

## **MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th JUNE 2009 IN THE CAGE, PARSON DROVE.**

Attended by Councillors : - G. Booth (Chairman), A. Sanderson (Vice Chairman), C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, P. Everett, M. Shelley & P. Spriggs.  
P.C. Julie Coales, R Scrimshaw (F.D.C.), Thelma Wadsley (Neighbourhood Management Services) & 1 member of the public.

### **09/100. Apologies for absence.**

No apologies had been received.

### **09/101. To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th May 2009.**

The minutes were taken as read and amended on Page 732 Agenda item Number 09/99, paragraph 4, line 2 changing the word for to from before being signed by the Chairman as a true record.

It was also noted that the Clerk had been requested to write a letter of complaint to Councillor Harper under Agenda Item Number 09/92 paragraph 1 and that this request had not been included in the minutes.

### **09/102. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

No declarations of interests were made by Councillors.

### **09/103. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).**

Information on the Power of Well Being obtained by the Clerk was given to Councillor Everett and to be circulated to Councillors before the next meeting.

### **09/104. Community Police Officer's Report.**

P.C. Julie Coales advised that garden ornaments and hanging baskets were being targeted by thieves as well as theft from garden sheds. The next Neighbourhood Police Panel Meeting was to be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June at Elm School. The Speed-watch training would be completed as soon as possible. The police would not be continuing with selling Smart Water. P.C. Coales agreed to look into whether anything could be done about the sex shop sign in the window of 3 The Bank.

### **09/105. Report from Thelma Wadsley, Neighbourhood Management Services.**

Thelma Wadsley advised that the recent half term activities had been poorly attended. A Road Safety group had been established. She would be taking over the task of supporting Parish Plan Groups instead of Cambridgeshire ACRE.

### **09/106. Planning Matters & Applications.**

a) Argyl Developments Ltd., Planning Application No. F/YR09/333/RM, Agent Russen & Turner for the erection of a 4 bed roomed detached house with balcony to rear & integral single garage & formation of vehicular access on land south of Jubilee Cottage, Station Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved, by a majority vote, to object to the application on the grounds of highway safety as they considered the vehicular access was dangerous.

b) Copy of an email sent by a resident to the Enforcement Officer at Fenland District Council.

Councillor Scrimshaw advised that the Enforcement Officer had visited the premises that day but found no evidence of unauthorised business use but will continue to monitor the situation.

**09/107. Accounts & Finance.**

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

The Office Key, administration supplies, £75.37. L.G.A. 1972 s.111

Playsafety Ltd., ROSPA Inspection Fee, £155.25. Open Spaces Act 1906 s.9 & 10.

Mrs Y Reader, Clerks quarter year salary & expenses, £1,016.04. L.G.A. 1972 s.112.

North Level Internal Drainage Board, drainage rates for Gardens & Allotments.

£149.11. Small Holding & Allotments Act 1908 ss 23, 26 & 42.

EON, electricity for The Cage, £19.95. L.G.A. 1972 s.133

CPALC, Clerks training on Power of Well Being, 11<sup>th</sup> July, £25.00. L.G.A. 1972 s.111.

b) To receive and approve a Receipts & Payments/Bank Reconciliation Report and Budget Update Report.

The reports were presented to the Council and duly approved.

c) To approve changes to the Bank Account signatures.

Councillors resolved to continue with three authorised signatures for the signing of cheques and Councillor Shelley to be replaced by the new Chairman G. Booth.

**09/108. To agree on contractor for installation of the first phase of post around the village green following confirmation from Fenland District Council that they will fund 50% of the cost.**

Councillors resolved to accept the quotation provided by D. Rowell for £1,600.

**09/109. Risk Assessment - To consider matters raised in the ROSPA report and to receive a verbal report on the Inspection of Assets completed on the 27<sup>th</sup> May.**

There were no high risk areas raised in the ROSPA report and therefore no immediate action was required. The crack in the swing seat and lubrication of the shackles, rated as medium to low risk, would continue to be checked and rectified when necessary.

The Chairman reported on the asset inspection and the following items were raised for action.

A) Flower Planter under Oak tree – wooden surround showing signs of rot on one side at the bottom. Councillors agreed to monitor this for time being.

B) The Cage – external doors and guttering to be repainted. Clerk to obtain estimates.

C) Village Sign – concrete base showing signs of minor cracking. No action to be taken at present but to monitor situation.

D) War Memorial – gate latch seized up, to be rectified before end of October.

- E) Village green – evidence of moles particularly near wooden bench. Clerk to contact pest control contractor. Also to monitor wooden lamp post and hook near to King William as showing signs of rot at base.
- F) Public seat at top of Springfield Road - concrete slabs under and around seat very uneven. Clerk to contact Roddens to ask if they would attend to this.
- G) Swings on village green, minor weed growth on rubber surface, suggested we request the Street Pride Group to attend to this.

**09/110. To consider and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-**

a) Letter from HM Land Registry advising of an application for registration by a person in adverse possession of land at Short Drove, Parson Drove adjoining land registered by the Parish Council.

Councillors resolved not to object to the application for registration.

b) Copy of a letter sent to F.D.C. from a resident along The Bank regarding the trees on the village green.

Comments noted by Councillors and the matter would be discussed with the Tree Officer at the annual inspection of the trees the following day.

c) Notification from the Tree Officer, Fenland District Council, of site visit to inspect trees on the village green on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 2.00pm.

Councillors G Booth, C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy confirmed that they would be attending the meeting. Councillors Everett and Spriggs would try to attend.

d) Invitation to attend a Celebration Event on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July at The Oasis Centre, Wisbech to celebrate the achievements of the work of Fenland Links.

Information noted by Councillors and the Clerk was requested to ensure that John Cook was invited as he had been the Parish Council Representative on the Fenland Links Board.

e) Email from CPRE offering to help tackle litter & fly-tipping and requesting information on problems encountered within the Parish.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to respond advising that the Street Pride Group was very active in tackling the problem of litter. Local residents also target the village green as this was one problematic area as well as dog walkers down the access track to the Riverside gardens.

f) Letter of thanks from East Anglia's Children's Hospices for grant of £50.

Noted by Councillors, no further action required.

g) Letter from Fenland Strategic Partnership regarding the updated Parish Action Plan.

The Chairman & Thelma Wadsley explained to Councillors that the Fenland Strategic Partnership would not be responding to individual Parish Plans but would use a toolkit provided by Cambs ACRE covering all parish plans in the county and would respond to key issues overall.

Councillors resolved to take no action as the Parish Plan Action Group would respond to this letter.

h) Letter from FENDIS asking for volunteers for the Disability Golf & Fun Day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July at the Priory Golf Club in Wimblington.  
Information noted by Councillors.

i) Newsletters & information posters from COPE, Vital Communities & CPRE.  
Information noted by Councillors.

j) Letter from the National Grid requesting confirmation of details relating to the under ground gas pipe on the Allotments. Councillors resolved for the Clerk to complete and return the form.

k) The Chairman had received an email from F.D.C. requesting our agreement to pay £50 for the inclusion of an article in the National Farmers Union magazine regarding the request for land as Exception Sites for Affordable Houses in the village.  
Councillors resolved not to agree to this payment and the Chairman agreed to contact Fenland District Council to inform them of this decision.

l) Email from F.D.C. to the Chairman asking for a Parish Council representative on the rural Neighbourhood Management Board.  
Councillors resolved and it was agreed that the Chairman should represent Parson Drove on the management board.

m) Invitation from F.D.C. for the Chairman to attend the Fly a Flag Armed Forces Veterans Badge Presentation on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.  
The Chairman advised that he was unable to attend.

**09/111. To consider letters received from Solicitors and H.M. Land Registry.**  
Information noted by Councillors. Meeting still to be arranged to start negotiations to try and resolve the matter.

**09/112. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.**

The following highway issues were raised for the County Councils attention:-

1. Flashing speed sign along Murrow Bank turned the wrong way and the one along Main Road not flashing correctly.
2. Uneven footpath from No 3 The Bank up to the Bus Stop.
3. Main road resurfacing required particularly outside Rookery Homes.
4. Pot holes at Elbow Lane.
5. Overgrown hedges opposite 64 Back Road and 151 Silver Villa Back Road, Murrow.
6. Overgrown hedges along Highside, top of Ingham Hall Gardens, Silvers Lane, The Limes, Main Road.

7. Dangerous kerb edging outside 22 Sealeys Lane.
8. Gravel and small cobbles on the road edges outside Swan Gardens and Riverside Gardens going onto Fen Road.
9. To query why all of the pot holes and damage along Back Road had not been marked for repairs.
10. To report to Barhales the loose man hole cover outside 117 Back Road.

**09/113. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

Councillor Shelley advised that a committee meeting had not been held since the last Parish Council Meeting and therefore he had no report to give. However complaints received about the step into the village hall during polling day would be looked into but the step has passed the recent Health & Safety checks.

**09/114. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

In view of recent complaints made about the rooks in the trees along The Bank causing problems the Clerk was asked to enquire if Fenland District Council could help in this matter.

Councillors asked who was attending to the plants around the village signs planted by the Street Pride Group as the one along Fen Road and also at Church End were being overgrown with weeds and grass. Councillor Scrimshaw advised that the Street Pride Group had already attended to the one at Fen Road and he would arrange for the Church End one to be cleaned up.

The Clerk was asked if a reply had been received about the progress of the proposed public walk way along the riverbank from Parson Drove to Murrow. The Clerk advised that no response had been received and was therefore asked to write again.

**09/115. Any other business (information items only).**

The Annual Reports had been delivered to most areas of the Parish apart from the outlying areas.

Councillors reported that cars were parking outside Dr Hattersley's on the footpath and obstructing the speed humps.

It was noted that there was some broken glass on the village green around the bottle banks and Councillors agreed to inspect this area. The Clerk was asked to enquire into the cost of providing posters requesting that glass is not left on the ground.

The use of chemical sprays around the posts on the village green was raised. Councillors requested that the Clerk inform the grounds maintenance contractor that in future this is to be strimmed.

Permission was given by the Council for the Car Show sign to be erected on the village green. Also for a pillow fight practice to take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> June on the village green as requested during Public Participation.

Meeting closed 10.05pm.