Spaxton Parish Council

**Minutes of meeting held on**

**Monday 7th November 2022 at 7.30pm at**

**Spaxton Village Hall**

**Members present:** The Chairman – Simon Stretton, David Jeanes, Mike Hodson, Shelly Duggan, Josh Schwieso, Alan Cable, Pete Williams, Robert Adcock and Martin Brown.

**County & District Councillors present:** Cllr. M Caswell, Cllr. J Pay.

**Members of the public present:** Vernon Hughes, John Tomlinson and Mike May

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, a public session was held in which:

* Vernon Hughes set out his objections to planning application 45/22/00032.
* John Tomlinson offered a brief fingerpost project update.

The formal meeting commenced at 7.38pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr B Bolt.
2. **Dispensation requests:** none.
3. **The minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2022 were agreed and signed.
4. **Matters arising:**
* Hawkridge Reservoir – draft schemes for a viewing platform had been drawn up by both John Conder and James Venton, for which the Chairman expressed thanks. It was suggested that John Conder leads on the nest boxes and hides and the PC leads on the viewing platform but continues to include John in all aspects of the project.

It will be necessary to create a ‘Friends of Hawkridge Reservoir’ group as a precursor to accessing funding, which might be available from Magnox, Viridor or the Greater Quantocks Landscape Fund.

* The Chairman had attended a meeting with Tilhill to discuss forestry management in the vicinity of the Reservoir, following which Tilhill have gone away to reconsider their proposals for access.
* Disabled parking bay in Barford Road – there has been a positive reaction locally and the necessary evidence/justification is being gathered.
* Second dog waste bin – agreed in principle for Church Road. Shelly Duggan is to provide photos of the proposed site and the Clerk will liaise with Clean Surroundings.
* Dirty road signs - agreed in principle to fund reasonable cleaning costs once a year, but first Martin Brown will contact Katherine Tyson at Highways for a list of all known signage in the Parish, if such exists.
1. **Reports:**
* QHJAC – attended 18/10 by Josh Schwieso. Minor points of interest: AONBs are to be re-designated National Landscapes; there is concern over proposed new Investment Zones and relaxation of planning laws; cultural outreach activity currently includes hedge planting.
* Local Community Netwocrks – Fortnightly update meetings are taking place. It has been made clear that responsibility for additional goods and services will not be foisted on to Parish Councils against their will by the new Unitary Authority.
* Emergency planning – plans for ‘warm spaces’ at the Village Hall have been drafted and will be implemented as needed. Some funding is available.

Cllrs. Caswell and Pay left the meeting at 8.15pm

1. **Financial items:**
2. Statement of accounts – current account £25664.57 credit, business reserve £9146.21 credit.
3. The following cheques were confirmed:

880 07.11.2022 £149.20 S E Felstead, reimburse SDC planning fee (Cricket Club)

1. **Planning items:**

**Applications decided** **since the last meeting:** as per the published agenda.

**New applications**:

**45/22/00019** Barrington, outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of detached dwelling with alterations to access, on land at Hayeswood, High Street, Spaxton – no observations.

**45/22/00029** Mr L Dyer,change of use of agricultural land to equestrian/ residential, including the erection of stables/storage building, at Wyches Barn, Ellis Lane, Merridge – no observations.

**45/22/00032** Cannington Enterprises Limited, erection of side (South) extension to existing agricultural building and forecourt with associated works, at Cannington Enterprises Ltd, Cannington – object, on the basis that the commodities now being stored in this, and other, so-called agricultural buildings in this location are the result of industrial – not agricultural – processes.

Vernon Hughes, John Tomlinson and Mike May left the meeting at 8.25pm.

1. **Correspondence received:**  none.
2. **Matters of report** **and items for the next meeting**: Robert Adcock observed that the lime kiln at Aisholt is being restored and is worth a look. A Christmas meal was proposed for 15 December. Alan Cable may have a candidate for the Parish Council vacancy. Mike Hodson, Alan Cable, Martin Brown and Shelly Duggan expressed interest in forming the Friends of Hawridge Reservoir group. It was noted that the strimmer volunteer has not been particularly active and Pete Williams offered to speak with other individuals who might be willing to assist.
3. **Date & time of next meeting:** Monday 5th December 2022 at 7.30pm at Spaxton Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.44pm.