if required to do so. Mr J Edwards re-joined the meeting at 9.28pm.</p> <p>At this point Mr K Dyer mentioned that he had received a letter from Dr Chris Smith complaining about the state of Goods Lane, and he was anxious to pass this to Mr J Edney before Mr Edney left the meeting at 9.34pm.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Planning items:</p> <p>i) Applications decided since last meeting: as per the published agenda.</p> <p>ii) New Applications: 45/08/00038 Mr P Clist, application for certificate of lawfulness for the proposed erection of porch to E elevation and detached garage at Rosecot, High Street, Spaxton – Mr B Porter and Mr V Massey had visited the property to check on the work being carried out and were satisfied with it. Therefore, no observations. 45/08/00036 Mr R Beazley, re-instate period-style twin flue chimney to NW elevation and replace 2 windows to SE elevation at Higher Bush House, Sapxton – Mr D jeans declared a personal and prejudicial interest, as did Mr S Stretton, the former as a neighbour and the latter as a friend. Both left the room at 9.43pm and Mr B Porter took the Chair. There were no observations, however, and both councillors returned to the room at 9.45pm, at which point Mr D Jeanes resumed the Chair.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Correspondence received: circulated at the meeting other than:</p> <p>i) Power of well-being for parishes and towns – the clerk felt that this required an unmanageable level of commitment from her, and that she would be unwilling to take it on.</p> <p>ii) Cancellation of SALC area meetings due in March – members advised.</p> <p>iii) Letter re lychgate at Charlynch Church – members present could shed no light on the ownership of the lychgate, and it was decided to ask Phil Rogers if he had local knowledge that might help.</p> <p>iv) A letter regarding the closure of Frenchies Lane in Aisholt was read out.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Matters of report & items for the next meeting: none</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Date & time of next meeting: Monday 6th April 2009</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 10.03pm.</p>	