

MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 9th SEPTEMBER 2009 IN THE CAGE, PARSON DROVE.

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

09/158. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor P. Everett & Thelma Wadsley.

09/159. To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th August 2009.

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

09/160. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 09/171. Reason Councillor Booth is a Garden Allotment tenant.

09/161. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).

The Chairman advised that he had arranged a site meeting with Mr Amos, allotment tenant for Sunday 13th September and Councillor Spriggs would also attend the meeting.

09/162. Community Police Officer's Report.

P.C. Julie Coales advised that she had not made any progress regarding the sex shop sign. Crimes in the area included bales of straw being set alight and distraction burglaries. Neighbourhood Watch were going to try and get more schemes going and the Police Panel Meetings would now be part of the new Community Fairs. The majority of accidents at the Swan Bridge junction would not be logged by the Police as they are classed as minor but she suggested that the Council write again to the County Council Highways section in view of the number of accidents at this location. Councillors also agreed to start a petition and this would be available at the Community Fair.

09/163. Report from Thelma Wadsley, Neighbourhood Management Services.

No report was given in view of the absence of Thelma Wadsley.

09/164. Planning Matters & Applications

T Rowell, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0492/F, Agent K Elener, for the erection of a detached triple garage Poplar Tree Farm, Long Drove, Parson Drove.
Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application.

Executors of R. Foster, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0502/F, Agent Cheffins, for the conversion of the barn/garage to a 4 bed dwelling involving the demolition of section of the barn & lean to boiler house & erection of a single storey extension. Also the erection of a 4 bed detached house with car port at Church Farm, 315 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

A letter of objection relating to the above planning application had been received and the objector had also addressed the Council during public participation.

Councillors resolved not to object to the barn conversion but to object to the erection of the 4 bedroomed detached house with car port on the grounds that this would result in over development of the site, be out of character with the area, result in loss of amenity to adjoining property, inadequate access to farm land to the rear, and to raise concerns over drainage & flooding, parking and highway safety.

P. Skinner, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0540/TRCA, Agent J Rowlett, for works to 2 Silver Birch Trees & felling of 1 Elm Tree at Snips Hair Fashions, 21 Main Road, Parson Drove.

As a copy of the application had still not been received from the District Council this matter was deferred to the next meeting.

N. Evangelos, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0530/F, Agent David Broker, for the erection of a 3 bedroomed detached bungalow & garage, Maddison Lodge, The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application.

09/165. Accounts & Finance.

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

Anglian Water, half year rates for the Cage, £28.57. L.G.A. 1972 s.133

Chattertons, solicitor's fees, £1,104. L.G.A. 1972 s.111.

Mrs Y Reader, Clerks quarter year salary & expenses £1019.84.L.G.A. 1972 s.112.

Paul Tibbs Ltd., replacement glass in village green notice board, £28.75. L.G.A. 1092 s111.

Moore Stephens, external audit fees, £339.25. Accounts & Finance Act 1998.

b) To consider a request from Southea Parochial Church Council for the annual churchyard maintenance grant.

Councillors resolved to give a grant/donation of £500. L.G.A. 1972 s 214 (6).

c) To receive External Auditors Report.

The external Auditors report had been received with no matters raised and therefore no action was required. The conclusion of audit notice had been displayed by the Clerk.

d) To receive & approve Receipts & Payments Account/ Bank Reconciliation and Budget update report.

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented and noted the potential total over spend on the budget. Councillors agreed to consider the budget report further at the next meeting.

e) To consider quotations received for painting work on The Cage.

Two quotations had been received and Councillors resolved to proceed with the quotation received from Mr Swan.

09/166. To receive update report on works required to trees on the village green following site meeting with EDF.

The Chairman reported on the site meeting with EDF advising that they had agreed to undertake all the work associated with the tree branches over hanging the electricity cables. It was anticipated that it would take approximately 8 weeks for them to arrange for this work to be started.

EDF had expressed concern regarding the tree outside 23 The Bank as the electricity cables went through the centre of the tree. They would consider the best course of action to remedy this and the options were to either fell the tree or to arrange for the cables to go under ground in the village green.

09/167. To consider and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

a) Invitation from Cambridgeshire ACRE to attend their AGM on Tuesday 29th September at 5.30pm at The Burgess Hall, St Ivo Leisure Centre, St Ives.

Information noted by Councillors.

b) Invitation from NHS Cambs Community Services to their AGM on 22nd September at 6.30 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Ely.

Information noted by Councillors.

c) Invitation from Cambs ACRE to attend an evening of rural debate on Ensuring a Vibrant Future on Tuesday 29th September at 6.15pm at the Burgess Hall, St Ivo Leisure Centre, St Ives.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) Information from CPALC on the Fenland Meetings.

The Chairman agreed to attend these meetings.

e) Invitation from East of England Regional Assembly to attend a public consultation event on the 10th September at 7.00pm at Robinson College, Grange Road, Newnham, Cambridge.

Information noted by Councillors.

f) Email regarding the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill.

Councillors resolved to defer this to the next meeting to allow more time for further information to be obtained on this matter.

g) Information from CPALC on the Future Jobs Fund scheme aimed at assisting young people who are currently unemployed get back into the labour market & offering 6 months free labour to the parish.

Councillors resolved to approach Wisbech St Mary Parish Council to see if they would be interested in joining with Parson Drove in making an application for a Grounds Maintenance post.

h) Newsletters from COPE & CPRE.

Information noted.

09/168. To note land lodged for consideration as Exception Sites for Affordable Housing & to agree to invite FDC to the next Parish Council Meeting to agree on how the scheme should be progressed.

Councillors noted that two pieces of land had been put forward and resolved for the Clerk to invite Officers from Fenland District Council to attend the next meeting.

09/169 To consider correspondence received from Solicitors regarding Easement and Agreement Terms with Elgood & Sons Ltd.

Councillors resolved in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted at Agenda Item number 09/141 that it was advisable in the public interest that the Public and Press be temporarily excluded from the meeting.

A copy of the settlement terms and grant of easement had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Clarification on some points had already been requested by the Clerk and Chairman and a response had not yet been received from the Solicitors. Councillors raised no other queries other than to check the accuracy of the maps and raised some concern over the weight limit for the southern access road; this had already been raised with the solicitors. Councillors resolved to accept the settlement terms and the grant of easement subject to receiving confirmation from the Solicitors on the points raised. An additional emergency meeting would have to be called before the end of the month to approve the final documents in view of the Land Registry's deadline of the 30th September 2009.

09/170. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

09/171 Gardens & Allotments.

To reviews rents for the following year and agree on collection date for this years rents.

Councillors resolved to defer the matter of reviewing the rents until the next meeting but agreed that the rents should be collected prior to the November meeting.

09/172. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

09/173. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

No questions were raised by members.

09/174. Any other business (information items only).

The concrete slabs under the public seat at Springfield Road had been replaced with a new concrete base by Roddons Housing Association.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.