

MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 9th DECEMBER 2009 IN ST MARKS CHURCH, MAIN ROAD PARSON DROVE.

Attended by Councillors :- G. Booth (Chairman), C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, P. Everett, & M. Shelley.
R. Scrimshaw (F.D.C.) & T Wadsley (Neighbourhood Management Services).

09/218. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillors A. Sanderson & P. Spriggs.

09/219. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillors Booth & Shelley declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 09/226 c).

Reason for declaring interest - Councillors are members of the Street Pride Group.

Councillors Booth, Everett & Shelley declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 09/226 d).

Reason for declaring interest – Councillors are members of the Section 106 Working Group.

09/220. Community Police Officer's Report.

No report had been received from P.C. Coales.

Councillor Everett advised that warnings had been received from the Police alert line informing her that not all of the charity collection bags being left with householders were from legal organisations. Residents also to be aware of door knocking salesman offering non- slip rubber mats.

09/221. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th November 2009.

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

09/222. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

The Road Safety Petition at the Post Office had been signed by 96 people. Clerk to collect the petition from the G.W. Vialls & Son and try to obtain statistics from the Police on the number of accidents recorded at the junction. Chairman to try and obtain statistics from the Ambulance Service so that as much information as possible is obtained before the request for improvements is made to the Highways Authority.

The contractors working on the plot next to Jubilee Cottage, Murrow Bank had stopped parking on the village green as requested but were now parking on the footpath.

09/223. Report from Thelma Wadsley, Neighbourhood Management Services.

The Neighbourhood Management Services team should soon be fully staffed following the appointment of 2 new members of staff. The Neighbourhood Panel Board had held their first meeting and considered the grant applications. Parson Drove Street Pride Group had been awarded £500.

09/224. Planning Matters & Applications.

a) Notification from Peterborough City Council advising of the appeal made by Cornwall Light & Power Ltd to be dealt with by a Public Inquiry, date to be advised, for the construction of 2 wind turbines and associated works on land at French Farm, French Drove, Thorney.

Information noted by Councillors, no further action required.

09/225. Accounts & Finance.

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

Royal British Legion, Wreath for Remembrance Sunday, £20. L.G. A 1972 s.137

Society of Local Councils, membership renewal, £82. L.G.A. 1972 s.143.

CPRE membership renewal, £29. L.G.A. 1972 s.143.

Mrs Y Reader, Clerks quarter years salary & expenses, £1025.42.L.G.A. 1972 s.112.

Chattertons Solicitors fees, £483. L.G.A. 1972 s. 111.

b) To consider request from Fenland Citizens Advice Bureau for a grant/donation.

Councillors resolved to give a grant/donation of £100. L.G.A. 1972 s. 142.

09/226. To consider and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

a) Letters from Chattertons, solicitors regarding their fees in making an application to the Land Registry to try and recover the costs already incurred.

Councillors resolved to accept the offer from the Solicitors for them to submit the initial letter claiming reimbursement from the Land Registry at an estimated cost of £200 +VAT.

b) Letter from a parishioner regarding the ineffectiveness of the Bus Shelter.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to approach the Conservation Officer and Planning Department at Fenland District Council to enquire as to whether any changes to improve the effectiveness of the bus shelter would be acceptable to them.

c) Letter from Parson Drove Street Pride requesting permission to create new flower beds on the village green and provide the plants for the triangle and concrete rings.

Councillors resolved to agree to these requests in principle subject to receiving more information on the exact proposed location for the new flower beds.

d) Letter from B. Ollier, Fenland District Council regarding the section 106 project of a MUGA.

Information noted by Councillors. This information had also been provided to the Working Group for them to action.

e) Letter from C.C.C. Highways consulting on the Countywide Freight Map.

Councillors resolved to request that the route through the centre of the village be changed to a red zone weight restriction area.

f) Letter from C.C.C. advising of the Parish Paths Partnership for 2010/2011.

Information noted by Councillors who agreed to contact the Clerk if anything is required.

g) Request forms from Fenland District Council for Parish Councillors wishing to be provided with a copy of the Register of Electors for 2009/2010.

The forms were completed by Councillors at the meeting and returned to the Clerk.

h) Email from British Telecommunications PLC regarding trees obstructing cables over the pond.

As the cables were the responsibility of the Parish Council it was resolved for the Clerk to contact the contractors completing the work to the trees on the village green for guidance on what was required before an application is made to the District Council for permission to complete the pruning back of the trees at this location.

i) Invitation from Fenland Volunteer Centre for the Chairman to attend A Christmas Get Together on Wednesday 16th December 12 noon to 1.30pm at The Boathouse Business Centre, Wisbech.

As the Chairman was unable to attend Councillor Everett agreed to represent the Council at this function.

j) Email from Fenland District Council regarding environmental projects on energy efficiency of houses & requesting a meeting to discuss applying to be on the programme.

Councillors resolved to invite the Officer to attend the next Council meeting.

k) Newsletters & magazines from FCVS, CPRE & Clerks & Council Direct. Information noted by Councillors.

09/227. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

The following items were raised for the Clerk to notify C.C.C. Highways requesting their attention.

1. Large puddles, resulting in road flooding along Main Road at the Newlands Road entrance and along The Bank outside house Number 4.
2. Pot holes near the triangle, Swan Bridge junction.
3. Missing chevron sign at Turf End Bridge.
4. Missing or damaged road signs and speed signs throughout the whole parish.
5. Flashing speed sign along Main Road only partly working correctly.

Concern was expressed about the chickens and geese straying into the public highway near to the Swan Inn as these could cause an accident. Councillors resolved for the Clerk to write the owners raising these concerns and suggesting that they make their grounds more secure.

Clerk requested to report faulty street lights at Ingham Hall Gardens and in the traffic island at Swan Bridge.

The new street light had been installed at Church End and was now waiting to be connected to the electricity. The Clerk was requested to obtain quotations for a further new street light along Main Road near to the Sealeys Lane junction and down Sealeys Lane.

09/228. Gardens & Allotments

Report on collection of rents.

a) The Clerk advised that all Garden & Allotment Rents had been paid.

b) To allocate vacant Allotment Gardens to new tenants.

The tenant of Allotment Garden Number 22 had advised that they wished to vacate their riverside garden. The tenant of Allotment Garden Number 15 had written advising that the garden was too large for them and therefore they wished to end the tenancy.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to contact the tenant of Garden Number 15 offering to reduce their Allotment Garden to half a garden.

The Clerk had contacted the first three parishioners on the waiting list to enquire if they still wished to be considered for an Allotment Garden and to date had only received a response from one.

Councillors therefore resolved to allocate garden number 22 to this applicant and to reconsider the future tenancy of Garden number 15 at the next meeting.

09/229. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Shelley had been unable to attend the last meeting however he informed the Council that a function was being held on New Years Eve but to date the request for tickets had been poor.

Additional outside lighting was to be installed very shortly to improve the lighting on the entrance to the rear car park.

09/230. To agree on dates and venues for Council Meetings during 2010.

Councillors resolved to continue with the same schedule for meetings as in previous years with meetings being held on the second Wednesday of each month with additional meetings in between if necessary. Meetings to be held in St Marks Church in January, February, March, May & December and for the remaining months meetings to be held in The Cage.

09/231. To arrange date for next Parishioners Open Surgery.

Councillors resolved to defer this matter to the next meeting to be held on the 14th December.

09/232. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

No questions were raised by members.

09/233. Any other business (information items only).

Young trees had been planted by the Street Pride group around the playing field boundary.

The Councils Standing Orders, Policies & Procedures required reviewing to bring them up to date with best practice and this process would begin at the next meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.