



SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT SPEEN PAVILION SPEEN RECREATION GROUND ON WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7PM
--

Parish Councillors present	Jaymie Pocock (Vice Chair), Alex Taylor, Will Russell, Amy Miles, Fiona Worby, Steph Gardiner & Alex Gajewski.
In Attendance	0 Members of the Public
Clerk/RFO	Becki Hannington

Resolution	Item	Action
	<p>1. Apologies for Absence – Cllr Winton (Chair), Cllr Booth, Cllr Amirthara, Cllr Gourley, Cllr Joules.</p> <p>2. Declarations of Interests – None Declared.</p> <p>3. Open Session – No members of the public present.</p> <p>4. Co-option of New Councillor Proposal: To co-opt new councillor and for new councillor to sign Acceptance of Office and Register of Councillors Interests.</p> <p>Cllr Gajewski was duly co-opted to the council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Councillors Interests.</p> <p>Clerk to send relevant paperwork to WBC and publish on SPC website.</p> <p>5. Minutes Proposal: To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 08/10/2025 (draft)</p> <p>The Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 08/10/2025.</p> <p>Clerk to upload copy of approved minutes to website.</p> <p>6. Financial Report (Clerk as RFO)</p> <p>6.1 Bank Balance - To note the bank balance as at 31/10/2025.</p> <p>The Clerk reported bank balance at 31/10/2025 as £175,526.78.</p> <p>This was duly noted by all councillors.</p> <p>6.2 October Payments - To retrospectively note payments for October 2025.</p> <p>All payments made were duly noted by all Councillors.</p> <p>6.3 Finance Reports Proposal: To accept the Finance Reports to 31/10/2025.</p> <p>The Council resolved to approve the Finance Reports to 31/10/2025.</p>	



- 7. Planning Applications** - To consider the following applications and agree comments to be submitted to West Berkshire Council:
- 7.1 25/02249/LBC** – The Grange, Speen Lane, Newbury, RG14 1RJ
Retrospective alteration to rainwater goods, roof repairs, re-location of kitchen and creation of new internal doorway in annex.
- It was unanimously agreed to return comments of No Objections to WBC.
- Clerk to submit comments to WBC via the Planning Portal.
- 7.2 25/02431/HOUSE** – 6 Sutton Road, Speen, Newbury, RG14 1UN
Retrospective application for replacement front porch and material alterations.
- It was unanimously agreed to return comments of No Objections to WBC.
- Clerk to submit comments to WBC via the Planning Portal.
- 7.3 25/01440/OUT** – 11 Majendie Close, Speen, Newbury, RG14 1QH
Outline Planning Permission for the subdivision of the substantial garden associated with an existing two bedroom end of terrace dwelling, to create a new residential plot. The proposal allows for the future development of a new three to four bedroom dwelling, with provision for on site access, parking and private amenity space. The existing dwelling will be retained, with the garden appropriately reconfigured. All detailed matters relating to design, scale, layout and appearance are reserved for future consideration. Resubmission of application 25/01440/OUT.
- It was unanimously agreed to return comments of No Objections to WBC.
- Clerk to submit comments to WBC via the Planning Portal.
- 8. Planning Decisions** - for information only
- 8.1 25/01956/NOMAT** – Land off Lambourn Road, Speen, Newbury – **APPROVED**
- 8.2 25/01696/CERTP** – Pinewood, Stockcross, Newbury, RG20 8LH - **LAWFUL**
- All Planning Decisions were duly noted by all councillors.
- 9. S137 Grant Applications**
- 9.1 Sutton Hall, Stockcross S137 Grant Application**
Proposal: To review and decide upon approval for S137 Grant Application from Sutton Hall, Stockcross.
- The Council resolved to approve the grant application from Sutton Hall, Stockcross awarding them £1,460.
- Clerk to notify Sutton Hall, Stockcross of this decision and arrange for payment to be made by 31st January 2026.
- 9.2 ABC to Read S137 Grant Application**
Proposal: To review and decide upon approval for S137 Grant Application from ABC to Read.
- The Council resolved to approve the grant application from ABC to Read awarding them £500.
- Clerk to notify ABC to Read of this decision and arrange for payment to be made by 31st January 2026.



10. Policies & Procedures

10.1 Press & Media Policy

Proposal: To review and approve the latest Press & Media Policy with revisions (subject to any amendments agreed by the Council).

The Council unanimously resolved to approve the Press & Media Policy with the agreed revisions.

Clerk to make necessary changes to document.

10.2 Publication Scheme

Proposal: To review and approve the latest Publication Scheme with revisions (subject to any amendments agreed by the Council).

The Council unanimously resolved to approve the Publication Scheme with the agreed revisions.

Clerk to make necessary changes to document and publish to website.

11. Antisocial Behaviour, Stockcross Recreation Ground

Proposal: To review incident of antisocial behaviour at Stockcross Recreation Ground.

The Council Resolved to follow the advice given by TVP in treating this as an isolated incident and not look to fence off the play area at this time. The Council will continue to monitor the situation and report any further instances of ASB to TVP.

The council will look into installing extra signage stating that dogs are not allowed in the play area. Cllr Pocock will assess suitable locations for these and send photographs to the Clerk for circulation to all Cllr's to decide upon. Clerk will then begin obtaining quotes for these.

Clerk to contact resident who reported the incident of antisocial behaviour to advise on the outcome of this discussion.

12. Police Liaison Officer

Proposal: To appoint a SPC Police Liaison Officer to act as a single point of contact with Thames Valley Neighbourhood Policing Team to obtain regular updates on community safety to be relayed to the community via the Parish Newsletter & social medial channels.

Cllr Miles was duly appointed as the SPC Police Liaison Officer.

Clerk to introduce Cllr Miles to relevant contacts from TVP Neighbourhood Policing Team for the area.

13. Meeting Etiquette

Proposal: To review and approve signage and instructions for public participation in SPC meetings

The Council resolved to approve the signage and instructions for public participation in SPC meetings, to be displayed in Speen Pavilion.

Clerk to arrange for approved signage and documents to be displayed in Speen Pavilion.



14. Parish Newsletter

Proposal: To review and approve example newsletter template and printing costs SPC newsletter.

The council resolved to approve the printing costs for 1,000 leaflets in tri-fold format at a cost of £112.

Clerk to send spec of quoted leaflets to Cllr Worby.

Item 18 brought forward at Chair's discretion at Cllr Miles' request – See below.

Cllr Miles & Cllr Gajewski left the meeting at 19:53.

15. WBC Pop Up Library

Proposal: To review and approve the final costs of £1,210 for a monthly 2 hour visit from WBC pop-up Library from April 2026 – March 2027.

The Council resolved to approve the final costs for WBC pop up library proposal at Speen Community Café of £1,210 for a monthly 2 hour visit from April 2026 – March 2027.

Cllr Pocock to contact The Starting Gate Public House and Speen Community Café to seek approval to hold the pop-up library onsite once a month.
Clerk to provide contact details to Cllr Pocock.

16. Stockcross & Marsh Benham Medium-Risk Repairs

16.1 Marsh Benham Swing Seat

Proposal: To approve the quotation to carry out the necessary repairs to the swing seat at Marsh Benham Recreation Ground as picked up on the latest ROSPA inspection.

The council resolved to approve the quotation for the necessary repairs to the swing seat at Marsh Benham a cost of £1,150 to be funded from CIL money.

Clerk to contract contractor to arrange the necessary repairs.

16.2 Stockcross Cableway Safety Surface Repairs

Proposal: To approve the quotation to carry out the necessary repairs to the cableway safety surface at Stockcross Recreation Ground as picked up on the latest ROSPA inspection.

The Council resolved to approve the quotation for the necessary repairs to the cableway safety surface at Stockcross Recreation Ground a cost of £3,450 to be funded from CIL money.

Clerk to contract contractor to arrange the necessary repairs.

17. Stockcross Youth Shelter Project

Proposal: To decide upon location for the siting of the Stockcross Youth Shelter.

The Council resolved to defer the decision on the location of the youth shelter at Stockcross.

Cllr Pocock will attend site to assess for suitable locations, take photographs and send these to the Clerk for distribution to all Cllr's.



18. Old Bath Road – Changes to On Street Parking Restrictions

Proposal: To agree comments to return to WBC on the changes to on street parking restrictions between Speen Lane and Speen Hill Close on Old Bath Road.

The Council resolved to return the following comments on the consultation to WBC:

Speen Parish Council strongly objects to this proposal on the following grounds:

- This proposal will remove much needed parking which is scarce at that side of town and much needed for individuals who live, visit and work within the location.
- This proposal will discouraging people from venturing into town due to local of available parking and reduce footfall to local businesses.
- This proposal will reduce available parking and therefore footfall to the pump track at Goldwell Park.
- This proposal will reduce available parking for residents and their visitors at Speen Lane where hazardous parking is already an issue.
- This proposal will direct more traffic to the other car parks in town which are already at capacity during busy periods.
- This proposal will remove the paid parking spaces where the road is wider but keep them where the road is narrower, posing a hazard to motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

Speen Parish Council feel that the loss of parking to implement a mandatory cycle lane is not required and is a completely unnecessary expense particularly as part of the pavement is already a marked cycle lane and cyclists can cycle on the carriageway.

Clerk to return comments to WBC via online consultation form.

19. Smoke Control Zones – A discussion led by Cllr Taylor.

Cllr Taylor advised that air pollution is one of the biggest killers and the issue is very prominent this time of year as households begin to use their fires and wood burners, but steps can be taken to prevent air pollution with the implementation of a Smoke Control Zone.

A Smoke Control Zone is an area whereby residents are bound to use less damaging/smoke free fuels. The nearest current Smoke Control Zone to the parish is in Didcot.

Smoke Control Zones are implemented by the local authority.

Cllr's agreed that this is an important issue and resolved to look into this further whilst also noting the need for resident's feedback on proposed Smoke Control Zones.

Cllr Pocock will research current legislation around wood burners which has been recently amended.

Clerk will reach out to WBC to see who can assist with looking into this further.

20. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 10th December 2025.

Cllr Pocock closed the meeting at 20:37

Signed:	Name (print):	Date:
	Position:	