



## FULL PARISH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

09 October 2023 – 7.30pm

### MINUTES

#### Present:

Councillors: Cllr. Ashton (Chair), Cllr. Murphy, Cllr. Ward

Clerk and RFO: Mr S Baxter    Members of the public (MOP): 1 plus two Ward Councillors

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Meeting was held at the SALKO Offices, Main Street, Spaldington. All the community were invited to attend the meeting and via the remote function.

### AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- Welcome to all Councillors.** The Chair will remind all that the meeting is recorded.  
The Chair welcomed all Councillors and any members of the public to the face to face Parish Meeting and confirmed that while the Councillors and Clerk were present in person, the meeting was also to be streamed via Zoom for other members of the community and press.
- Members of the public participation** – Any questions will be at the discretion of the Chair.  
The Clerk confirmed that there was no members of the public joining on the Zoom connection but that two Ward Councillors were present. No questions were raised.
- Proposal to exclude members of public from participation** – but can observe  
*For the following agenda points members of the public can observe the meeting but cannot take part in any debate. Any persons not Councillors or the Clerk will be asked to remain silent and muted on Zoom*  
The Clerk confirmed that as there was members of the public and Ward Councillors a motion would be needed to ensure proper operation for the Council.
  - Motion to agree to excluding the members of the public and press (but are able to witness) was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*
- Apologies for absence from Councillors**  
The Clerk noted there Cllr Westin could not attend the start of the meeting and had hoped to attend mid way through. Unfortunately she was unable to attend due to a personal commitment.

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15.11.23



# Spaldington Parish Council



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## 5. **Declarations of interest** - for the Council to note including dispensations presented to the Clerk

The Clerk confirms that there was no declarations of interest made before the meeting.

## 6. **Co-option consideration** - application from Mrs Smith to consider and appoint

The Clerk confirmed that following the advertising poster in the Parish noticeboard inviting applications for co-option onto the Paris Council, an application had been received from Mrs Elizabeth (Liz) Smith. The Clerk confirmed that she meets at least one of the required criteria to be permitted to sit on the Spaldington Parish Council.

Upon asked Mrs Smith stated that she lives in the village of Spaldington for around six years and has two children who attend local secondary schools. She stated that she has applied to be a Parish Councillor as she wants to help make the Parish Council and community even better and ensure that the local area caters for everyone, and to give back to the community who welcomed her.

The Clerk ensured she was aware of her obligations and responsibilities of being a Parish Council and that she needed to abide by the Code of Conduct, and make all decisions for the best of the community.

The Parish Councils discussed the application and it was felt that Mrs Smith would be a great asset to the Council through not only her commitment to help the community, but that she understands the needs of the area. There was a consensus that she should be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

- *Motion to formally co-opt MRS ELIZABETH SMITH onto the Parish Council of Spaldington with all the rights and responsibilities of a Parish Councillor was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

**MRS ELIZABETH SMITH WAS FORMALLY CO-OPTED ONTO THE PARISH COUNCIL AND SIGNED THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR.**

## 7. **Minutes of the last Full Parish Council Meeting** (14 August 2023) - to formally agree that the minutes are an accurate record

The Clerk confirmed that the DRAFT Minutes of the last Full Parish Council meeting on the 14 August 2023 had been sent to all the Councillors for perusal.

There was a discussion between the Councillors to confirm receipt and all stated they were happy it was a true and accurate record of the meeting.

- *Motion to agree the Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting of the 14 August 2023 was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

## 8. **Financial update from the Clerk** (including bank reconciliations) - from the Clerk

The Clerk confirmed that he had sent the recent financial report to the Councillors for their perusal. He confirmed that the report covered the period up to the end of September 2023.

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The main budget points on reflection was:

- There was a balance across all accounts of £11,325
- All budget lines were on course with no budget lines over budget apart from the clearing cost which will be increased to an agreed change of pay NJC spine point.
- The second half of the precept had been received
- The last payment to Peninsula Insurance had been made and the contract had been cancelled which resulted in a saving this financial year of nearly £700, and nearly annually
- It was forecast that there would be a end of year funds balance of circa. £6.5k.
- The £1k that was transferred to the current account from the reserves account for cash flow had been transferred back

The Councillors discussed the financial points made and the recommendation for the cash flow management and agreed the state of the finances was as good as hoped and in good condition.

All Councillors felt the financial position and organisation was as good as ever.

The Chair asked the Ward Councillors if there was any S106 funds that may be available to this Parish Council. They stated that while there was no specific Spaldington PC earmarked funds, there was a general S106 funds pot which all Parish Councils could apply for for specific purposes.

- *Motion to agree the financial report for September 2023 laid by the Clerk to the Council was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

### 9. General expenditure for approval - to formally agree that the payments are acceptable:

PAYEE	EXPENDITURE REASON	AMOUNT
Clerk salary and overtime	Contractual for Sept / Oct 2023	Withheld - confidentiality
Clerk's office allowance	Contractual for Sept / Oct 2023	£26.00
Clerk's Expenses	Travel for Meetings - October 2023	£24.30
Peninsula Insurance	Insurance - September 2023	£116.60 + VAT

The Clerk stated that his expenses claimed were for the subscription for the Good Councillor Guide for assurance that the Council had an up to date guide for any legislative changes or best practice.

Councillors discussed the expenditure in detail as needed. They agreed all expenditure was in order and were very glad that this was the last payment to Peninsula Insurance - a contract they wish to note has cost the community nearly £7k over the last five years.

- *Motion to agree the expenditure as detailed in the schedule of payments was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

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## 10. Planning Applications - to discuss and agree the decision on each

The Clerk stated that there was only one application -

**Land South Of Old Rush Farm, Spaldington Road, Spaldington, DN14 7GX - 22/01147/UNUSE3**

The Clerk stated that the councillors could decide to offer no comment, support or reject.

The Councillors discussed that the application had been anticipated and felt that the main area they are concerned about was that the wooded area behind the farm was not used for any purposes not permitted such as dumping waste. They hoped the planners would ensure that proper conditions were placed on the citing if this was granted.

The Clerk confirmed there was no other new planning applications or detail of decisions.

Cllr Murphy did state that he has recently submitted planning application - he was noting this to ensure that the Full Council and Clerk were aware.

- ***Motion to formally state the Parish Council has NO COMMENT on the planning application was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.***

## 11. Boom Solar Panel Development Chair Advisory Group & VAST - updates and decision on action

The Chair confirmed there had not been any further meeting of the Chairs of PC Boom Group and is not aware of when the next one is planned - overall it had gone quite quiet. He stated he was aware that the VAST group had met with a specialist planning solicitor to get a feeling of their options and likelihood of being able to stop the development. This solicitor had stated that it was unfortunate that this group had not sought legal help when the development was first mooted and now it would make it very difficult to object against. He stated that the likely legal cost of launching a full campaign of objection was estimated at £100k. The Chair continued that he was aware that the VAST group may be asking local Parish Councils for financial help.

The Councillors did state that until they had received the full application from BOOM, they do feel that they must remain neutral and only then give a formal response once the application is received.

The Ward Councillor stated that they were aware the development was in a consolation phase and that is why things have gone a little quiet. But they agreed that staying neutral was the best position until the full application is received, and only then make the PC position clear on the full or partial element of the application.

The Ward Councillors did ask that once the PD gets the full application as a statutory consult, they would appreciate if this could be copied to them to ensure they can represent the community at the District Council.

The Councillors also discussed the issue of what the community would receive if the planning application was successful - they felt that while the community resources provided may be a one off, it should be for the community that is affected - not wider range of areas or Parishes that will not be affected as happened in the wind farm resource allocation. They discussed that a possible community resource could a village hall.

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## 12. Internal Auditor appointment - recommendation from the Clerk

The Clerk stated that it was vital that a Parish Council had a good, reputable and professional Internal Auditor to ensure that the governance, financial management and adhering to statutory requirements was being met. The Council had a good IA for the last few years but for best practice it was proper that every 3-4 years the IA was changed to ensure that fresh eyes could review the operations and that the IA was properly independent. He stated that after being in contact with ERNLLCA, they recommended an IA from Hessle in Hull of whom they were aware provided a good service. The clerk confirmed that he had undertaken due diligence on this person and in his opinion the standard of IA work was very good and would provide confidence to the Council and the community. The person was MR ANTHONY WHITELEY and he had quoted £330 per year for a two year contract which the Clerk had provisionally accepted pending the Council's final approval.

The Council discussed the recommendation and asked what other options had been reviewed to ascertain if the costs were appropriate. The clerk stated that he felt that the cost was only marginally more than previous and because of the shortage of qualified, professional and reliable IAs it was imperative to get the IA booked as otherwise the Council may face a position next year of not having an IA to undertake the statutory work.

The Council did ask that while they agreed with the appointment, that the Clerk verify the cost to ensure that it was appropriate, and possibly check with other local councils - before the Clerk formally confirmed the appointment with the IA.

- *Motion to formally appoint MR ANTHONY WHITELEY as the INTERNAL AUDITOR for 2023/24 and 2024/25 on the annual rate of £330 was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

## 13. Village entrance signage - updates

Clr Murphy stated that the entrance sign work had been finished and was looking forward to the reveal on Friday 13 October to show the work to the community and surround area. The work had been undertaken by local craftsman and he hope the community would be proud of the entrance sign to the village - something that had been talked about for many years.

The Clerk stated that he had arranged with a contact at the Goole Times for them to have the opening of the entrance sign and associated photograph published - this will not only allow the Council to thank the ERYC Windfarm Grant but also the local craftsman who built the entrance sign. He will also ensure that photos of he sign will be published on the website.

## 14. Road speeding Main Street - discussion and approach

The Clerk stated that he had received a request from a member of the local community about a serious issue of cars and farming vehicles driving at an excess speed down Main Street in Spaldington which was not only a serious safety issue, but would also cause anxiety to pedestrians.

The Council focussed the issue and agreed that often various vehicles have been seen to be driving down that road at a speed in excess of what is safe and legal. They were aware of some local pet deaths on that

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road probably caused by speeding cars and had seen very large vehicles from the AD Plant driving at an excess speed.

The Clerk stated that he would write to the Highways Team at ERYC to ensure they were aware and ascertain if anything can be done.

The Council also discussed the issues with speed and driving down the C88 road and were aware that this road is still being used as a cut throw by large vehicles, despite the signs stating that access to vehicle above 7.5t was for access only. The Council did state that if anyone sees a non local heavy goods vehicle (they are not permitted to use the C88) please contact the Drivers Standards & Vehicle Agency on [enquiries@dsva.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@dsva.gov.uk) . If they receive enough complaints the DSVa may then consider temporary weighing stations to find large vehicles in excess of 7.5t that are not using the road for access.

The Ward Councillors suggested contacting the Police and Crime Commissioner about the road issue - he could then liaise with Safe Roads Humber which may then encourage drivers to slow down.

### 15. Spaldington Eco resort - discussion and agreement on way forward

The Clerk stated that he had been in contact with a member of the local community who had been having serious and significant issues with the developers. It was now hoped that the developer would arrange with the Highways and Planners at ERYC for specific access to her property to ensure that she is not blocked in by the various elements of the development.

The Council stated that once they receive a formal notice from ERYC on the access change they would consider this but would hope that it would be favourable for the benefit of the community member.

### 16. Urgent or important correspondence - update from the Clerk

The Clerk stated that other than what had been already stated, no other urgent or important communication had been received.

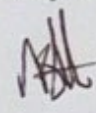
Cllr Aitkin asked if the PC had received anything from her office about Child Protection (due to her role as the Lead for Child Protection at ERYC). The Clerk confirmed nothing had been received but as soon as it was it would be published on the website due to the importance of the update.

### 17. Parishioner concerns relayed to Councillors - any update from Councillors from Parishioners

The Councillors made all aware that the following was brought to their attention:

- i) *The amount of litter and waste at the traffic lay-by off the C88 had increased again and it was not only a health issue but an environment one as well.*

The Clerk stated he would contact the Highways Team again to ascertain if when this issue can be managed and cleared.

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## 18. To agree the date of the next Full Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm Wednesday, 15 November 2023.

The Clerk stated that as he was on annual leave for the first Monday in November, it was recommended that the next PC meeting could be the 15 November 2023. At this meeting the draft budget could be discussed as well as the possible precept consideration. Then possibly in meeting in mid December to agree both aspects.

- *Motion to formally agree the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 15 November at 7.30pm was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

The Chair thanked the Ward Councillors for their attendance and welcomed Cllr Smith to the Parish Council.

MEETING WAS CLOSED BY THE CHAIR AT 8.45PM.

*R. Ash*  
15.11.23

### MINUTES FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

The Chair will remind all that the meeting is intended to be a public meeting and any members of the public who wish to attend should contact the Clerk in advance of the meeting to ensure that the Council Chamber is large enough to accommodate them. Any members who wish to attend should contact the Clerk in advance of the meeting to ensure that the Council Chamber is large enough to accommodate them.

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