

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th August 2012 in The Cage, Station Road, Parson Drove.

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

Invited guests:- Mr Brown (Quilt & Flower Festival), the Architect & a Representative from the land owners of proposed Exception Site at Church End.

12/154. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from PCSO D Russ & Councillor J Tuck (C.C.C.).

12/155. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared a Prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 12/163 c) & left the room at the appropriate time. Reason - Chairman of FRRSAN. Councillor Booth declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 12/167 c) reason – a member of this group and 12/168 b) reason – resides at John Bends Way.

Councillor Scrimshaw declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Items Number 12/167 c) & 12/167 e) reason – a member of these groups. Also advised that he would take no part in the discussions or voting on Agenda Item Number 12/162 as he was a member of FDC Development Control Committee.

12/156. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

Mr Brown provided Councillors with additional information on the Quilt & Flower Festival and the financial situation.

12/157. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk had received an email advising of the crimes and incidences since the last meeting consisting of a burglary, theft of a motor vehicle, 2 incidences of criminal damage and a neighbour dispute resulting in verbal abuse.

12/158. To discuss and approve a revised lay out plan presented by Architects on behalf of Foster Property Developments Ltd., for the Exception Site for Affordable Homes on land east of 242 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Councillors supported the revised lay out plans and designs subject to the parking provision being changed slightly for plots 6B & 7B in order to increase the private garden.

12/159. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 11th July 2012.

The minutes were taken as read and agreed as a true record subject to the addition of the Invoice from EON for £23.75 for the Cage electricity as this was approved for payment at the meeting but omitted from the minutes.

12/160. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

The Clerk advised that the Conservation Officer had confirmed that he was not aware of any listed building application being made to English Heritage for the Old Farmhouse, Main Road, Parson Drove.

After checking the proposed plan for the Beer Garden at the Swan Inn submitted by Elgood & Sons Ltd last year the Clerk advised that the beer garden had been installed as shown on the plans approved by the Council.

12/161. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Scrimshaw advised that he had attended the Police Panel Meeting held at Gorefield on the 7th August prior to their Parish Council Meeting. The attendance from members of the public had been very low but the meeting had been well attended by members of Gorefield Parish Council and Councillors from neighbouring parishes. There was no nominated chairman for the meeting and no Police Officers attended. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to Inspector Sissons advising that they considered the meeting was not advertised enough, the area it covers is too big and that there should be senior Police Officer attending future meetings to take on the role of Chairman.

12/162. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Application has been withdrawn.

Mr & Mrs C Bellamy, Planning Application No. F/YR12/0416/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, erection of a 3 bed single storey dwelling & detached double garage on land south of 6 Brewery Close, Parson Drove.

Information noted.

b) Notification from Fenland District Council of the consultation on their Core Strategy Document and Policies Map, forming part of the development plan for Fenland, consultation starting from 26th July and ending on the 5th September.

Councillors resolved to hold a further Council Meeting on the 22nd August at 7.30pm in The Cage to consider this consultation document in detail.

c) To consider drawing up a Parish Council Planning Policy.

Councillors resolved to defer this matter until the meeting to be held on the 22nd August.

12/163. Accounts & Finance.

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

CIA Systems Ltd., annual maintenance check on the alarm system for The Cage, £88.02.
L.G.A. 1972 s. 133

Konica Minolta Business Solutions Ltd., photocopier quarter years rental and copy charges, £309.10. L.G.A. 1972 s 111

Paul Tibbs Ltd., replacement of broken window in bus shelter, £108.00. L.G.M.P.A. 1953 s 4.

Moore Stephens, external audit fees, £162.00. Accounts & Finance Act 2011

b) To consider request from Southea & Murrow Parochial Church Council for a grant towards the Quilt & Flower Festival in September 2012.

Councillors resolved to give a grant of £100 subject to this amount being held for future years Festivals if a profit was made this year as expected.

c) To reconsider a request from FRRSAN for a grant.

Councillor Spriggs chaired the meeting for this agenda item as the Chairman had left the room.

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

d) Notification from External Auditors that the audit for the year ending 31st March 2012 has been completed with no issues arising.

Information noted by Councillors.

12/164. Risk Assessment.

a) Update report on work required to the trees around the pond and on the village green. An email had been received advising that the tree officer had carried out some tests on the lime tree on the village green but wished to carry some additional tests before recommending removal of the tree. There was no progress to report regarding the trees around the pond.

High vans were damaging the low branches on the Silver Birch tree along The Bank and there were several trees with low branches that required attention. The Clerk was requested to arrange a site visit by FDC Tree Officer and the tree contractor.

12/165. Gardens & Allotment

Update report on letters sent to tenants following the annual inspection.

The Clerk advised that no written responses had been received from the tenants. However it would appear that the tenant of Allotments Numbered 9 and 10 had started to clear his allotments.

The Clerk informed Councillors that the padlock on the Fen Road Allotment gate had been broken and she had purchased a new padlock with 10 keys for the various tenants and key holders costing a total of £56.

12/166. To adopt the new Code of Conduct issued by Fenland District Council.

Councillors resolved to adopt the new Code of Conduct prepared by Fenland District Council. Councillors were requested to complete and return the revised Declaration of Interest Forms to the Clerk within the next 28 days.

12/167. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Letter from North Level District Internal Drainage Board inviting two Councillors to attend the annual visit to the land drainage tour on Wednesday 10th October.

Councillors Booth & Everett agreed to attend the tour.

b) Email from Fenland District Council advising of a public consultation on a new policy approach to dog control issues.

Councillors resolved to ask for clarification on the exact area of land being referred to along Main Road as it was unclear whether this was for the fenced children's play area on the playing field or the entire playing field also whether signage was being provided by the District Council.

c) Email from Fenland Road Safety Group with notes from their meeting held on the 4th July and advising that their next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th September. Information noted by Councillors.

d) Email from C&PALC advising of General Power of Competence training and the July Bulletin.

Councillors resolved to ask for more information on the qualifications required before the General Power of Competence could be used.

e) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the Payne School and changes to the catchment area.

Councillors resolved to reply pointing out that although consultation had been undertaken on the proposed changes the views of the Governors at the Payne School and the local community had not been taken on board.

12/168. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

a) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding proposed Prohibition of Waiting opposite the Payne School, Main Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to respond requesting a 10 to 15 minute drop off/ pick up area directly outside the school between the traffic calming.

b) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the adoption of John Bends Way.

Councillors resolved to respond advising of their disappointment at the long delay and asking for an explanation on the meaning of a pending issue.

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

Clerk to report the following:-

Overgrown trees obstructing the exit to the Doctors surgery when turning right,

Overgrown trees and hedges at Silvers Lane junction,

Overgrown hedges obstructing the footpath along Main Road

Rotten tree opposite the Village Hall.

Following the erection of new street name signs confusion had arisen regarding Murrow Bank and Station Road. Councillors resolved for the Clerk to request an additional sign for Station Road leading to Murrow Bank.

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

There were no faulty street lights reported.

e) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council inviting members to attend a Street Light Briefing on Monday 17th September at 7.00pm at The Council Chamber, Fenland Hall, County Road, March.

Information noted.

f) Letter from UK Power Networks informing of their intention to dismantle the overhead electricity line and poles along The Bank, Parson Drove and replace these with a new under ground cable resulting in the loss of street lights attached to their poles.

Councillors resolved to request a site meeting to ascertain the proposed time frame for this work and clarification on the exact work to be completed.

12/169. To consider and agree on further action to be taken regarding the updating of the Parish Plan.

Councillors resolved to defer this matter to the next meeting.

12/170. To receive a report from the Amenities 95 Committee.

The cost for the rat traps was still being obtained together with advice from local pest control contractors. A quotation for £295 had been received for the cycle rack and they were now trying to obtain grant funding.

12/171. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

There were no questions asked by Councillors.

12/172. Any other business (information items only).

No matters were raised by Councillors other than recent bad press releases giving an incorrect address as Murrow Lane, Parson Drove.

12/173. Dates for future Council meeting(s).

The next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 22nd August at 7.30pm and the subsequent meeting on Wednesday 12th September at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 10.25pm.