

Minutes of Parson Drove Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th May 2013 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 & A Kraus.
Mrs T Jarvis (Clerk to John Bends Charity), 2 Representatives from Parson Drove Football Club & 7 members of the public.

13/75. To elect a Chairman & Vice Chairman & to receive their acceptance of office.

Councillor Booth was proposed by Councillor Cook and seconded by Councillor Spriggs for the office of Chairman. There were no other nominations and therefore Councillor Booth was duly elected as Chairman and agreed to accept this position.

Councillor Spriggs was proposed by Councillor G Bellamy and seconded by Councillor Booth for the office of Vice-chairman. There were no other nomination and therefore Councillor Spriggs was duly election as Vice Chairman and agreed to accept this position.

13/76. To receive apologies for absence.

No apologies had been received.

13/77. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

13/78. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Cook declared a non disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda item No. 13/84. Reason - a member of the group.

13/79. Community Police Officers Report.

An email had been sent to the Clerk reporting that since the last meeting there had been 2 crimes consisting of theft of a motor vehicle and theft from a motor vehicle. No incidences had been reported and no speedwatch checks had been undertaken since the last meeting. The email advised that there had been a number of thefts of catalytic converters in the Fenland and Lincolnshire area in recent weeks. There had also been a number of thefts of drain covers resulting in a hazard to both the public and vehicles. The PCSO's were aware of concerns regarding parking outside of the school and will endeavour to attend as often as possible and issue Fixed Penalty Notices if required.

13/80. To receive & approve the annual accounts for the John Bends Charities.

A copy of the Accounts were provided by the Clerk of the John Bends Charity to be retained by the Council.

13/81. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 10th April 2013.

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

13/82. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

The Chairman advised that he had attended the Planning Appeal Hearing regarding the Treading Wind Farm application and had spoken against the application on behalf of the Parish Council.

The tenant of the Allotments under notice to cultivate and plant crops before the 1st May to avoid the tenancy being withdrawn and complied with the request and therefore no further action was required at present.

The pond project being undertaken by the Street Pride Group was progressing well and would be completed as soon as the Information Board had been produced by the District Council and the pond plants on order received and planted.

13/83. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Booth advised that the Core Strategy for the Local Development Plan would be reviewed on the 30th May. Policies were being put in place as part of the Localism Act.

13/84. To receive a presentation by Parson Drove Football Club regarding the proposed installation of barriers around the football pitch on the playing field.

The Football Club Representatives explained how difficult it now is to maintain and fund a football club and advised that approaches were being made to the local schools to try and restart the Youth Team.

In order for the Football Club to comply with the Premier League Football rules fixed post and rail barriers should be installed around the football pitch and it was not considered practicable to have to remove these after every game.

Various safety concerns were discussed together with issues that might occur from other users of the playing field. Councillors requested more detailed design, access and construction plans for the proposed barriers and it was agreed that the Clerk contact the grass cutting contractor to ascertain any additional cost that could be incurred in maintaining the field together with Health & Safety advice from ROSPA.

13/85. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) 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.

Councillors resolved by a majority vote to support the application.

b) 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.

Councillors resolved to object to the application as the proposed development was considered to be too close to the adjoining property and would result in a loss of light and amenity. Concerns were also raised regarding the location of the Oil Tank being so close to the adjoining property and the misleading plan showing the exact location of the adjoining property.

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

R Humphrey, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0148/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.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) To discuss the proposed housing development for 63 dwellings by Delamores Ltd., on land along Main Road.

The various concerns raised by Parishioners at the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting held prior to the Parish Council Meeting had been noted. A number of matters had been raised by the Chairman at the Consultation Event held by the Architects on the 19th April but he was still waiting for a response and clarification but Councillors agreed that they were against the proposed development.

e) Notification from South East Lincolnshire Council of their Local Plan Consultation from 3rd May to 28th June 2013.

Noted by Councillors

f) A letter had been received from the District Council advising of revised proposal for Planning Application No F/YR13/0031/F for the erection of 5 dwellings along Mill Road in respect of plot 3 incorporating design changes, highway boundary revisions and a revised width of access. However the plan attached to the letter was showing 6 plots/dwellings. Councillors resolved to make no comments on the revisions to plot 3 until clarification had been received confirming the number of dwellings being proposed.

13/86. Risk Assessment.

a) To review level of insurance cover on policy due for renewal on 1st June 2013 and consider quotations received. Zurich £1,205.57, AON £2,110.38.

Councillors reviewed the level of insurance cover and resolved to accept the quotation received from Zurich for £1,205.57.

b) To arrange date for annual inspection of Assets & Gardens & Allotments.

Councillors resolved to carry out the annual inspection of assets and the Gardens and Allotments on the 24th July at 7.30 starting at the Cage.

13/87. Accounts & Finance.

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

EON, electricity for the Cage £85.87. L.G.A. 1972 s. 133.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions Ltd., photocopier rental & copy charges, £103.56.

L.G.A, 1972 s.111

NALC, Local Council Review annual subscription, £16. L.G.A. 1972 s.143

Cambridgeshire County Council, Main Road footpath extension, £11,000.

Highways Act 1980 ss30.

Auditing Solutions Ltd., Internal Audit Fees, £246. Accounts & Audit Regulations.

Insurance Renewal Premium Zurich £1,205.57. L.G.A. 1972 s.111.

b) To consider Internal Auditors Report and agree on any action to be taken.
A copy of the Internal Auditors Report was provided to every Councillor and there were no issues raised in the report requiring action.

c) To approve the completion of the Annual Return – Section 2 Annual Governance Statement for external audit 10th June 2013.

Councillors resolved to approve the completed Annual Return Section 2 Annual Governance Statement.

d) Letter from Councillor David Broker asking if the Parish Council could assist the Alderman Payne School in any way in their project of providing a cover for the outdoor swimming pool.

Councillors resolved to respond advising that they were unable to assist with any grant funding for the project and also that the Council is unable to reclaim VAT for a facility owned by another organisation.

The Chairman advised Councillors that this matter had already been discussed with the Head teacher when it had been suggested that the school approach the John Bends Charity and Fenland District Council Rural Capital Grant Scheme for a grant towards the project.

e) Income received since last meeting:-

£10,000 Rural Capital Grant from Fenland District Council,

£19.25 from UK Power Networks, waive leave agreement Car Park at side of Swan Inn.

£1091.37 VAT refund for year ending 31st March 2013.

Information noted by Councillors.

f) Letter from Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme requesting a grant/donation from the Parish Council.

Councillors resolved to refuse the request for a grant this year.

13/88. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Letter of thanks from St Marks Church for the grant of £50.

Noted by Councillors.

b) Letter of thanks from FACT for the grant of £50 and requesting solid evidence from residents that a shuttle link service from Parson Drove to Guyhirn is needed.

Councillors resolved to respond advising that this matter was raised by parishioners at the recent Golden Age Surgery and also to the Chairman by other members of the public.

c) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council advising of changes to the Norfolk Green Bus Services 46, 50, 51, 60 and 66.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) Email from Steve Barclay MP regarding the provision of super fast broadband.

The request for more people to register for super fast broadband in Fenland was noted by Councillors. It was agreed that this request would be included in the next Parish Council Newsletter.

e) Letter from Fenland District Council with recommendation from the Conduct Committee.

Information noted by Councillors.

f) Email from Councillor Jill Tuck thanking members for their support during her time as their County Councillor.

Councillors resolved to respond conveying their thanks to Councillor Tuck for her dedicated service to the parish and sending their best wishes for the future.

g) Invitation from Fenland District Council to a Community Resilience Presentation on Thursday 16th May at 6.30pm at Fenland Hall.

The Clerk advised that she had now received an email informing her that this event had been cancelled.

13/89. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

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

The pot holes reported at the last meeting had still not been repaired.

A request had been received for signs throughout the village for Slow Horses.

The footpath outside 36 The Bank was still flooding during heavy rain.

The Silvers Lane and Back Road Murrow junction was still obstructed by over grown hedges and trees.

Councillors agreed to contact Roddons Housing Association asking if they would make a financial contribution to the proposed speed restriction measures at Church End near to the Doctors Surgery and Exception Site.

Another accident had recently occurred at the Swan Bridge junction as a result of speeding traffic approaching the village from Murrow Bank.

b) Report from the Chairman on the meeting with the Alderman Payne School regarding parking and the Safer Routes to School Scheme.

The Chairman advised that he had discussed the parking problems outside the school with the Head teacher and it was suggested that we ask the Police to enforce the double yellow lines. Reduced parking directly outside the school was resulting in cars now parking along The Bank and on the village green. Councillors agreed to discuss how parking on the village green could be prevented owing to the damage being caused to the grass at the next meeting.

With regards to parents having to park and then go into the school premises with the children this was not required by the school for the older children.

An attempt to organise a walking bus had so far been unsuccessful as there had been no parents volunteering for the scheme.

c) To consider complaints received regarding Highside and Elbow Lane.

Councillors resolved to contact the County Council to report the overgrown conifer hedges and trees.

d) Faulty street lights to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.
There were no faulty street lights reported at the meeting.

e) Emails received regarding the reduction of street lights in Ingham Hall Gardens and other street light changes at Newlands Road, Riverside Gardens & Sealeys Lane. Councillors resolved to request that the street light opposite number 20 Ingham Hall Gardens is not disconnected as proposed. Councillors agreed to the changes for Newlands Road & Sealeys Lane and suggested that the street light columns along Riverside Gardens are relocated and reduced from 3 to 2.

f) To consider quotation received from UK Power Network for £780 to provide the electricity supply for a new street light outside 123/125 Main Road. Councillors resolved to defer making any decision on a new street light along Main Road until the plan for the proposed changes from the County Councils contractors had been received for Main Road.

13/90. To elect a Parish Council Representative for the Amenities 95 Committee.

Councillors resolved that Councillor Cook should continue as the Parish Council representative on the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

13/91. To elect 3 Councillors for the Human Resources Sub-Committee.

Councillors resolved that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillor Everett would continue to be the 3 members on the Human Resources Sub-Committee

13/92. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillor Cook asked if Councillors would agree to a Horse Trough being put on the village green near to the site of the old forge and the Swan Inn. Councillors resolved to discuss this request at the next meeting.

13/93. Any other business (information items only).

There were no matters raised by Councillors.

13/94. Dates for future Council meeting(s).

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 12th June at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 10.05pm.