

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 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. G. Gillick (C.C.C.) 2 Representatives from Wisbech St Mary Parish Council & 1 member of the public.

13/95. To receive apologies for absence.

No apologies were received.

13/96. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

No requests for dispensations had been received.

13/97. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillors C Bellamy & G. Bellamy declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 13/103 d) and left the meeting at the appropriate time.

Reason Councillor C Bellamy is the applicant.

Councillor Cook declared a non disclosable non pecuniary interest for Agenda Item No. 13/111, reason a member of the Football Club Committee.

Councillor Booth declared a non disclosable non pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 13/110 reason, Chairman of the Street Pride Group.

13/98. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

The member of the public present at the meeting enquired if there was a public right of way through Swanlands to the rear of the properties along Fen Road. The Clerk advised that this was not a public right of way but believed there was a right of access for some properties along Fen Road. Councillors suggested that the parishioner make enquiries with the land owner or the Land Registry for confirmation of rights of access.

13/99. Community Police Officers Report.

An email had been received advising of the crimes and incidences in the parish since the last meeting. There had been 2 crimes consisting of one criminal damage and one theft of diesel and no incidences.

Speedwatch checks had been completed on the 10th May with 32 vehicles monitored with 4 exceeding the speed limit and again on the 16th May with 58 vehicles monitored with 10 vehicles exceeding the speed limit.

Two parking tickets had been issued on the 22nd May outside the Alderman Payne School.

13/100. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 8th May 2013.

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

13/101. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

There were no matters arising from the minutes other than the Chairman advised that he was going to speak to the Head teacher again about applying for a grant from the District Council for the swimming pool cover.

13/102. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Booth advised that Fenland District Council had held a meeting to discuss changes to the Core Strategy but the only change that members agreed to make was for the proposed development in March Town even though he had requested that other amendments be made.

County Councillor Gillick advised that he had received several complaints regarding the proposed reduction and changes to the street lights and was having meetings with the contractors to try and resolve this. He was also looking into funding possibilities for local schools in particular Wisbech St Mary.

13/103. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) 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.

Councillors resolved by a majority vote to support the application and recommend approval.

b) R Humphrey, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0274/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, for the erection of 2 two storey 3 bed dwellings on land north of Lakeside Manor & east of Sycamore Farm, Seadyke Bank, Murrow.

Councillors resolved to object to the application as it was considered that the site was too far out of the DAB and the village centre and if approved would set a precedent.

c) 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.

Councillors resolved to recommend that the Certificate of Lawful Use should be granted

d) C Bellamy, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0316/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, for the erection of a 3 bed single storey dwelling & detached double garage on land south of 6 Brewery Close, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to recommend that approval is granted subject to conditions being imposed to include that the road is made up to an adoptable standard and that appropriate sewerage provision is applied. Councillors would prefer the layout be turned 90 degrees as this would be better use of the site and keep more within the existing DAB. The Parish Council noted concerns raised by adjoining residents regarding the boundary fence.

e) R Goy, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0031/F, Agent K Elener, erection of 5 dwellings comprising of 1 three storey 6 bed dwelling with detached double garage, 2 two storey 4 bed dwellings with detached double garage, 1 two storey 5 bed dwelling with detached double garage and 1 two storey 5 bed dwelling with integral garage on land north of 15 27 Mill Road, Murrow. Revised proposals consisting of design changes to plot 3, highway boundary revisions and revised width of access.

Councillors resolved to recommend approval is granted providing the conditions previously requested relating to a street light and footpath are imposed as they do not appear to have yet been addressed together with the provision of adequate parking for visitors in relation to plots 2 and 3. Concerns also to be raised regarding the proposed 3 storey dwelling on plot 5 as it was felt that this was inappropriate for a rural village and should be changed to a 2 storey dwelling.

f) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Application has been approved.

Foster Property Maintenance Ltd., Planning Application No. F/YR12/0684/F for the erection of 12 two storey affordable dwellings comprising of 8 two bed and 4 three bed dwellings with garden shed, associated parking and open space on land east of 242 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

g) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Applications have been refused.

C Giddings, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0144/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, for the erection of 2 single storey 3 bed-roomed log cabins for use as holiday lets on land north of 177 Back Road, Murrow.

A Beldom, Planning Application No. F/YR13/00231/F, Agent K Elener, for the erection of a single storey 3 bed dwelling with integral double garage on land south of 76 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

13/104. Risk Assessment.

a) To consider ROSPA reports received for the village green and pond and any action to be taken.

Councillors agreed to look at the recommendations made for the swings on the village green when carrying out their annual inspection in July.

The recommendation for deep water signs at the pond were being attended to by the Street Pride Group. Clerk to report the damaged roadside railings to the County Council for their attention.

b) To report on the annual inspection of the trees on the village green.

The Clerk advised that an annual inspection had been completed earlier in the month by Bowles Tree & Garden Services when it had been found that 5 trees required urgent attention due to broken branches likely to fall. The Clerk had authorised this urgent work and it had now been completed.

There was some minor work required to several trees to remove dead wood and it had been suggested by the contractor that 2 trees be felled one being the Lime Tree causing some concern last year. 3 trees would benefit from being substantially cut back either this year or next and a quotation was being obtained for this work. The Clerk was arranging a meeting to discuss these suggestions with the District Council Tree Officer before a planning application is submitted and estimates for the work obtained.

13/105. Accounts & Finance.

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following Invoices for payment:-
Playsafety Ltd., ROSPA inspections £178.80. Open Spaces Act `906 ss9 & 10.
Mrs Y Reader, Clerks quarter year salary & expenses £1,336.90. L.G.A. 1972 s112.
GBSG Security Group, Cage alarm annual service, £88.02. L.G.A. 1972 s.133.
Bowles Tree & Garden Services, urgent work to trees on the village green, £200.
Open Spaces Act 1906 S 9 &10.

b) Income received since last meeting:-
Fenland District Council Recycling Credits £11.02.
Information noted by Councillors.

13/106. To elect 3 representative for the John Bends United Charity.

Councillors resolved to reappoint the existing 3 representative for the next 4 year term.

13/107. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Letter from Cambridgeshire ACRE advising of changes to their services provided to Parish Councils.

Information noted by Councillors

b) Email from FACT advising of the loss of the Saturday service to Wisbech following a reduction in funding from the District Council and asking for more information on the need for the shuttle service from Parson Drove to Guyhirn.

The Chairman advised that a question was being included in the questionnaire being put together by the Parish Plan Group to ascertain more information on how frequently and on what days the shuttle service was required.

In view of the loss of the FACT Saturday service Councillors resolved to enquire as to why the Thursday service had not been withdrawn instead as an alternative service was available on Thursdays. Also to ask for more information on the feed back obtained by FACT supporting the withdrawal of the Saturday service as this was not the feed back that Councillors had received.

c) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council with information on the grass cutting of the Public Rights of Way.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) CAPALC May Bulletin and Training Programme for June to December 2013.

Information noted by Councillors and Councillors Cook & Kraus were offered the opportunity to attend the training.

e) Invitation from Fenland District Council to attend the Armed Forces Flag Raising event at Fenland Hall on Monday 24th June at 11.00am.
There were no Councillors indicating a wish to attend.

13/108. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

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

1. Over grown hedges and trees along Main Road obstructing the footpath and street lights.

Several properties along Main Road were identified by Councillors with overgrown trees and hedges obstructing the footpath and street lights to be reported to the County Council.

Councillors also reported that the fence and signs had not been repaired at Swan Bridge following the most recent accident. There were now puddles forming near the War Memorial where the new road surface meets the old following the completion of the recent resurfacing work at the Swan Bridge junction.

There was a gap in the metal fence at Marshall Bank near to Clough Bridge, Clerk to report to North Level Drainage Board.

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

Councillors reported that there seemed to be several street lights not working along Main Road.

c) Response received regarding the reduction of street lights in Ingham Hall Gardens. The Clerk advised that the contractors had agreed to retain the street light outside 20 Ingham Hall Gardens as requested by Councillors.

13/109. Report on progress of Parish Plan Refresh.

The Chairman advised that the Parish Plan Group had drawn up the first draft of the questionnaire and the final draft would be discussed at their next meeting on the 2nd July.

13/110. Street Pride report on Pond project.

The Chairman advised that the pond project was just about finished with only the signage to be completed.

13/111. 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 was still trying to obtain the information required from the various organisations. A member of the football club had been monitoring the usage of the playing field to assess the extent to which the barriers might affect other users but had found that at present the field is used mainly by dog walkers. The Clerk advised that the grass cutting contractor had estimated that the extra cost to cut around the proposed football pitch barrier posts would be £350 to £400 per year.

13/112. To discuss options to prevent vehicles parking on the village green & request for a water trough near the Swan Inn.

The Clerk advised that the Open Spaces Society had provided various suggestions on how to prevent vehicles parking on the village. Councillors resolved to continue with the current deterrent of wooden posts starting near the bottle banks and War Memorial.

It was suggested that to save on the cost that perhaps smaller posts could be used and the Chairman agreed to make enquiries with the Conservation Officer to see if this would be acceptable. The Clerk was requested to obtain quotations.

Councillors resolved not to grant permission for a water trough to be sited in the car park area at the side of the Swan Inn as this would appear to invite livestock onto the village green which should not be allowed under the legislation for registered village greens.

13/113. To discuss complaint received regarding the nettle patch between Springfield Road and Brewery Close and decide on action to be taken.

Councillors resolved to ask Fenland District Council to arrange for the nettles to be cut back as soon as possible as this was their land although it was currently up for sale. The Chairman agreed to attend to this matter.

13/114. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook advised that the Committee were obtaining quotations for a refurbishment of the village hall to include a new roof, an extension to provide storage and a new floor.

13/115. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Had any complaints been received by the Clerk or Chairman regarding the loud music coming from the Swan Inn following a recent Friday night outdoor event as one Councillor had received complaints. The Chairman and Clerk advised that they had not received any complaints but would enquire if a formal complaint had been made to the District Council.

Could we have an advisory speed limit along The Bank in view of some vehicles coming along much too fast and then skidding to a halt and signs on the village green requesting vehicles do not park on the grass.

It was agreed that highways would be approached about the advisory speed limit for discussion at the next meeting together with signage on the village green regarding parking.

13/116. Any other business (information items only).

The Chairman informed members that the litter bin base at the front of the village hall had been repaired.

13/117. Dates for future Council meeting(s).

The next meetings were confirmed for Wednesday 10th July and 14th August.

Meeting closed 9.50 pm.