

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th September 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.), Julie Randall (Neighbourhood Management Services), P.C. Julie Coales & 1 member of the public.

10/184. Apologies for absence.

No apologies had been received.

10/185. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 10/195 Reason – Councillor is a member of the Section 106 Working Group.

Councillor Booth declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 10/200. Reason Councillor Booth is a Garden Allotment Tenant.

Councillor Everett declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 10/195 Reason – Councillor is a member of the Section 106 Working Group.

Councillor Shelley declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 10/195 Reason – Councillor is a member of the Section 106 Working Group.

10/186. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

The member of the public informed the Council of problems he was having with a neighbour enquiring if the Council could assist. The Chairman advised the parishioner to discuss the matter with the Community Police Officer.

10/187. Community Police Officer's Report.

P.C. Coales informed Councillors of the most serious recent crimes in the parish and surrounding area. Extra patrols were being completed on the playing field in view of recent vandalism.

10/188. To approve & sign minutes of the meetings held on 11th & 19th August 2010.

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

10/189. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).

The Cricket Club had confirmed that the remaining Cricket Club funds of £680 would be handed over to the Amenities 95 Committee. Councillors suggested that the Amenities 95 Committee should hold these funds in case a cricket club is reformed in the future. Councillor Shelley agreed to check the storage container to ascertain what cricket club equipment was still left.

The Chairman advised that most of the fields to the rear of Main Road had now been ploughed and so he would check to see if the suspected Ragwort had now been cleared.

10/190. To receive report from Julie Randall, Neighbourhood Management Services.

The requested amendments to the transport leaflet had been completed and the final version would hopefully be ready for the Green Community Fair on the 11th September.

10/191. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Scrimshaw advised that he had attended the Rural Road Safety meeting the previous evening and this meeting had been very well attended by local residents.

10/192. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) Mrs T Jarvis, Planning Application No.F/YR10/0600/EXTIME, Agent David Broker, for the erection of a dwelling on land east of 5 Swann Bridge Farm, Fen Road, Parson Drove. (Renewal of planning permission F/YR07/1014/O).

Councillors resolved to support this application.

b) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following planning application has been refused approval.

N Coppin, Planning Application No. F/YR10/0471/F, No Agent, change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden and formation of a vehicular access, land north of 305 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted.

10/193. Accounts & Finance.

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

Moore Stephens, External Auditors Fees, £334.88. Accounts & Audit Regulations.

Anglian Water, half year water rates for The Cage, £25.05. L.G.A. 1972 s. 111.

Clerks quarter year salary & expenses, £1,153.50. L.G.A. 1972 s.112.

b) To consider the External Auditors Report.

The Clerk advised that the External Auditors Report had been received and there were no issues raised in the report requiring any action.

c) To receive and approve a Receipts & Payments Bank Reconciliation Report & a Budget Up-date Report.

Councillors with provided with copies of the reports and resolved to approve them. There were no issues arising from the reports requiring any action.

d) To consider a request from Cambridgeshire Police Shrievally Trust for a grant/donation towards the Bobby Scheme.

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

10/194. Risk Assessment

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

The Clerk advised that a meeting with the tree officer had been arranged for Monday 13th September at 11.00 a.m. to discuss the application for permission to fell and prune the trees around the pond. The tree officer had also agreed to discuss the refusal to fell the Lime Tree on the village green during the meeting.

b) Update report on windows for the Bus Shelter.

The Clerk advised that one quotation had been received for the supply and fitting of wooden frames in three of the openings of the Bus Shelter. Councillor Spriggs agreed to discuss the type of wood being used with the supplier as he considered hard wood instead of soft wood would be more appropriate. The Clerk was requested to approach the Conservation Officer at F.D.C. to enquire as to whether any grant funding could be given by them towards the improvements.

10/195. Update report on Section 106 Funding & MUGA project.

The Chairman advised that the County Council had now looked at the design in more detail and had indicated that the archaeological dig was no longer required. He was still waiting to hear from the Planning Department as to whether a formal application would be required to have the condition removed. Councillors resolved for the application to be submitted if it transpired that this was required. Playdale have the equipment ready to install.

There would still be £17,000 remaining from the section 106 funding and a skate park was being considered with quotations ranging from £26,923 to £37,743. It was suggested that the Amenities 95 Committee submit an application to F.D.C. under the Rural Capital Grants Fund for the shortfall of £10,000

10/196. To discuss future funding of the Youth Club.

The Chairman advised that he had been unable to attend the previous consultation meeting but had since made enquiries with the County Council on possible reductions in funding for Youth Clubs from next financial year. It was hoped that the County Council would continue to fund weekly sessions of the Youth Club next year but a review was being undertaken and some funding may have to be obtained from other sources. The Parish Council could be approached to provide some funding and this matter would be discussed at a later date when more information on future funding had been received.

10/197. Chairman to report on the launch event for the Fenland District Rural Capital Grants Fund.

The Chairman had attended the launch of the new Rural Capital Grants Scheme where there would be £200,000 available for the next 3 years. Match funding of 50% for projects would be required and the total cost of the project must be over £20,000. Councillors resolved to defer this matter to the next council meeting.

10/198. To consider, debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

a) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council enclosing details of their proposed Winter Service Gritting Arrangements and requesting the Council's comments by the 10th September.

Councillors resolved to request that Fen Road and Long Drove be included in the primary gritting section in view of the high volume of traffic using this route to access the A47.

b) Copy of an Email from the County Council providing an update on the Payne School Safer Routes to School scheme.

The Chairman advised that he was hopeful that this project would still be progressed and Councillors resolved for the Clerk to forward the emails onto Jill Tuck (C.C.C) requesting her assistance in securing the funding required.

c) Letter from Chattertons Solicitors regarding the application to HM Land Registry for the registration of the footway over the village green.

The Clerk advised that she had already responded requesting that the final missing small piece of land be included in our title.

A letter had also been received from Elgood & Sons Limited informing Councillors of the progress on the demolition of Swan Cottage and future plans for the smoking shelter to be moved together with a beer garden being formed on the cottage site. Also informing Councillors that the Swan Inn is to be connected to the main sewer.

d). Notes from the Fenland Road Safety Group Meeting held on 6th July and reminder of the next meeting on the 7th September at 7.30pm in Guyhirn Village Hall.

Information noted.

The Chairman advised that the meeting held on the 7th September had been well attended and the group were looking into getting a 20mph speed limit outside Guyhirn School.

Voluntary speed limits were also being considered with local residents displaying signs requesting motorists to slow down in the villages.

e) Invitation from Cambridgeshire ACRE to attend the AGM on Tuesday 28th September at 5.30pm in The Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, St Ives.

Information noted, no Councillor indicated a wish to attend the meeting.

f) Notification from Fenland District of the Community Grants Scheme for 2011/2012, closing date for applications is the 8th October 2010.

Information noted by Councillors and it was suggested that village organisations are encouraged to apply for funding.

g) Invitation from the Chairman of Fenland District Council to attend Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 24th September 9.30am in the Council Chamber, March.

The Chairman advised that he would be unable to attend due to work commitments.

h) Consultation from Central Government on Local Referendums to veto excessive Council Tax increases.

Councillors resolved to respond on a similar basis as CPALC but to highlight the fact that the proposals did not take into account the size of some Parish Councils and therefore the proposal should not apply to small Parish Councils with relatively low Precepts.

i) Email from CPALC with the Agenda for the next Fenland District Association Meeting to be held on the 16th September at Fenland District Council Offices meeting room 1 commencing at 7.30pm.

The Chairman confirmed that he would be attending the meeting.

j) Newsletters and magazines from CPRE, War Memorials & Clerks Direct.
Information noted.

10/199. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

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

Councillors complained about the poor quality of work on the recent road patching at Gull Road, Guyhirn.

Pot holes along Main Road just past Newlands Road.

Overgrown hedges at Bellamy Bridge, along Sandbank & Highside, near to the telephone exchange along Fen Road, outside the Vicarage and The Limes, Main Road, and near to the Doctors Surgery.

Councillors also raised concern over the poor entry and exit signage at the Doctors Surgery resulting in visitors not using the correct entry and exit.

The Clerk was also asked to request that the footpaths be cleared of leaves along Main Road.

Concern was again raised about the trees planted too close to the highway near the top of Swan Gardens, Fen Road.

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

No faulty streetlights were reported at the meeting.

c) To consider & agree on possible locations for the new street light for 2010/2011.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to obtain a quotation for a new street light along Main Road to follow on from the street light just installed going towards Church End

10/200. To review Allotment & Garden Rents & agree a date for collection of rents.

Councillors resolved to increase the Allotment Rents from £65 to £75 per acre and increase the Garden Allotments from £15 to £20 a garden.

Councillors resolved for the annual rents to be collect prior to the Parish Council meeting on the 10th November at 7.00pm.

Councillor resolved for the Clerk to enquire with Anglian Water on the cost of providing a water supply to the Garden Allotments.

10/201. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Shelley advised Councillors that the village hall had been redecorated. There were no other matters to report as the Committee were not due to have a meeting until the following day.

10/202. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

The Clerk was asked if any progress had been made with the proposed purchase of land to extend the Churchyard. The Clerk advised that from the last information received members of the Parochial Church Council were arranging to meet with Mr Green from the Diocese Office to discuss this and other Church matters.

10/203. Matters for future consideration.

As previously resolved Councillors agreed to discuss the Rural Capital Grants Fund at the next meeting and the future of the Youth Club when more information is received.

10/204. Any other business (information items only).

Councillors were informed that the Street Pride in conjunction with the Community Pay Back group was intending to complete the final phase of the improvements to the Churchyard on Saturday 18th September.

10/205. Dates for future Council meeting(s)

The next meetings were confirmed as follows:

Wednesday 15th September, 7.30 in The Cage to discuss the proposed Exception Site at Sealeys Lane.

Wednesday 13th October at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Wednesday 10th November at 7.30pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm.