



SPEEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT SPEEN PAVILION SPEEN RECREATION GROUND ON WEDNESDAY 17TH JUNE 2026 AT 7PM

Parish Councillors present	Charlotte Winton (Chair), Jaymie Pocock (Vice-Chair), Antony Amirtharaj, Alan Booth, Alex Taylor, Will Russell, Alison Joules, Amy Miles, & Fiona Worby.
In Attendance	4 Members of the Public
Clerk/RFO	Becki Hannington

Resolution	Item	Action
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	1. Apologies for Absence – District Ward Cllr Vickers, Cllr Gourley, Cllr Hunt & Cllr Gardiner. 2. Declarations of Interests – None Declared. 3. Open Session – 3 members of the public were in attendance to discuss speeding in Grove Road. Agenda item 10 was brought forward to Open Session at Chair's discretion. The residents don't feel that enough is being done to combat the issue in the road and queried the date which the works were due to start. The Clerk advised that WBC placed the order with their contractor in April and were just awaiting a date for the commencement of these and that Cllr Gourley (WBC) advised that he would continue to chase this. Cllrs advised that works were due to take place and the impact of these needs to be assessed. Clerk to chase date for start of works and update residents on this. Resurrection of CSW was discussed. Residents didn't support this due to the lack of action from WBC. Cllr's advised that in order to get further action from TVP or WBC that this would be required and as residents felt that the data collected by WBC previously was not a true reflection of speeding in the road, that CSW would allow data to be collected at times they chose which could show the road as its busiest. 1 member of the public advised that they weren't able to open the proposed plans forwarded from WBC. Clerk to share these with the resident in an alternative format. 1 member of the public was in attendance to discuss the ongoing issues with speeding along the B4000, Stockcross. Agenda item 11 was brought forward to Open Session at Chair's discretion. They have been on touch with the Traffic and Road Safety Team at WBC directly regarding this and shared the latest update from them. The member of public is requesting that WBC replace the current, faulty digital slow signs with SID/VAS and advised that WBC wanted the support from the parish for this, which Cllr's advised they were happy to give. WBC to confirm if they will be funding this. 19:23 – Cllr Miles left the meeting. 4. Minutes Proposal: To approve the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 13-05-2026 (draft).	
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	The Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13-05-2026. Clerk to upload copy of approved minutes to website. 5. Financial Report (Clerk as RFO) 5.1 Bank Balance - To note the bank balance as at 31-05-2026. The Clerk reported bank balance at 31-05-2026 as £195,896.20. This was duly noted by all Cllr's. 5.2 May Payments - To retrospectively note payments for May 2026. All payments made were duly noted by all Cllr's. 5.3 Finance Reports Proposal: To accept the Finance Reports to 31-05-2026. The Council resolved to approve the Finance Reports to 31-05-2026. 6. Planning Applications - To consider the following applications and agree comments to be submitted to West Berkshire Council: 6.1 26/00860/LBC – Watermill Theatre, Bagnor, Newbury, RG20 8AE Proposal to add or alter signage around the site and curtilage including painting on some walls. It was unanimously agreed to return comments of support to WBC: Clerk to submit comments to WBC via the Planning Portal on behalf of SPC. 6.2 25/01001/HOUSE - Sextons Cottage, Church Lane, Speen, RG14 1SA Installing Marsh Ensign 6 person sewage treatment plant, connecting, commissioning and associated works. All to be compliant with the General Binding Rules 2020. Breaking out and filling old non compliant tank. It was unanimously agreed to return comments of No Objection to WBC. Clerk to submit comments to WBC via the Planning Portal on behalf of SPC. 6.3 26/01123/FUL – The Vineyard, Stockcross, Newbury, RG20 8JU Form new double door and infill timber panels in existing opening. It was unanimously agreed to return comments of support to WBC. Clerk to submit comments to WBC via the Planning Portal on behalf of SPC. 7. Planning Decisions - for information only 7.1 26/00374/LBC - Watermill Theatre, Bagnor, Newbury, RG20 8AE - GRANTED 7.2 26/00518/HOUSE - 5 Wickham Road, Stockcross, Newbury, RG20 8LE – GRANTED All Planning Decisions were duly noted by all councillors. 8. Licensing Application 32084 - The Red House, Marsh Benham, Newbury. Proposal: To consider the application for a new premises license and agree comments to be submitted to West Berkshire Council. It was unanimously agreed to return comments of support to WBC.	
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Clerk to submit comments to WBC via return email.

9. Policies and Procedures

9.1 Data Protection Policy

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

The Council unanimously resolved to approve the latest Data Protection Policy with the agreed revisions.

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

9.2 Document Retention Policy

Proposal: To review and approve the latest Document Retention Policy with revisions (subject to any amendments agreed by the council).

The Council unanimously resolved to approve the latest Document Retention Policy with the agreed revisions.

Clerk to make necessary changes to document.

10. Grove Road Speeding update

Proposal: To discuss the latest update from WBC and agree action points.

Agenda item brought forward to open session at Chair's discretion. See minute ref: 3.

11. Stockcross Speeding – Update from Clerk.

Agenda item brought forward to open session at Chair's discretion. See minute ref: 3.

12. Dog Washes - A discussion led by Cllr Worby

Cllr Worby put forward an idea for a dog wash at Speen Recreation Ground. The units can be leased or purchased, and individual prices can be set (e.g. £10 per wash as at the one Burbage) and the wash takes approx. 10 mins. The units do not include towels but additional vending machines for snacks and towels etc can be added to the main dog wash unit. The units can be self-maintained or maintained by the leasing company. Cllr Worby advised that this could be a good potential revenue source and would attract people to the area.

Cllrs has concerns regarding potential vandalism and also felt that now is probably not the right time due to the potential redevelopment of Speen Pavilion. They also raised concerns over encouraging more dogs to the site where children play and queried if another location would work better. Clerk to keep on the list for potential future projects.

13. Marsh Benham Fencing Quotes

Proposal: To review and approve the quotes for either new fencing to the perimeter of Marsh Benham Recreation Ground or repairs to the current fencing.

The Council resolved to approve the quote to repair the existing timber fencing at a cost of £1,352.00 + VAT.

Clerk to advise contractor to commence works as per quote.

14. GDPR Training Quotes

Proposal: To review and approve the quotes for all Councillors to undertake GDPR training (as per the internal auditor's recommendation).



The Council resolved to approve the quote for GDPR Training at a cost of £402.00 + VAT with SLCC.

Clerk to advise provider to proceed with the booking and instruct all Cllr's how to undertake the training in due course.

15. Future Planning

15.1 Marsh Benham Playground

Proposal: To consider and decide upon which playground equipment should be costed for Marsh Benham Recreation Ground play area.

The Council resolved to obtain quotes for the following playground equipment:

- Slide
- Swing
- Roundabout

Clerk to obtain quotes to present to full council for approval.

15.2 Speen Pavilion – Update from Clerk

The Clerk advised that they have been unsuccessful in finding a space designer to look at the building and the recreation ground as a whole and that the project will require a builder for the redevelopment of the pavilion and a landscaper for the recreation ground and that these should be treated as two separate projects. Clerk advised that a structural engineer will need to be sought in the first instance to assess suitability of removing wall between main room and changing rooms as the roof trusses may sit across joists. Quotes can then be obtained from builders for the project.

The Council resolved to pre-approve costs of up to £600 + VAT for a Structural engineer – Clerk to obtain quotes and book up to this value. Any further costs will need to go to full council for approval.

Clerk to arrange walk around of the pavilion building before the September meeting so Cllrs can see all parts of the building in daylight.

Clerk advised that the pavilion needed a further clean and replacement WC seat following Speen Fete. The Council resolved to preapprove costs for £50 + VAT for a new WC seat and £40 for clean of main pavilion room and WC. Clerk to organise.

15.3 Other Projects – To discuss other ideas for potential future projects.

Cllrs felt that it would be a good idea to arrange a feather flag, banner and branded tablecloth for Speen fete prior to next year's fete as there was nothing on the stall this year to indicate who it belonged to – Clerk to obtain quotes.

16. Clerk & Councillor Updates - Updates for information only on current projects/enquiries.

Clerk Updates:

Pop-Up Library/Speen Welcome Space: Clerk advised that this due to open on Weds 1st July and Cllr's should be in attendance for the official opening and to take photographs for social media/newsletter.

Clerk to send email invitation to all for Cllr's to confirm their attendance and forward digital posters to Cllr Joules to distribute to Robert Sandilands School and Abacus Day Nursery.



	17. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 8th July 2026. 18. Exclusion of the Press and Public To Resolve: That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and in the public interest the Press and Public be excluded for Agenda Items 16 and 17 under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. PART II 19. AFC Newbury Contract Renewal Stockcross Proposal: To review and approve the AFC Newbury Contract Renewal for Stockcross Recreation Ground from 1st September 2026 – 31st August 2031. The Council resolved to approve the contract renewal for 2026-2031 with the agreed revisions. Cllr Winton closed the meeting at 20:54.	
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Signed:	Name (print):	Date:
	Position:	