

MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 9th JUNE 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.
T Wadsley (Neighbourhood Management Services), P. C. Julie Coales & 1 member of the public.

10/113. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from J. Tuck (C.C.C.) & R Scrimshaw (F.D.C.).

10/114. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Everett declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda item No. 10/127. Reason Councillor Everett is the Post Mistress.

Councillors Booth, Shelley & Everett declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 10/123 e). Reason – the Councillors are members of the Section 106 Working Group.

10/115. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

The member of the public present raised the disgusting state of the Fen Road Allotments. It was stated that two tenants had not farmed their Allotments or kept them clean for the last 2 or 3 years.

The Chairman advised that the annual inspection of the Gardens & Allotments was to be completed by Councillors on the 21st June and any matters arising from the inspection would be discussed at the July Parish Council Meeting.

10/116. Community Police Officer's Report.

P.C. Coales advised that there were no crimes reported since the last Council Meeting other than a stolen wheelie bin. She was aware that the Cricket Nets on the Playing Field had been vandalised but had not been assigned to this incident and therefore was not able to make any comment on this matter. The Chairman asked for the matter to be looked into and if a report could be provided for the next Council Meeting.

10/117. To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th May 2010.

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

10/118. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).

The Clerk had still not received any posters from the CAB as promised at the last meeting advertising the new arrangements for the monthly Outreach Sessions in the Pavilion. Councillor Shelley advised that the Pavilion had been booked by the CAB for the monthly session but he also had not received any posters. The Clerk was requested to contact the CAB.

Clarification had been received from the Internal Auditors on the section of the report relating to held Allocated & Unallocated Reserves and although the report was perhaps poorly worded the figures stated in the report were correct as they included the £5,000 for Capital Receipts in the Unallocated Reserves.

10/119. To receive report from T Wadsley, Neighbourhood Management Services.

T. Wadsley gave Councillors an updated report on the outstanding issues raised in the Parish Plan. A review of the Community Fairs is to be completed and a member of the Neighbourhood Management would attend Council meetings when they could.

10/120. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

No reports were given in view of the absence of Councillor Tuck & Councillor Scrimshaw.

10/121. To elect a Councillor to represent the Parish Council on the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

Councillor Shelley was nominated and duly elected to represent the Parish Council on the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

10/122. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) Planning Application No. F/YR10/0362/F, C Eleftheriou, No Agent, for the formation of a ménage & erection of 4 x 7.5 metre high floodlights on land west of The Lairage, Highside, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application.

b) Notification of Planning Decisions received from Fenland District Council.

1. Parson Drove Parish Council, Planning Application No. F/YR10/0277/TRTPO, Agent, G Fraser for the felling of 3 Lime Trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order on the village green, The Bank, Parson Drove.

Permission had been granted to only fell 2 of the Lime Trees.

2. S. Ray, Planning Application No.F/YR10/0318/F, Agent S Ayres, for the erection of a 2 storey side extension & lean to roof to porch to existing dwelling at Gull House, The Bank, Parson Drove.

Approval granted.

The Clerk advised that this item had been included in the Agenda in error and that no decision had yet been made by Fenland District Council on the application.

c) Letter from Peterborough City Council advising that the Public Inquiry for the Appeal by Cornwall Light & Power Ltd., for 2 Wind Turbines with control buildings at French Farm, French Drove, Thorney will be held on the 22nd June at 10.00am.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) Email from Peterborough City Council advising that only a small section 106 contribution was secured from the Nuts Grove & Wryde Croft Wind Turbine developments towards barn owl monitoring and environmental education.

Response noted by Councillors.

10/123. Accounts & Finance.

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

North Level Internal Drainage Board, Drainage Rates for Allotments & Gardens, £149.11. Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908.

Mrs Y Reader, Clerks quarter year salary & expenses, £1,141.54. L.G.A. 1972 s.112
Playsafety Ltd., ROSPA Inspection Fees, £158.63. OSA 1906 s 9 & 10.

The Office Key, administration supplies, £21.77.L.G.A. 1972 s.111.

b) To receive and approve a Receipts & Payments/Bank Reconciliation Report and Budget Update Report.

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented.

The deposit account at Barclays Bank PLC had now been closed and the funds transferred into the Deposit Account with the Alliance & Leicester.

Councillors authorised the Clerk to pay the Land Registry Fee of £50 as soon as the Sworn Declaration for the footpath on the village green had been received from the Solicitors.

c) To discuss revised quotation received from EDF for £3,663.65 for the new street light erected along Main Road and alternative quotation received for connected of a new street light at Sealeys Lane for £2,691.93.

Councillors resolved to proceed with the connection of the street light already erected along Main Road and to accept the revised quotation of £3,663.65 rather than have it moved to Sealeys Lane.

d) To consider quotation received for the 5 Yearly Periodic Fixed Wiring Inspection & Test for The Cage.

Councillors resolved to accept the quotation of £93.32+VAT. Clerk to arrange for test to be completed.

e) To approve the payment of £85 for the Planning Application Fee for the MUGA & Tennis Court on the Playing Field, section 106 project.

Councillors resolved to approve the payment of the £85 Planning Application Fee.L.G.A. 1972 s. 111.

Councillors also resolved that as the planning application was on behalf of the Parish Council, the Clerk should indicate the council's recommendation for approval when notice of the application was received from Fenland District Council.

10/124. To receive a progress report on proposed improvements to the Bus Shelter.

The Clerk was still waiting for a reply from the Planning Department as to whether planning permission was required for the alterations.

10/125. Progress Report on Future Jobs Fund Scheme.

The Clerk advised Councillors that unfortunately the Grounds Maintenance Operative had found a full time permanent position and therefore left our employment at the end of May. Information received to date indicated that no replacement could be recruited in this first round of the scheme but there may be the opportunity in the next round starting in September for another Grounds Maintenance Operative employee. The Clerk was still waiting to hear from CPALC as to whether we would be able to claim any of the administration grant money in view of the short time the Grounds Maintenance Operative was employed by the Council.

10/126. Report on the Green Communities Project meeting held on the 27th May.

Attendance at the meeting had been poor probably due to the lack of advertising. It was decided to hold a Green Fair on the 11th September, 11.00am to 2.00pm in the Village Hall.

10/127. Risk Assessment

a) To report on progress for work still required to the trees on the village green and around the pond.

The application to fell the 3 trees on the village had only been partly granted as the District Council had given approval for 2 of the Lime Trees to be felled. This would result in making the task more difficult for the contractor to fell the trees and Councillors requested that the Clerk arrange a site meeting with the Conservation Officer and the Tree Officer at Fenland District Council together with the contractor and Council members to discuss the 1 Lime Tree that had been refused permission.

Mr Fraser was submitting the application to the District Council to fell the worst 3 trees around the pond and would make a further application at a later date for the pruning of the other trees and for the felling of a further 3 trees that was still required.

b) To consider ROSPA report for the village green, swings & pond.

Councillors resolved to consider this report whilst inspecting the assets on the 21st June and then discuss the matter at the July Council Meeting.

10/128. To discuss the future of the Post Office at Parson Drove.

Councillor Everett informed Councillors of information received from the National Federation of Sub-postmasters advising that Post Office Ltd., would not be giving Sub-postmasters a pay increase this year and that they would also be reducing Sub-postmasters income from business banking. This would result in a drastic cut in income for Sub-postmasters on top of the fall in pay during 2009/2010 and would cause a serious threat to the survival of rural post offices.

The National Federation of Sub-postmasters was urging Parish Councils to lobby Cabinet Ministers and local Members of Parliament to provide a sustainable future for Sub-Postmasters.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to write to the Cabinet Minister and our local Member of Parliament as well as Post Office Ltd. & Royal Mail.

10/129. To consider, debate and respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

a) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council inviting Parish Councils to bid under the Jointly Funded Minor Highways Improvements Scheme for 2011 -2012. Councillors resolved to look at extending the footway near to John Bends Way whilst completing the inspection of assets and to discuss this at the next Council Meeting.

b) Letter from Fenland District Council advising of free training on developing effective play space on the 14th July from 10.30 to 2.30 at Wisbech St Mary Community Centre.

This information was given to Councillor Shelley to pass onto the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

c) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council enclosing copies of a new published Wisbech Cycle Map.

Information noted by Councillors, no further action required.

d) Letter from Cambridgeshire ACRE enclosing a copy of their Products & Services Guide.

Information noted by Councillors.

e) Newsletters and magazines from COPE, Open Spaces Society, and War Memorials Trust.

Information noted.

10/130. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

a) Letter from Cambs County Council Traffic Engineer regarding the new footway near to John Bends Way and previous flooding in this area.

Some Councillors who were Bowls Club members were still concerned that flooding would be a problem despite the County Councils assurance that the situation would be improved by the installation of the footway. Councillors resolved that the concerned members request a site meeting with the Officer at Cambridgeshire County Council to discuss this matter.

b) Highway issues to be reported to the County Council.

The Clerk was requested to contact the grass cutting contractor regarding the long grass on the roadside verges as this was becoming dangerous at the junctions.

Councillors resolved that Fenland District Council should be requested to arrange for the adoption of the road at John Bends Way.

c) Faulty street lights to be reported to the County Council.

The Clerk was requested to report a faulty street light at Ingham Hall Gardens and at Church End.

10/131. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Shelley advised that the Cricket Clubs Nets had been vandalised again and were now completely destroyed consequently the Cricket Club were moving to another venue. There would be no Gymkhana on the playing field this year and so the Amenities 95 Committee would have to look at ways in which to raise funds at their next meeting.

10/132. To receive a report from the Chairman on the Human Resources Committee Meeting held on the 17th May & to consider any issues raised.

A draft copy of the Media Policy was issued to each member and Councillors resolved to discuss this at the next meeting.

The Clerk then left the meeting whilst the Chairman informed Councillors of the recommendations of the Human Resources Committee on the Clerks salary review/appraisal following their meeting on the 17th May 2010.

Councillors resolved for the Clerks Salary to remain at £4,000 for 2010/2011 as agreed at the Budget Meeting held in December 2009. It was recommended this should be increased to £4,750 when setting the Budget for 2011/2012 as advised by CPALC.

10/133. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

No questions were raised by Councillors.

10/134. Matters for future consideration.

No additional matters were put forward.

10/135. Any other business (information items only).

A Parishioner had approached Councillors regarding ideas for the village pond and it was suggested that he be invited to attend the next Green Communities Meeting.

The Clerk was requested to arrange the joint meeting with Elgood & Sons Ltd., to discuss improvements to the car parking near the Swan Inn and Cage as soon as possible.

The Clock tower in the Cage had one section of wood that was rotten and needed replacing. Councillor Spriggs had kindly donated the replacement wood and R Reader had agreed to carry out the work.

10/136. Dates for future meeting(s).

The next Council Meeting will be held in the Cage on Wednesday 14th July 2010. Future meetings are to be held in the Cage on the 11th August and 8th September 2010.

Meeting closed 10.25pm.