

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2013 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 & A Kraus.
D Broker (F.D.C.) & PCSO D. Russ.

The Chairman welcomed Fenland District Councillor David Broker to the meeting.

13/118. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Cambs County Councillor G Gillick.

13/119. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

No requests for dispensations had been received.

13/120. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillors C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy declared a non pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item No 13/126 a). Reason the Agents also acts for the Councillors.

Councillor Spriggs declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 13/126 b) and left the room at the appropriate time.

Councillor Cook declared a non pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 13/131. Reason Councillor Cook is a member of the Football Committee.

13/121. 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 at the meeting.

13/122. Community Police Officers Report.

PCSO Russ report that there had been 4 crimes and 2 incidences in the parish since the last meeting. The crimes were theft of diesel, a shed burglary, theft of harris fencing from a building site and broken window at an unoccupied house classed as criminal damage. The 2 incidences were a manhole cover taken from outside a property and persons and dogs believed to be hare coursing. There had been no speed watch checks since the last meeting due to illness. The North Rural Forum will take place in Parson Drove on the 8th August at 6.00pm on the new Horizon Outreach Vehicle located near the Village Hall. The Horizon Outreach Vehicle will also be in Parson Drove on Tuesday the 17th September from 8.30 to 10.30am.

13/123. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 12th June 2013.

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

13/124. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

The Chairman advised that the Alderman Payne School had been informed that they could not apply for a Rural Capital Grant from Fenland District Council for the swimming pool cover in view of the nature of the project.

The Chairman was studying the section 106 agreement drawn up in respect of the Exception Site for the Affordable Houses at Church End and after liaising with the Clerk would ask for clarification from the District Council's Solicitor on any query or aspect identified as cause for concern.

The Chairman advised that the signs around the pond would soon be erected.

The nettles at the rear of Springfield Road had been attended to.

13/125. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

The District Councillors had nothing to report to the meeting.

13/126. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) J Foster, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0391/EXTIME, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, for the conversion of barn/garage to a 4 bed dwelling involving demolition of section barn & lean to boiler house & erection of a single storey extension & erection of a 4 bed detached house with car port (renewal of planning application F/YR09/0502/F) at Church Farm, 315 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application in respect of the barn conversion but to object to the erection of the 4 bed detached house with car port on the same grounds as the original planning application F/YR09/0502/F.

b) A Spriggs, Planning Application No. F/YR12/0962/O, Agent Maxey Grounds & Co., erection of 4 single storey dwellings on land north of 9 Riverside Gardens, revised proposals relating to layout & appearance of dwellings.

Councillors resolved to recommend approval subject to County Council Highways raising no objections.

Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Applications have been approved.

Rowell Family, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0265/F, Agent David Broker, erection of two 3 bed & two 4 bed 2 storey dwellings with attached garages on land west of 114 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

C & T Chapman, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0282/CERTLU, Agent Mrs W Holland, Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing): Use of garden centre/nursery Long Acre, High Side, Parson Drove without compliance with conditions 2 and 6 of planning permission F/YR01/0240/F & condition 6 of planning permission F/YR07/0791/F & F/YR08/0256/F.

Information noted by Councillors.

M Bates, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0227/F, Agent Windcrop Limited, for the erection of a 14.97 metre high (hub height) 5kw micro scale wind turbine at The Bungalow, Harolds Bank, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

Consultation on the Fenland Local Plan addendum to proposed submission version of Core Strategy document and policies map involving the removal of the north east March allocation in Policy CS9.

Councillors resolved to respond advising that they welcomed the changes to the March North East allocation but considered that the Core Strategy should now allocate a specific site to replace this and suggested that this should be next to the A141 March South West.

13/126. Risk Assessment.

Annual Inspection of assets.

Councillors resolved to change the date for the inspection of assets to Wednesday 31st July as requested by the Clerk.

13/127. Accounts & Finance.

a) Income received since last meeting:-

Fenland District Council Concurrent Function half year grant, £2,855.

Information noted by Councillors.

b) To receive and approve an Income & Expenditure Report, Bank Reconciliation and Budget Report.

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented by the Clerk.

Councillors resolved to approve the payment of £47.09 for the electricity for the Cage. L.G.A. 1972 s.

13/128. Report on progress of Parish Plan Refresh and to authorise expenditure for preparing and distributing the short questionnaire.

The Chairman advised that it was hoped that the questionnaires would be ready for distribution with the September issue of Village Voices. The estimated costs involved for the printing of the questionnaire were approximately £150 and Councillors resolved to approve this expenditure in addition to £50 prize money. The Data Analysis was a high cost for the original Parish Plan but hopefully this would be completed by volunteers from the Parish Plan Group therefore keeping the overall costs of the refresh of the Parish Plan to a minimum.

13/129. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Letter from Diocese of Ely advising that the Investments Committee had approved the transfer and that contact would be made by their Agents in the near future to conclude the proposed churchyard extension.

Information noted by Councillors and no further action could be taken until a letter had been received from the Diocese Agents.

b) Invitation from North Level Internal Drainage Board to attend the ADA Demo at Cross Guns Pumping Station, Wisbech on Wednesday 17th July 9.00am to 5.00pm. Information noted by Councillors.

c) Email from Cambridgeshire ACRE regarding volunteering for the Community Champion Scheme to promote home fire safety. Information noted by Councillors.

13/130. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

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

The following highways issues were raised for the County Council's attention:-

The advisory sign for Children Crossing near to the village hall was showing signs of rusting at the base.

The damaged signage at Swan Bridge junction had still not been repaired.

The footpath at the end of the village green going towards Clough Bridge was impassable due to the over grown hedge.

A pot hole opposite Angels Rest, Main Road.

The Clerk was also asked to notify Fenland District Council that The Bank road sign was damaged and to ask the grass cutting contractor when next cutting the roadside verges to ensure that the verge near to John Bends Way entrance is cut well back.

b) Notification that our application under the Local Highway Improvements Programme for 2013/2014 for speed reductions along Main Road and Church End was not successful. As our bid had been scored very low in comparison with a similar scheme Councillors resolved for the Clerk to request a site meeting with the County Council Officer and to also invite the District Councillors, County Councillor G Gillick and MP Steve Barclay to attend the site meeting.

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

There were no faulty street lights reported at the meeting but the Clerk was requested to enquire what was happening regarding the update of the street lights along Main Road.

d) Email from UK Power Networks confirming that they will be starting the work to lay new electricity underground cables along The Bank on Monday 29th July which will take about a month.

Information noted.

13/131. Update report on Football Clubs request for permission to install concrete railings around the football pitch on the playing field.

Councillor Cook advised that he had been looking into this matter and was obtaining information from other football clubs who had already installed railings using an alternative to concrete posts and railings and would report back to the Council at the August Meeting.

13/132. Progress report on proposed posts around the village green to prevent vehicles parking on the grass & to discuss and agree on any new signs to be erected on the village green regarding parking.

The Chairman advised that he had received an email from a Planning Officer indicating that planning permission would not be required and the Conservation Officer was not available. Councillors resolved to proceed with obtaining quotations for 5 inch treated timber posts.

Councillors also resolved to obtain 8 plastic signs with No Parking on Green that could be attached to the existing posts around the green entrances.

13/133. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report & to discuss whether the Parish Council is willing to support the Amenities Committee in obtaining funding for the refurbishment of the Village Hall.

Councillor Cook advised that the committee were putting together grant applications to WREN and Fenland District Council Rural Capital Grants for the refurbishment of the village hall to include a new roof and floor and additional storage provision. The grant applications required letters of support for the improvements together with evidence that these improvements were necessary. A survey had been completed by Cambridgeshire ACRE providing the evidence required and Councillors resolved to provide a letter of support for the proposed work.

13/134. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillors enquired who was responsible for maintaining the land in front of and at the side of the new car parking provision outside Rookery Homes. The Chairman advised that this was the responsibility of the tenants and Housing Association and the Clerk was requested to write to Roddons asking them to maintain this area.

13/135. Any other business (information items only).

The Chairman advised that he had sprayed off the rubbish on the Community Orchard garden and cleaned this area up.

13/136. Dates for future Council meeting(s).

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 14th August at 7.00pm in the Cage

Meeting closed 9.05 pm.