

## **MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009 IN ST MARKS CHURCH, MAIN ROAD PARSON DROVE.**

Attended by Councillors :- G. Booth (Chairman), C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, M. Shelley, & P. Spriggs.  
R. Scrimshaw (F.D.C.), J Tuck (C.C.C.), Karen Wickam (F.D.C.), P.C. Julie Coales, J. Carter (Section 106 Working Group) & 15 member of the public.

### **09/185. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A. Sanderson & P. Everett and Thelma Wadsley (F.D.C.).

### **09/186. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

Councillors C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy declared a Personal & Prejudicial interest respect of Agenda item number 09/188.

Reason - land submitted by a relative for consideration as an Exception Site.

Councillors C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 09/193.

Reason - Agents also acts for the Councillors.

Councillor Spriggs declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 09/188.

Reason - close relative rents land submitted for consideration as an Exception Site.

Councillor Spriggs declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 09/197.

Reason - close relative is an Allotment tenant.

Councillor Booth declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda item Number 09/197.

Reason - Councillor Booth is a Garden tenant.

### **09/187. Community Police Officer's Report.**

P.C. Coales reported on the recent crimes for the parish advising that the theft of gates and garden tools were being targeted.

### **09/188. To consider land submitted for consideration as Exception Sites for Affordable Houses.**

Members of the public reiterated their concerns over the safety of the Swan Bridge junction during public participation and reminded Councillors of the petition previously presented to the Council opposing development of affordable housing on land at Swan Bridge Farm submitted as an Exception Site.

Concerns were also raised during public participation on the suitability of the site at Sealeys Lane in view of the width of the road.

Karen Wickam, the Affordable Housing Officer from Fenland District Council outlined the procedure to provide Affordable Houses on Exception sites and answered questions from the members of the public during public participation.

Councillors were provided by F.D.C. with a check list form to assess each site submitted. However in view of the declarations of interest made by Councillors C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy & P. Spriggs the Council were no longer quorate and the matter was deferred to the next meeting. It was agreed that Councillors would complete the forms for each site ready for the next meeting.

Karen Wickam then left the meeting and so did the members of the public.

**09/189. Progress report from J Carter, Section 106 Working Group.**

Mr Carter advised that despite 25 to 30 grant applications being made for the proposed sports hall extension to the pavilion the response had been very poor with only one grant for £5,000 being offered. Sport England was hopefully going to be the main grant provider for the project but they had now responded refusing the grant application. In view of this the group were now looking in detail at option two, the provision of an all weather surface play area to accommodate basket ball, 5 a side football and tennis etc. Quotations ranging from £68,000 to £90,000 had already been obtained but this did not include floodlights. Enquiries would also have to be made about any planning approval required. It was suggested that provision of further storage facilities should be considered together with future maintenance costs. Councillors resolved to support the change of project for the use of the section 106 funds, approval would also have to be obtained from Fenland District Council. Mr Carter then left the meeting.

**09/190. Report from Thelma Wadsley, Neighbourhood Management Services.**

Thelma Wadsley had been unable to attend the meeting and therefore no report was given.

**09/191. To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on the 9<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009.**

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

**09/192. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).**

The Chairman and Councillor Shelley had attended the Road Safety Community Group Meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> September and would report back to the Council after their next meeting.

The Chairman and Councillors C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, M Shelley and the Clerk had attended the training on the Power of WellBeing on the 7<sup>th</sup> October and this matter would be referred back to the Council at a later date. Councillor Spriggs apologised for not attending but indicated that he would attend any future training available on this topic.

The Chairman, Councillors G. Bellamy & M. Shelley confirmed that they would be attending the Community Fair on the 17<sup>th</sup> October in Parson Drove village hall to represent the Parish Council. The petition calling for improvements to the Swan Bridge junction would be provided by the Clerk for residents to sign on the day. Information on the sites submitted as Exception sites for Affordable Houses would also be on display for resident's comments.

**09/193. Planning Matters & Applications.**

M Lawrence, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0606/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, formation of a ménage & erection of six 7.5 metre floodlights, The Paddocks, Long Drove, Parson Drove.(Retrospective)  
Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application subject to the floodlights not shining onto the highway.

Councillors raised concerns over the building contractors parking on the village green now that the new development had started on land adjacent to Jubilee Cottage.  
Councillors resolved to contact the Enforcement Officer at Fenland District Council.

**09/194. Accounts & Finance.**

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

EON, electricity for the Cage, £35.06. L.G.A. 1972 s.133.

Fen Warreners, pest control annual contract renewal, £375.00. Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9&10.

The Office Key, administration supplies, £44.73. L.G.A. 1972 s.111

Information Commissioner, Data Protection Renewal, £35.00. L.G.A. 1972 s111.

Chattertons, solicitor's fees, £805.00. L.G.A. 1972. s111.

b) To consider a request from Victim Support for a grant/donation.

Councillors resolved to give a grant of £25. L.G.A. 1972 s137.

c) Letter and plan from the Cambridgeshire Regiment Memorial Appeal requesting a donation towards the memorial.

Councillors resolved to give a grant of £50. L.G.A. 1972 s.137.

d) To consider quotations received for work required to the trees on the green.

Councillors resolved to accept the quotation from East Anglia Tree Care for £1,850. This would result in an over spend on the maintenance budget and Councillors resolved for £500 to be vired from the Community Facilities Allocated Reserves budget to cover the shortfall.

The Clerk advised that EDF had indicated that they would be starting the work on the trees with branches over their cables during November.

**09/195. To consider and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-**

a) Letter from solicitors enclosing contract and deed of transfer for sale of land at Short Drove, Murrow Bank, Parson Drove for £1,000.

Councillors resolved for the sale to proceed at £1,000 and authorised the Chairman and Councillor Spriggs to sign the contract and deed of transfer on behalf of the Parish Council.

b) Letter from Parson Drove Street Pride Group requesting the Councils approval to turn the stump of the tree to be felled outside the Cage into a sculpture.

Councillors resolved to give the Street Pride permission to use the tree stump for a sculpture which may be placed either on the village green or in the traffic island triangle at Swan Bridge.

c) Letter of thanks from Southea Parochial Church Council for the grant/donation of £500.

Noted by Councillors, no further action required.

d) Notification from CPALC of their AGM on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2009.

Noted by Councillors, Chairman would try to attend.

e) A copy of Cambridgeshire ACRE Impact Report 2008/2009.

Noted and taken by the Chairman to study.

f) Newsletters & magazines from FDC Streetscene, COPE, FCVS, Vital Communities, SLCC, CPRE, Cambs ACRE & NALC.

Noted by Councillors, no further action required.

g) Consultation document from NHS Cambridgeshire on the future of Primary Care Out of Hours Services.

Councillors were each given a copy of the document and resolved to defer the matter to the next meeting.

**09/196 To consider letters from Chattertons, Solicitor regarding Elgood & Sons Limited and the Land Registry.**

Councillors noted request made by solicitor for the Land Registry to correct our title accurately to include the footway.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to obtain an indication from the solicitors of the possible legal costs in trying to recover our recent costs from the Land Registry on the basis that they granted title to Elgood & Sons Limited on flimsy evidence.

**09/197. To review rents for the Allotments & Garden Allotments.**

In view of the declaration of interests made the Chairman and Councillor Spriggs left the meeting after resolving that Councillor Shelley chair the meeting for this Agenda item.

The Clerk also left the meeting whilst the matter was debated as close family members are also tenants of the Gardens and Allotments.

Councillors resolved to increase the allotment rents from £60 to £65 per acre and a full garden rent from £12 to £15 per garden.

**09/198. To agree on Remembrance Day Service arrangements & authorise the purchase of a wreath..**

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to order a wreath and this would be laid by the Chairman at the Remembrance Day Service.

**09/199 Street Lighting & Highway Matters.**

The Clerk was requested to report again the faulty street light at Church End and Back Road Murrow. Also to report the street light in the traffic island not always working.

Concern was expressed that the railings near the footbridge at Swan Bridge, damaged following a car accident had still not been repaired.

The Chairman advised that he was now a member of the Fenland Highways Committee and would soon be attending a meeting on the Jointly Funded Highways Bids where our application for an extension to the footpath along Main Road had scored well and may be approved as a scheme for 2010/2011 subject to adequate funding being available. However our application for a footpath along Fen Road did not score any points.

**09/200. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

As a meeting had not been held recently there was no report to give.

**09/201. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

Complaints about the public right of way from Main Road through to Back Road Murrow would be investigated by the Chairman.

**09/202. Any other business (information items only).**

No matters were raised by Councillors.

Meeting closed 10.25pm.