

Spurstow Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 2025

Clerk: C Jones, Rose Cottage, Spurstow CW6 9TG clerk@spurstow.org.uk

24th October 2025

**Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 19:00 on Tuesday 30th September 2025 at
St Boniface Church, Bunbury.**

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllr. Reynold Finney sent his apologies. The Council sent Cllr. Finney their best wishes. Mrs Anna Clifford attended the meeting to discuss a planning application.
2. **Declaration of interests. Members to declare any interests under the following categories: - Pecuniary interests, outside body interests, family, friend or close associate interests.** Ian Jones declared an interest in the development at Jasper's field as it is very close to his residence.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting. To be agreed.** Agreed.
4. **To discuss any items raised by members of the public.** Mrs Anna Clifford has been asked to join the meeting to discuss planning application 25/2641/OUT. To be considered under the Council's Standing Orders.

Ms Clifford was welcomed to the meeting – there are two planning applications – one to extend the kitchen, which was not seen as contentious, and a larger one to build 3 new houses fronting onto the A49 on land adjoining Two Oaks, and re-opening the old entrance drive to Two Oaks.

Mr and Mrs Clifford's feeling is that there are housing shortages, both in Cheshire East and nationally, and therefore feel that a relatively low-key development of 3 houses may well contribute to alleviating this.

Cllr Bell. said that the "new" new drive was put in place a few years ago by the previous owners to replace the older drive that was seen as dangerous. It was noted that Spurstow Parish Council had regarded the new drive as a much safer option, and was happy with the current situation. Mrs Clifford said that there had been an update to the outline planning request and that the current intention was to retain only the "new" entrance and use that as access to the existing house and the 3 new potential houses.

The current designation of the area is as "Open Countryside", but Mrs Clifford believes that the proposal to build the new houses in line with the existing semi-detached houses, about 10 m away from the road, would not impact on this.

Mrs Clifford said that the hedge/screen along the A49 boundary in front of the proposed new houses will remain, following her discussions with a neighbour opposite, and that the proposed development will include a thinning of the poorly-maintained previous planting and some replanting, to offset any felling and enhance the landscape and environment for wild animals and birds. Mrs Clifford intends to leave the existing screening between Two Oaks and the house next door towards Whitchurch.

A possible time-scale is completion in 5 years or more. Mr and Mrs Clifford see it as putting something into the village and making a proportionate, sustainable and sympathetic addition to the parish.

It was noted that one cow and two pigs may have been burned and buried in about 1968 within the proposed development site, or perhaps just buried - the details are unclear but Cllr. Lee may have further information to pass on to Mr and Mrs Clifford, which he will do if the information can be found. Mrs Clifford knew something of this and welcomed any additional information.

Mrs Clifford was thanked very much for her time, and it was felt that the explanations were very helpful, and the Council looked forward to meeting with Mr and Mrs Clifford as needed.

The Council asked to be kept up to date with the latest updates to the plans, Mrs Clifford said that she would be happy to share with the Council a copy of the correspondence she sends to Cheshire East amending the submitted plans. On receipt of that update, it was agreed that the Council would update its response as necessary.

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5. **To receive the Clerk's Report, to include any planning items which come to hand after issue of this agenda .** No other items had come to hand.
6. **To discuss recent conversations with Cheshire East Council about street lighting in Spurstow.** It was agreed that the Parish Council would look at the street light and if necessary arrange to it get it repaired, and then to pursue this vigorously with Cheshire East Council. It was noted that the wooden bench by the noticeboard is in need of repair, It was agreed that repairs should be carried perhaps by Stuart Boaz.
7. **a) To discuss the caravan on Long Lane.** It was noted that the caravan had moved on 12th September. The Clerk was asked to write to Cheshire East with outline plans about how to restore the area to it's former state.
b) the recent application for a caravan facility at Jasper's Field. The Chair gave a brief report about the situation at Jasper's Field , It was noted that Cheshire East Planning department have an active Planning Enforcement Case Ref - 25/0335/ENF in effect relating to this property.
8. **Speed Indicating Device.** This is still on Long Lane since the last meeting. It was suggested that the Council send Mr and Mrs Stanfield a small gift to thank them for maintaining the device.
9. **Any other business raised by Councillors.** The very poor quality of the local postal service was noted, Clerk to investigate and write to The Post Office as needed.

There being no further business the meeting closed.