

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th January 2012 in The Cage, Parson Drove.

Attended by Councillors G. Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), C Bellamy, G. Bellamy, J. Cook, & R. Scrimshaw. J. Milner (F.D.C.)

12/1. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received and accepted from Councillor P Everett, J. Tuck (C.C.C.) and PCSO Martin Bogunovic.

12/2. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared Personal Interests in respect of Agenda Items Number 12/10 reason – a member of the group and 12/11 d) reason - resides at John Bends Way. Councillor Scrimshaw declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 12/10 reason a member of the group.

12/3. 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.

12/4. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk had been provided with a written report and the Chairman informed the Council of the crimes and issues since the last meeting which were theft of heating oil and one incident of anti social behaviour relating to quad bikes being used at High Side.

12/5. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 14th December 2011.

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

12/6. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

The Clerk had now received a plan showing the existing street lights along Back Road, Murrow. Councillors agreed for enquiries to be made with the electricity company on the cost for additional street lights along Back Road, Murrow when the Clerk was at the site meeting to discuss the proposed street light near to the Cage.

The chairman had checked the street lighting near to the village hall and it would appear that there is adequate street lighting at this location but several are obscured by over grown trees and hedges. The clerk was requested to report this to the highways authority to see if anything could be done to improve the situation.

12/7. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillors Scrimshaw informed Councillors that the District Council were consulting on priorities for next year to assist with their budget. The response forms were available in the One Stop Shops in the 4 market towns, at the town leisure centres and on Council's website. It was suggested that in order to obtain a better response and to reach the wider community that the questionnaires should be sent out with the Council Tax bills. Councillor Scrimshaw agreed to enquire into this suggestion.

12/8. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) Notification from Fenland District Council that approval had been granted to Mrs C Anderson, Planning Application No. F/YR11/0862/F, Agent G Seaton, for the erection of a part first floor, part 2-storey side extension to Sixdale House, 49 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

b) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Application had been refused.

Dr D Hattersley, Planning Application No. F/YR11/0688/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates for the erection of a 2 storey 3 bed dwelling on land east of Southea House, 16 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

c) Briefing note from Fenland District Council on planning obligations.

Information noted by Councillors.

12/9. Accounts & Finance.

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

Fen Warreners, annual pest control contract, £375. Open Spaces Act 1906 s10
Paul Tibbs Ltd., glass for bus shelter windows, £106.43. L.G.M.P.A. 1953 s4.

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

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented. There were no issues arising from the reports.

12/10. To consider request to plant fruit trees and erect shelters on the Community Allotment Garden at Riverside Gardens as part of the Green Communities project.

The street pride co-ordinator from Fenland District Council outlined details of the proposed project explaining that it was hoped to plant miniature fruit trees with grass pathways and areas of wild flowers. Proposed open wooden shelters would provide shade for the school children when visiting the allotment garden but primarily would enable them to catch the rain water stored in the water butts also being sited on the allotment garden.

Councillors agreed to the project in principle but stated that it must be sustainable.

12/11 To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Letter of thanks for the grant of £500 from Southea Parochial Church Council.

Noted by Councillors.

b) Letter of thanks from Parson Drove Surgery Car Scheme for the grant of £150.

Noted by Councillors.

c) Email from Circle Anglia and Fenland District Council confirming how they ensure an Exception Site for Affordable Homes are for perpetuity on proposed land at Church End, Main Road, Parson Drove.

The information received advised that this was by planning obligations and conditions attached to the planning approval and this was noted by Councillors.

d) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council Highways regarding the progress on the adoption of John Bends Way.

As the progress on this road being brought up to an adoptable standard by the developers was very slow Councillors agreed for the Clerk to ask the District Council if they could assist with getting this matter resolved.

e) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council Highways confirming an Officer will attend the Parish Council on the 8th February to discuss the process on changing the speed limits along Main Road and Church End.

Noted by Councillors.

f) Email from Fenland District Council inviting members to attend a briefing meeting on the 24th January 2012 at 6.30pm in The Boathouse, Wisbech regarding the Boundary Commission review of the Fenland Ward Boundaries.

The Clerk advised that the venue and start time for this meeting had now been changed to the Council Chamber, Fenland Hall, March starting at 7.00pm.

The Chairman informed Councillors of the details that had already been given to District Councillors.

Councillors C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy confirmed that they wished to attend the meeting and Councillors Booth & Scrimshaw indicated that they may attend the meeting.

12/11. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

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

The pot hole along the Main Road near to the entrance of The Bank had still not been repaired and the Clerk was asked to report this again together with the road surface at Highside.

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

There were no faulty street lights reported at the meeting.

12/12. Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in 2012.

The Clerk was still waiting for a reply from the tree officer regarding the replacement trees for the village green.

A letter had been received from the District Council advising that the £1,000 grant was now available and would be paid to the Parish Council once we had confirmed what we intended to use the grant for.

Councillors resolved to defer this matter to the next meeting but did discuss the possibility of expanding on the idea of a Fruit Orchard on the Allotment Gardens.

12/13. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook advised Councillors that the cost of insurance for the skate ramp had been reduced to £1140 from the original quotation obtained but this was still a large additional cost for the committee to fund. Councillors resolved for this to be discussed in detail at the next Council meeting when consideration would be given to contributing towards this additional expenditure as it was essential that the Public Liability Insurance cover was arranged as a matter of urgency.

12/14. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillors asked if the extra meeting to be held on the 25th January was to be advertised in the local press and deemed as a public consultation meeting. The Chairman advised that it was an additional Parish Council Meeting to receive a presentation by R Delamore Ltd on their proposals for future development on their land at Parson Drove and would be advertised on the Council Notice Board and website in the normal way. A public consultation meeting could be arranged and advertised in the press at a later date.

Councillors queried that Fenland District Council's building plot at Riverside Gardens now being advertised for sale appears from the advertisement plan to incorporate the vehicle turning point that was originally shown on the planning application as being retained.

The Chairman declared a Personal & Prejudicial interest following the question being raised as he rents the adjoining Allotment Garden.

Councillor Scrimshaw agreed to look into this query.

12/15. Any other business (information items only).

There were no items raised.

12/16. Dates for future Council meeting(s).

The next meetings were confirmed for Wednesday 25th January at 7.30pm in St Marks Church and Wednesday 8th February at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 9.20pm.