

MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th MAY 2009 IN ST MARKS METHODIST CHURCH

Attended by Councillors : - C. Bellamy (Chairman), A. Sanderson (Vice Chairman), G. Bellamy, G. Booth, M. Shelley, P. Spriggs, R. Scrimshaw (F.D.C.), J. Tuck (C.C.C.), Thelma Wadsley (Fenland Links), Mrs T Jarvis (Clerk to John Bends Charity) & 7 members of the public.

09/70. Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman and to receive their acceptance of office.

Councillor Booth was proposed by Councillor Spriggs for the office of Chairman and seconded by Councillor Sanderson. Councillor Booth accepted the office of Chairman and completed the declaration of acceptance form.

Councillor Sanderson was proposed by Councillor G. Bellamy for the office of Vice Chairman and seconded by Councillor Spriggs. Councillor Sanderson accepted the office of Vice Chairman and completed the declaration of acceptance form.

A vote of thanks was given to the retiring Chairman, C Bellamy for all his hard work and efforts on behalf of the Parish Council over the last two years.

09/71. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor P. Everett and P.C. Julie Coales.

09/72. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th April 2009.

The minutes were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

09/73. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillors C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 09/78 b).

Reason for declaring an interest, Councillors are the applicants.

09/74. Presentation of annual accounts for the John Bend's United Charities.

The Clerk of the John Bends Charity presented the yearly accounts to the Council which were duly accepted and signed by the Chairman.

09/75. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).

The Clerk advised that the new litter bins had been installed.

09/76. To elect a member to represent the Parish Council on the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

Councillor Shelley was nominated to represent the Parish Council on the Amenities 95 Management Committee and agree to accept the position.

09/77. Thelma Wadsley - Fenland Links Report.

Thelma Wadsley advised that Fenland Links now ceased to exist and the new title was Neighbourhood Management Services.

The children's Easter holiday activities had been well attended apart from the sporting events held in Parson Drove.

The new childrens centre for the under 5's called Rural Wisbech West Centre, located at Murrow School was officially being opened on the 27th May and they were looking for a local management board.

A meeting by the Rural Road Safety Group had been held on the 30th April and she was looking into the cost of buying speeding equipment and the Council may be asked to contribute towards this. Anyone interested in Speedwatch should contact Rachel Patterson at Wisbech Police Station.

09/78. Planning Matters & Applications.

a) Mrs C Sanders, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0247/LB, Agent L Swain for works involving underpinning & structural repair to existing dwelling at The Laurels, 37 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application.

b) C Bellamy & Roddons Housing Association, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0252/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd, for the erection of 4 two bed roomed detached bungalows and 1 three bed roomed detached bungalow with associated garages/parking & landscaping & 6 parking spaces to serve existing bungalows on Springfield Road on land north of 1 -5 Brewery Close, Parson Drove. The letter from residents of Brewery Close objecting to the above application was considered together with comments made by members of the public during public participation and at the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting.

Councillor C Bellamy advised that the application should be in the name of C. Bellamy and Fenland District Council but the Clerk had received no written communication from the District Council advising of this error.

Councillors resolved to respond objecting to the application in view of concerns that the road was not adopted and prone to flooding, two of the proposed dwellings were sited too close to the path/kerbing and reservations on the accuracy of the information given regarding disposal of foul sewerage.

c) To consider proposed planning application for a 2 storey extension to the Doctors Surgery, Church End, Parson Drove to provide a Pharmacy, Consulting Rooms and living accommodation for Pharmacist.

A copy of the planning application being submitted to the District Council had been supplied by the applicant for initial consultation with the Parish Council in order to resolve any objections or concerns as quickly as possible.

Councillors resolved that no objections would be raised to the application based on the information received to date. Additional signage would be advantageous and an approach would be made to the Doctors on this matter at a later date.

d) To consider letters and petition from residents objecting to an Exception Site for Affordable Houses on land at Swan Bridge Farm, Fen Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors noted the level of objection, 171 parishioners had signed the petition, the points raised in the letters of objection and the concerns discussed at the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting.

Councillors resolved in principal to consider all sites submitted by landowners for Exception Sites in the village and to take into consideration the objections raised regarding the land at Swan Bridge Farm when deciding which submissions to accept.

The revised articles for Village Voices and the website had now been received from Fenland District Council and Councillors resolved to give land owners until the 31st August to submit land for consideration for Exception Sites. Clerk to arrange for articles to be published.

e) Revised proposal in respect of Planning Application No. F/YR09/0190/F, S Brodigan, for siting of a mobile home for use as an annex to existing dwelling, land north of The White Bungalow, Elbow Lane, Church End, Parson Drove. Councillors considered the objections raised during public participation and noted that the building was already situated on the site. Councillors resolved to object to the revised application as permission was now being requested for the mobile home to be permanent and if approved would set a precedent. It is not in keeping with the area or street scene and would be detrimental to the area. The mobile home would have an adverse effect on the adjoining properties in view of the size and close proximity to the neighbouring property. Concerns over the provision of services and possible flooding.

f) Notification that approval had been granted in respect of Planning Application No. F/YR09/0180/F, J Grooms for the erection of a single storey front extension and detached garage to existing dwelling at The Js, 203 Main Road, Parson Drove.

g) Notification that Planning Application No. F/YR09/0106/F, Executors of R.A. Foster for the conversion of barn/garage to a 4 bed roomed dwelling involving demolition of section of barn and lean to boiler house and erection of a single storey extension and erection of a 4 bed roomed detached house on adjoining land at Church Farm, 315 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove had been refused.

09/79. Accounts & Finance.

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following Invoices for payment:-

EON , electricity for Cage, £90.17. L.G.A. 1972 s. 133

Chattertons, Solicitors fees, £811.00. L.G.A. 1972 s. 111.

Auditing Solutions Ltd, Internal Auditors Fees, £207.00. Accounts & Audit Regs. 2003

Alliance Insurance PLC, Insurance Renewal Premium, £1,696.87. L.G.A. 1972 s.111 & s.114.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions East Ltd, quarter years rental of photocopier, £49.16. L.G.A. 1972 s. 111.

b) To consider quotation received from EDF for a new Street Light. This matter was deferred to the next meeting as the quotation had still not been received.

c) To agree and complete Section 2 – Annual Governance Statement on the 2009 Annual Return.

Councillors completed the relevant section of the Annual Return for External Audit on the 1st June 2009 and this was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

d) Letter from East Anglia's Children's Hospices requesting a donation.
Councillors resolved to give a grant/donation of £50. L.G.A. 1972 s.137.

e) To receive financial report from Friends of The Cage.
Councillor Sanderson presented the financial report to the Council and advised that the current balance was £1,017.64. A donation of £500 would be given to the Parish Council towards the running costs of the Cage in the near future. The Clerk was requested to send a letter of thanks to The Friends of The Cage.

09/80. To report on progress regarding erection of posts around the village green following the site meeting with the Tree Officer, Fenland District Council.

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the discussion that took place at the site meeting with the Tree Officer.

Councillors resolved to proceed with their original choice of wooden posts along the section of the village green from Tan Roses shop to the King William. Clerk to inform the Conservation Officer and obtain confirmation of grant money being contributed to the first phase of the project by Fenland District Council.

09/81. Risks Assessment.

a) To review Insurance Policy Cover.

Councillors reviewed the current insurance cover and resolved that no amendments were necessary.

b) To agree on date for annual inspection of Assets.

Councillors resolved to ask the Tree Officer to attend a site meeting one Thursday to inspect the trees on the village green and to inspect the other assets at 7.00pm on Wednesday 27th May.

09/82. To consider and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

Email from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding a potential exception site for Affordable Houses in Parson Drove.

The response from the County Council was noted advising that they did not wish to submit any other land within the village for consideration by the Parish Council as an Exception Site.

b) Letter from NHS Cambridgeshire enclosing a public consultation on the future of health services for south Fenland residents.

Information noted, no further action required.

c) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council enclosing information on Play Pathfinder Project and available funding for the development of play spaces.

Councillors resolved to pass this information onto the Amenities 95 Management Committee as some provision was required for the older children.

d) Newsletters from Fenland Road Safety Campaign, COPE & Fenland Council for Voluntary Service.

Information noted, no further action required.

e) Information from the Equality & Human Rights Commission on the forthcoming Equality Bill.

Clerk to study and refer the matter back to the Council if necessary.

f) Information from CPALC on Outreach Training for 2009- 2010.

Information noted, some Councillors would be interested in training on Planning, Clerk to enquire whether Fenland District Council are likely to be arranging any training on this subject in the near future.

09/83. To consider letters received from Solicitors and H.M. Land Registry.

Councillors resolved to defer this item and hold an additional meeting after the inspection of the assets on the 27th May starting at 8.00pm subject to Mr Hopkins being able to attend.

09/84. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

The Clerk was requested to report the faulty street light at the top of Ingham Hall Gardens and along Fen Road.

Councillors reported damaged kerbing at Sealeys Lane, pot holes along Sealeys Lane, Inkerson Fen, Fen Road and Johnsons Drove. Overgrown trees and bushes at Long Drove and the top of Ingham Hall Gardens.

Clerk was requested to report again the missing 40mph signs from outside Swan Bridge Farm, Fen Road as requested during the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting.

09/85. Gardens & Allotments - to agree on date for annual inspection of Gardens & Allotments.

Councillors resolved to inspect the Gardens & Allotment at the same time as completing the inspection of the assets on the 27th May at 7.00pm.

09/86. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Shelley advised that the disabled access improvements were now completed and grant funders had been invited to a photo shoot on Tuesday 19th May. The Annual General Meeting was to be held on Friday 15th May at 7.00pm.

09/87. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillors Spriggs enquired as to whether Councillor Harper had responded to the questions raised during his presentation at the last council meeting regarding the representation on the new Neighbourhood Management Boards and the future allocation of funding. Clerk requested to write the Councillor Harper, T Pilsbury, FDC Chief Executive and Chair of the Fenland Strategic Partnership requesting a response.

09/88. Any other business (information items only).

The Clerk was requested to report the over grown conifers trees at the rear of the Butchers Arms adjoining John Bends Way in view of a complaint received from a resident at the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting.

Meeting closed 11.25pm.