

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th January 2012 in St Marks Church, Main Road, Parson Drove.

Attended by Councillors G. Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), C Bellamy, G. Bellamy, J. Cook, P Everett & R. Scrimshaw. 2 Representatives from R Delamore Ltd. and approximately 48 members of the public.

The Chairman explained that although this meeting had been reported in the local newspaper last week as being a public consultation meeting this was in fact incorrect and had been corrected in today's issue. Members of the public could speak during the Public Participation section of the Council Meeting which was prior to the presentation by representatives from R Delamore Limited but not during the rest of the Parish Council Meeting. The questions and comments made by parishioners during the Public Participation session would be noted and he would endeavour to obtain the answers to questions asked during the presentation.

12/17. To receive apologies for absence.

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

12/18. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared Personal Interests in respect of Agenda Items Numbered 12/24b and 12/25a reason Councillor Booth is a member of these groups.

Councillor G Bellamy declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 12/25a reason Councillor Bellamy is a member of this group.

Councillor Cook declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 12/24b reason Councillor Cook is a member of this group.

Councillor Scrimshaw stated that he would take no part in discussions on planning matters as he was a member of the District Council Planning Committee.

12/19. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

A member of the public stated that when the sewerage scheme was installed an assurance had been given that the Main Road would be resurfaced but this has not been completed. The Chairman advised that this had been taken up with the County Council on a previous occasion and the response received stated that there was no such written agreement in place between Anglian Water and the County Council Highways.

A member of the public advised that since the bus route to Wisbech had been changed to include Gorefield via Popple Road the journey was uncomfortable in view of the poor condition of the road.

Several questions were asked and comments made regarding the proposed future development by R Delamore Limited including:-

- Where will the access be?
- How many dwellings will there be and where on the site are they going?
- What is the time span, when will it happen?
- What is going to happen to the remaining land that is not developed?
- Will the School, Doctors Surgery, water pressure and roads be able cope with the development.
- How can this development be allowed as it is Greenfield land?
- The Parish Plan completed in 2005 and adopted by the Parish Council stated that only small developments of up to 10 dwellings and infill was wanted in the village.
- Who are Delamore's.
- Who would pay for the upkeep of the community facilities suggested as part of the development?

12/20. To receive a presentation by Mr Wayne Eady of R. Delamore Limited regarding proposed future development on their land at Parson Drove.

During his presentation Mr Eady advised that:-

- The Company wished to continue to expand their existing modern business premises at Wisbech St Mary and create more local jobs.
- The 39 acre site at Parson Drove comprising of approximately 12 acres of glasshouses are very old and in poor condition and the access to the site is very difficult.
- They are proposing to build approximately 100 dwellings of mixed size and styles which would include some form of suitable affordable housing on the existing 12 acre glass house site.
- They consider that the proposed development would assist with sustaining the local facilities such as the school and local business.
- They appreciate that the development has to be sustainable and issues such as water supply and sewerage would have to be addressed.
- Some of the remaining land could be used to provide community facilities such as a Jubilee Wood, Allotments and Playing Field.
- Any remaining land not part of the development and community facilities would continue to be used for agricultural purposes.
- The access to the site has not yet been identified as this was not restricted to one option.
- They want to develop the site as soon as possible.
- They are having discussions with other organisations regarding their proposals and want to engage with the community.

A draft lay out plan of the site showing the proposed location of the development and the community facilities was shown to Councillors and members of the public and the Clerk requested that a copy of this was forwarded to the Council.

Councillors expressed their disappointment that the draft plan was not more detailed in order for them to discuss elements of the proposed development, one of the key points being the access. Mr Eady indicated that they will be able to provide additional information at a later date as these were only rough plans.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.15pm for 10 minutes to allow members of the public who wished to leave the meeting to do so together with representatives from R Delamore Limited.

12/21. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 11th January 2012.

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

12/22 Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

Councillors Scrimshaw advised that funding was received from Central Government for the issue of the Council Tax demands and therefore the District Council were unable to use this as an opportunity to carry out any public consultation on future budgets and District Council priorities.

The Boundary Commission information meeting was well attended and informative. Further information on this would be received in due course.

Councillor Scrimshaw advised that the plan for the building plot being sold by Fenland District Council at Riverside Gardens advertised in the local newspapers was incorrect and the plot being sold did not include the turning point as shown. The plot being sold by Fenland District Council was the same as the area shown on the planning application. Reservations were expressed that the area allocated as the turning point was inadequate for large vehicles. Councillor Scrimshaw agreed to look into this matter again. Councillor Booth also agreed to look into the vehicle turning point but advised of his prejudicial interest in the matter

12/23. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

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

Mrs L Ford, Planning Application No. F/YR11/0918/RM, Agent David Broker, erection of a 2 storey 2 bed dwelling on land east of 5 Swan Bridge Farm, Fen Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors considered that this application should not have been refused on the grounds stated in the Planning Officers report.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to write to the Planning Department requesting that they look at this application again.

12/24 Accounts & Finance.

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

M Shailes, Topknot Carpentry, additional window frames for the bus shelter, £350.

L.G.M.P.A. 1953 s.4.

Cambridgeshire ACRE, annual membership renewal fee, £30. L.G.A. 1972 s 143.

EON, electricity for The Cage, £64.71. L.G.A. 1972 s. 133.

b) To consider request from the Amenities 95 Management Committee for a grant towards the costs of insuring the Skate Ramp recently installed on the playing field. Councillors resolved to give a grant of £265 for this year to cover the cost of the Public Liability Insurance. L.G.A. 1972 s. 137.

12/25. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

a) Email received from the County Council regarding the Safer Routes to School Scheme & the new traffic calming measure to be installed.

Confirmation had been received that the traffic calming scheme would be installed during the half term week beginning Monday 13th February. A copy of the final plans for the scheme was being forwarded to the Clerk in the next few days. The drainage problem outside the garage will be monitored during the completion of this work and if a new gully is required will be installed at the same time.

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

The Clerk was requested to report the road and footpath flooding during the recent heavy rain outside 109 Main Road and outside 3 and 4 The Bank. The poor road surface and trees obstructing the road at Highside. A pot hole in the Main Road near to the access road to The Bank.

c) To report on site meeting with electricity supplier regarding new street lights in the Parish.

Provisional quotations for the proposed new streetlight along Station Road/Murrow Bank site had been received from the electricity company. There were two location options put forward by them for consideration and Councillors resolved to defer this matter until the next meeting.

Following the site meeting with the electricity company along Back Road, Murrow it had been established that two streetlights had been damaged and recently removed. As these had been positioned in the grass verges within the Parish of Wisbech St Mary the Clerk was requested to pass this information onto the Clerk at Wisbech St Mary.

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

No faulty street lights were reported at the meeting.

12/26. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillor Scrimshaw asked for clarification on what happened regarding the newspaper report last week stating that this evenings meeting was a Public Consultation Meeting. The Clerk advised that the newspaper had been misinformed about the meeting and when this had been pointed out to them by the Clerk they had offered to correct this in the following week's edition. The Clerk had requested that the reporter verify the accuracy of any future information provided in order to prevent such confusion again. Councillors requested that the Clerk write to the Editor to reiterate this request.

12/27. Any other business (information items only).

Councillor Everett advised that the local Police cover was being restructured and it was agreed to include this in the Agenda for the next meeting.

The Clerk informed Councillors that the website managers had agreed to discuss the updating of the village website but would require access to a computer. As the computers were soon being removed from the Pavilion it was suggested that some Councillors visit the website managers at their offices to discuss this matter and report back to the full Council.

Councillors Cook and Everett agreed to undertake this task.

12/28. Dates for future Council meeting(s).

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 8th February at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 9.50pm.