

Spaxton Parish Council – Meeting MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held at 8:00 pm on Monday November 3rd 2008 at Aisholt & Merridge Village Hall.

i)	Members present: The Chairman – Mr D Jeanes, Mr B Porter, Mrs D Richards, Mr J Edwards, Mr S Stretton, Mr M Stevens, Mr P Williams & Mr V Massey.	Action
ii)	District Councillors present: Mr K Dyer, Mr J Edney.	
1.	Apologies for absence: Mr V Hughes, Mr D Joslin.	
2.	Declaration of member's interests: none	
3.	The minutes of the meeting held on Monday October 6 th 2008 at Spaxton Village Hall were read and approved, section 7 - Planning having first been amended at the request of Mr V Hughes to reflect more accurately his objections to Mr A G Fear's planning application for the siting of 2 log cabin holiday homes. Mr R Adcock arrived at 8.05pm.	
4.	Matters arising: i) Mr A G Fear – application to site 2 log cabins on land at Tuxwell Farm, Spaxton. This application had been withdrawn by the applicant due to problems concerning the Parish Council's response to it. The clerk had been advised that the District Council are only interested in the majority view and minority concerns should therefore not be expressed. Furthermore, she was told that responses offering support to an application should contain reference to the valid planning grounds on which that support is based. There was some discussion on the latter point, since the District Councillors did not seem to be aware of it either, and Mr J Edney offered to double-check with the planning authority. Members also wished to make the point that the clerk is employed by the Parish Council to convey the majority view, and that individual councillors should not use her services to convey their personal beliefs, especially where these conflict with the majority view. ii) Cannington Cold Stores – Mr J Edney explained to members that to all intents and purposes the applications had been passed, but that the certificates had yet to be issued.	
5.	Footpath: SALC: QHJAC: Parish Cluster Reports (as appropriate) – see attached.	
6.	Financial items: i) Statement of Accounts – current account £1165.99 credit, capital reserve account £6921.75 credit. The bank reconciliation had not been prepared, as the clerk's pc was in for repair. ii) Cheque no. 000443 for £73.50 in favour of Spaxton Village Hall in respect of hire for meetings was confirmed. iii) RLT3 monies for outdoor sport – Mr J Edwards agreed to try and attend the forthcoming information evening, but suggested that Mr G Richards also be asked to attend in his capacity as Chairman of the Village Hall Committee. Mr J Edney left the meeting at 8.45pm.	JE
7.	Planning items: i) Applications decided since last meeting: as per the published agenda. ii) New Applications: 45/08/00025 Mr Gillman, certificate of lawfulness for an existing use of a building as a dwelling on land at Currypool Orchard, Currypool, Cannington – claims were made in the application that the building had been used as a dwelling for between 4 and 6 years by the present owner, and for about 10 years by the previous owner. However, members did not believe this to be the case, since the previous owner was registered on the electoral role as residing in Cannington! Therefore, members unanimously opposed it.	SF

	<p>45/08/00026 Mr P Hooper, erection of 2-storey side and rear extension, partly on site of existing garage (to be demolished) at Danesborough, Four Forks, Spaxton – no observations.</p> <p>45/08/00028 Mr & Mrs P Hill, erection of 2-storey side extension, single-storey rear extension and front porch, partly on site of existing (to be demolished) and formation of access at 12 Peartwater Road, Spaxton – no observations.</p>	
8.	<p>Correspondence received: circulated at the meeting other than:</p> <p>i) Consultation on EDF's site at Hinkley Point – Mr J Edwards has already attended a British Energy presentation, and believes that the construction of a new nuclear power station at Hinkley is very likely.</p> <p>ii) Quantock Hills customer survey – Mr J Edwards had been sent this separately and had already completed it.</p> <p>iii) Temporary road closure on the A39 – details of timings and diversions were read out.</p>	
9.	<p>Matters of report & items for the next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr J Edwards had started to complete the consultation on the new Code of Conduct, and stated that he would wish to consult with one of the other councillors before submitting it. • Hawkridge Reservoir – Mr J Edwards asked the clerk to write to the Highways authority requesting that the footpath be cut back as wheelchair users would be unable to use it in its present state. • A letter had been received from Highways asking for help in identifying landowners in areas where the hedgerows were unacceptably overgrown. • Chris Smith had copied the parish councillors in on a letter he had written to Highways complaining about a raised drain cover in Goods Lane that had caused damage to his vehicle. He considered the state of the drain to be both unacceptable and dangerous. 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">SF</div>
10.	<p>Date & time of next meeting: Monday 1st December 2008 and Monday 12th January 2009, both at Spaxton Village Hall. The clerk was asked to liaise with the police re. PACT for January, and to put the Code of Conduct consultation on the agenda for the December meeting.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">SF</div>
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.25pm.</p>	