

MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 13th JANUARY 2010 IN ST MARKS CHURCH, MAIN ROAD PARSON DROVE.

Attended by Councillors :- G. Booth (Chairman), A. Sanderson (Vice Chairman), C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, P. Everett, & M. Shelley, P. Spriggs, R. Scrimshaw (F.D.C.), D Horn (F.D.C.), I Edington (F.D.C.), J Randall (F.D.C. Neighbourhood Management Services) & P.C. Julie Coales.

10/01. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from J. Tuck (C.C.C.)

10/02. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

No declarations of interest were made by members.

10/03. Community Police Officer's Report.

P.C. Coales reported on the recent crimes within the parish and surrounding areas. There had been a few burglaries recently with antiques and collectables being targeted as well as sheds. P.C. Coales emphasised the importance of concerns being reported as soon as possible.

10/04. Presentation by Isabel Edington, Fenland District Council, on Green Communities.

Dan Horn and Isabel Edington explained the various sections of the project covering private individuals and dwellings, businesses and community groups and how it could be linked with the Parish Plan and environment issues within the Parish. The project was now being promoted ready to start in April 2010 and grants may be available for energy saving improvements.

Councillors resolved to try and form a group interested in taking the project forward and it was agreed to approach village organisations and for information to be included in the newsletter

10/05. Report from Thelma Wadsley, Neighbourhood Management Services.

Dan Horn introduced Julie Randall as our new Community Officer.

10/06. To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on the 9th & 14th December 2009.

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

10/07. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).

The Police had not yet responded to our request for information on the number of accidents at the Swan Bridge junction. The Chairman was still waiting for information from the Ambulance Service. Once this information had been received the Clerk would contact C.C.C. regarding improvements to the Swan Bridge junction and forward the petition to them.

Councillor Everett had attended the social event organised by the Fenland Volunteer Centre on the 16th December with no issues to report back on.

10/08. Planning Matters & Applications.

a) Notification from F.D.C. that approval has been granted to T Rowell, Planning Application No. F/YR09/0651/F, Agent J Maxey, for the erection of an extension to existing agricultural building at Poplar Tree Farm, Long Drove, Parson Drove. Information noted by Councillors.

b) Notification from F.D.C. of an appeal lodged by Executors of R.A. Foster for the conversion of barn/garage to a 4 bed roomed dwelling & erection of a single storey extension & erection of a 4 bed roomed detached house with car port at Church Farm, 315 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

A letter had also been received from an objector to the application requesting that the Council write to the Planning Inspector reaffirming the Council's objection to the planning application.

Councillors resolved by a majority vote for the Clerk to write to the Planning Inspector reiterating our objections to the planning application.

10/09. Accounts & Finance

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

T. Blackamore, annual grounds maintenance contract, £3,758.96. Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10.

Cambridgeshire ACRE, membership renewal, £25. L.G.A. 1972 s. 143.

MHB Services Ltd., supply & installation of street light at Church End, £848.15.

P.C.A. 1957 s. 3.

10/10. To consider and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

a) Email from CPALC advising that the bid by C.C.C. to the Future Jobs Fund was successful.

Information noted by Councillors and Clerk to notify Wisbech St Mary Parish Council.

b) Letter from C.C.C. asking if the Parish Council were interested in providing salt bins costing approximately £100 per bin but the CCC would not accept any liability for this activity.

Councillors resolved not to proceed with this offer.

c) Draft Minutes from CPALC for the AGM held on the 21st November 2009.

Information noted by Councillors, no further action required.

d) Training schedule for 2010 from CPALC.

Information to be circulated to Councillors and discussed at a future meeting if required.

e) Training information from FCVS on Awards For All Workshop on Thursday 4th February 9am to 1pm at March Town Hall.

Information noted by Councillors, no further action required.

f) Invitation from the Regional Empowerment Partnership to attend an Exchange Visit on Tuesday 26th January providing an opportunity to see various community projects around Peterborough City.

Information noted, no Councillor wished to attend.

g) Email from the Conservation Officer requesting details on what alterations and improvements to the Bus shelter are being proposed.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk and Chairman to look into suitable options including toughened glass or clear bricks and report back at the next meeting.

h) Confirmation from NALC on members attending and completing the training on the Power of Well Being.

Certificates were given to the Councillors who attended the training. No further action required at present.

i) Letter of thanks from Fenland Citizens Advice Bureau for the donation of £100.

Noted by Councillors, no further action required.

j) Letter from CCC regarding the Fenland Social Media Cohesion Project requesting Councillors to complete a survey on their use of the Internet.

Completed questionnaires were given to the Clerk.

k) Request from Murrow & District Children's Centre to attend the February Council Meeting to provide an overview of the work they do and to determine how they can work with the Parish Council.

Councillors resolved to invite a representative to attend the February meeting.

l) Letter from Chattertons Solicitors and HM Land Registry regarding the omission of the footpath in our amended title for the village green.

Councillors resolved not to pursue this further at the present time in view of the costs involved. Councillors considered that the footpath at the northern end was clearly part of the registered village green and resolved to make an application to claim the footpath at both the northern and southern end of the village green in the future.

m) Winter edition of Community Action & Local Council Review magazines.

Information noted by Councillors.

n) Invitation from the War Memorials Trust to attend a seminar.

Information noted by Councillors.

o) Letter from F.D.C. regarding our Liaison Officer attending future Council Meetings.

Councillors resolved to invite an Officer to attend the Council Meetings on a quarterly basis and suggested March, May, August and November for 2010.

10/11. To review Standing Orders and Council Meeting Procedures and to discuss and agree on amendments required regarding Public Participation and Agendas.

Councillors resolved to suspend Standing Order number 76 for this meeting in order to complete the review of the current Standing Orders.

Councillors resolved to amend the Standing Orders as suggested by NALC to include Public Participation as part of the formal Council Meeting and to adjust the order of business on future Agendas accordingly.

Councillors also resolved for future Agendas to be revised in respect of content and order of business after considering the guide on best practice received from CPALC.

10/12. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

The Clerk was requested to report the faulty street lights in the traffic island at Swan Bridge, outside The Cage, Ingham Hall Gardens, The Bank and Main Road.

Clerk to report to C.C.C. Highways pot holes at the top of Riverside Gardens and near to the traffic island at Swan Bridge and the missing signs at Turf End Bridge

10/13. Gardens & Allotments - To allocate Allotment Gardens to new tenants.

The tenant of garden number 15 did not wish to continue with the tenancy even if the garden was halved. The Chairman was meeting with a garden applicant on Saturday 16th January to ascertain if they were still interested in a tenancy. Councillors resolved to defer the allocation of garden number 15 until the next meeting pending the outcome of this meeting.

10/14. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Shelley advised the Council that the News Years Eve function was cancelled due to lack of interest. The Party prior to Christmas had also been cancelled due to the bad weather.

10/15. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

No questions were asked by members.

10/16. Any other business (information items only).

The Chairman and Clerk were meeting the contractors to discuss required work to the trees around the pond on Saturday 16th January.

Meeting closed at 10.05pm.