

MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 14th APRIL 2010 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.
R. Scrimshaw (F.D.C.) & P. C. Julie Coales.

10/62. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Julie Randal, Neighbourhood Management Services & Jill Tuck (C.C.C.)

10/63. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared a Personal Interest for Agenda Items Numbered 10/76 – reason, a member of the Street Pride Group,
10/77 e) – reason, a member of the Section 106 Working Group
10/79 – reason, an Allotment Garden tenant.

Councillor Shelley declared a Personal Interest for Agenda Items Numbered 10/76 – reason, a member of the Street Pride Group,
10/77 e) – reason, a member of the Section 106 working group.

Councillor C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy declared a Personal Interest for Agenda Items Number 10/72 a) and b) reason the Agents also acts for them.

Councillor Everett declared a Personal Interest for Agenda Item Number 10/77 reason, a member of the Section 106 Working Group.

10/64. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

10/65. Community Police Officer's Report.

P.C. Coales reported that the crimes for Parson Drove & Murrow since the last meeting included theft of vehicles, an assault, theft of fuel, theft from a shed and a domestic assault & damage. Criminals were targeting sheds and garages, lead from roofs, caravans and trailers.

Councillors were asked to encourage residents to attend the Community Fair and CrimeBuster Bus later in the month and to stress again the importance of reporting incidences to the Police.

10/66. Presentation by Anne Marie Waterston, on the Murrow & District Children's Centre.

Anne Marie Waterston did not attend the meeting to give the presentation.

10/67. To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2010.

The minutes were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman after being amended on Page 784, Agenda Item Number 10/53 to include a reference to Councillor C Bellamy having also spoken with Mr T Stork, Elgood & Son Ltd regarding this matter.

10/68. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).

The Clerk was requested to enquire as to whether Planning Permission had now been granted for the mobile home on land north of The White Bungalow, Elbow Lane. Also to enquire with Peterborough City Council on the outcome of the Public Enquiry regarding the Wind Turbine Farms at Nutsgrove Farm and Wrydecroft, Thorney.

10/69. To receive report from Julie Randall, Neighbourhood Management Services.

No report was given in view of the absence of Julie Randall.

10/70. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Scrimshaw reported that he would be joining the District Councils Planning Committee once he had completed his training. He wanted to try and promote the Care & Repair Handyman service in our area as this was not being used and distributed leaflets.

10/71. Report on Green Communities Public Meeting held on 30th March 2010.

The Chairman reported that 13 members of the public had attended the meeting. The areas selected for action included water savings, improvements in energy efficiency, additional storage space for the village hall and to promote grants that are available. We were waiting for a full report on the meeting from Isabel Edgington, Fenland District Council.

10/72. Planning - Applications for consideration.

a) M. Lawrence, Planning Application No. F/YR10/0179/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., for the erection of a 2 storey side & rear extension to existing dwelling involving the demolition of existing kitchen, utility & outbuilding & erection of 1.5 metre rail fencing at The Paddocks, Long Drove, Parson Drove. Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application and recommend approval is granted.

b) J Scrimshaw, Planning Application No. F/YR10/0200/O, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., for the erection of 4 dwellings on land north of 69 – 79 Back Road, Murrow. Councillors resolved to object to the application on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site and unacceptable access via Back Road in view of the width of the road and no public footway.

c) Notification of Planning Applications approved by Fenland District Council. N Routier, Planning Application No. F/YR10/0144TRTPO, felling of 1 Ash Tree covered by a tree preservation order at Lakesend, 70 Main Road, Parson Drove. Information noted.

T Rawlings, Southeau Church, Planning Application No. F/YR10/0124/TRCA, Felling of 2 Poplar Trees in a Conservation Area at Southeau Church, 37 Main Road, Parson Drove. Information noted.

The Chairman informed the Council that he had been approached by the applicant regarding the planning application for the change of use to Hot Food Takeaway for 3 The Bank, Parson Drove as the applicant was suggesting he attends a Parish Council meeting to discuss the application as he was considering re-submitting an application for the same change of use. The Chairman advised Councillors that he had suggested to the applicant that any pre-application discussion should be with the District Council.

10/73. Accounts & Finance.

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following Invoice for payment:-
Fenland District Council, rates for The Cage £207.00. L.G.A. 1092 s.133.

b) To consider request from Fenland Volunteer Centre for a grant/donation.
Councillors resolved to give a grant of £50. L.G.A. 1972 s 137.

c) To consider request from East Anglia's Children's Hospices for a grant/donation.
Councillors resolved to give a grant of £50. L.G.A. 1972 s.137.

d) To consider request for a donation/grant to Citizens Advice Bureau.
As the request was to fund the outreach session held monthly for the coming year at £30 per session Councillors resolved to give a grant of £30 for the June session and invite the Manager to attend the May Council Meeting to discuss possible funding for future sessions. L.G.A. 1972 s.142.

e) To approve the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2010 and authorise the completion of Section 1 of the Annual Return.
Councillors resolved to approve the Accounts presented by the Clerk and the completed Section 1 of the Annual Return.

10/74. Progress report on proposed improvements to the Bus Shelter.

The Clerk advised that a verbal quotation for PVC frames with toughened glass had been obtained at an approximate cost of £380 but the PVC frames would not be acceptable to the Conservation Officer. The Conservation Officers preference was for wooden frames and the Clerk was requested to obtain an estimate for these. The cost of the toughened glass was estimated at £120. The Clerk was also requested to formally approach the Planning Department with the details of the proposed changes to ascertain whether or not planning permission would be required.

10/75. Progress Report on Future Jobs Fund Scheme.

The Chairman advised that 5 applications had been received for the post of Grounds Maintenance Operative under the scheme. Two applicants had been selected for Interviews held on the 9th April and the successful applicant had been offered the position starting on the 19th April.

10/76. To consider request by Parson Drove Street Pride Group to move some of the concrete flower planters.

The Chairman explained that the Street Pride group wished to move some of the flower planters from under the trees and place them at the two ends of the access track effectively blocking off the access track nearest to the Swan Bridge junction. Councillors resolved to agree to this request as it had been previously agreed that this access would eventually be blocked off and grassed over. Councillors suggested that the outside of the flower planter rings could also be improved. The Clerk was instructed to request that the County Council raise the road kerbing at this access to further deter vehicles from crossing over the village green.

10/77. To consider, debate and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

a) Cambridgeshire Together Rural Strategy & survey from ACRE

The Strategy Document had now been seen by all Councillors. Councillors resolved not to make any comments on the Strategy.

b) Letter from Peterborough City Council enclosing a consultation CD on their Site Allocation Development Plan Document Preferred Options.

Information noted by Councillors.

c) Letter of thanks from St Marks Church for the donation of £150.

Noted by Councillors.

d) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council enclosing information on the proposals for the work of the Fenland Unit at the County Council.

Information noted by Councillors.

e) Copy of a letter sent by the Section 106 Working Group to R Ollier, Parks & Open Spaces Manager at Fenland District Council requesting confirmation that Fenland District Council will place the order with Playdale for the MUGA and a tennis court at a cost of £88,457+VAT to be funded from the section 106 monies allocated to the parish following the development of John Bends Way.

The Chairman advised that the working group were still waiting for a response from Bob Ollier. A letter had also been received from the Agents, Peter Humphrey Associates advising that Planning Permission may now be required for the MUGA and Tennis Court. Councillors requested that the District Councillors enquire into this as a matter of urgency.

f) Letter & Poster from Fenland District Council advising of the dates for the CrimeBuster Bus visits to Parson Drove and surrounding villages during April & May.

Information noted.

g) Newsletter and magazines from COPE, CPALC, Cambridgeshire ACRE & NHS Cambridgeshire.

Information noted.

10/78. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

a) Report on meeting with representatives from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding repairs to footbridge railings at Swan Bridge.

The Chairman advised that following the site meeting the County Council Officers attending had agreed to reinstate the metal barrier but it might be in a slightly different place.

Discussion also took place on various options to improve the safety of the junction including improved signage, alterations to the traffic island and access roads. A full report on the options would be made to the Area Joint Highways meeting later in the month when our petition would also be presented to the members.

b) Response from Cambridgeshire County Council Highways on flooding and drainage problems along Main Road.

Response noted. Councillors requested that a reminder letter was sent to the County Council regarding the flooding of the Bowls Green particularly in view of the new footway soon to be installed.

c) Information sheet from Cambridgeshire County Council Highways entitled Helping Highways improve customer service.

Information noted by Councillors.

The Clerk was requested to enquire again when the Main Road would be resurfaced and report the Flashing Speed sign still not working correctly along Main Road.

Concern was expressed by Councillor Bellamy about hedging and conifers being planted to close to the roadside down Silvers Lane as this was road was already very narrow causing difficulties for Farmers to access their fields. Councillor Bellamy had reported the matter to the County Council and the Clerk was requested to draw this matter to their attention again.

10/79. Gardens & Allotments.

a) To consider applications received for the vacant allotment garden.

The Clerk advised that two applications had been received. The Chairman advised that the tenant allocated Allotment Garden Number 22 would like to change to the vacant Garden Number 15B as it was smaller. Councillors resolved to agree to this request and then resolved to suggest to the applicants that we split Garden number 22 in half and offer each of the two applicant half each.

b) To consider a request from the tenant of Garden Allotment Number 15A to erect a shed and a 1 foot high mesh fence around the allotment.

Councillors resolved to agree to the requests.

c) To consider & agree on action to be taken regarding fishing club members parking on the access track to the garden allotments.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to write a letter to the Fishing Club reminding them not to park on the access track to the Allotment Gardens.

10/80. a) To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Shelley advised that the Annual General Meeting had been held and a copy of the Accounts were available for Councillors. The Officers of the Committee were Chairman Mr A Killingworth, Vice Chairman Mrs J Markillie, Treasurer Mrs J Cook and Secretary Mr J Cook. The hiring fees had not been increased.

b) To consider & agree to support grant applications for an extension to the village hall for storage.

The Chairman informed Councillors that the Amenities Committee were intending to submit applications for grant funding for this project and requested that the Parish Council support their applications for grant funding.

Councillors resolved to provide a letter of support for the project for grant funding.

10/81. Risk Assessment – To receive progress report on works completed and still required to the trees on the village green and around the pond.

The Clerk was still waiting to hear from the contractors confirming that they had submitted an application to Fenland District Council for permission to fell the 3 Lime Trees on the village green. Councillors resolved for the Clerk to submit the application if the contractors did not confirm that this had been completed in the very near future.

The Clerk had also ascertained from the contractor that 3 trees around the pond needed to be felled in the very near future in view of their poor condition. 2 of these trees were at the back of the pond and the other 1 on the roadside. The remaining work could be delayed for the time being. The Clerk had requested a revised quotation for the felling of these 3 trees but to date this had not been received.

10/82. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

No questions were asked by members.

10/83. Matters for future consideration.

No matters were put forward by Councillors.

10/84. Any other business (information items only).

The Chairman had been approached by local residents regarding the planting of hedging on the boundary of land at Swan Bridge Farm submitted to us for consideration as an Exception Site. The Clerk had subsequently received an email from the County Council advising that this was being planted ready to provide screening for adjoining houses for when the land was developed.. The Clerk was requested to reiterate the Councils objections to any development on this land and send a copy to our County Councillor.

Councillors had received complaints from residents regarding fires on the allotment gardens and it was suggested that they complain to Fenland District Council Environment Department.

10/85. Dates for future Council meeting(s) & Human Resources Committee Meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed for the 12th May 2010 at 8.00pm after the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting at 7.00pm in St Marks Church.

The Human Resources Meeting was arranged for Wednesday 19th May at 7.30pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 10.20pm.