

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in The Cage, Station Road, Parson Drove.**

Attended by Councillors G. Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, J Cook & A Kraus.  
Councillor D Broker (F.D.C), Councillor G. Gillick.(C.C.C) & 3 members of the public.

### **13/200. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received and were accepted from Councillor P Everett & PCSO Dave Russ.

### **13/201. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.**

There were no requests for Dispensations.

### **13/202. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

Councillors C. Bellamy & G. Bellamy declared a non pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda item Number 13.213 b). Reason the letter was from a distant relative.

### **13/203. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.**

A member of the public asked for assurance that all volunteers and helpers at the Youth Club had undergone the required CRB checks and received adequate training. The Chairman advised that the Youth Club was run by the County Council's Youth Service with a village management committee on which he represented the Parish Council. As far as the Chairman was aware all the necessary checks had been made but County Councillor Gillick kindly agreed to look into this.

The Parishioner who had written a letter of complaint regarding the Affordable Housing currently under construction and mentioned in the November Parish Council Newsletter explained that the Housing Association had indicated to them that they would not be considered for one of these homes as they had no children even though they had a very strong family connection with the village. In view of this they considered that the Newsletter was misleading and giving out inaccurate information. The Chairman advised that he had discussed this matter with the District Council and it would appear that there had been a misunderstanding by the Housing Association.

### **13/204. Community Police Officers Report.**

An email had been received by the Clerk advising that there had been no crimes or incidences in the Parish since the last Parish Council Meeting. However Councillors believed that there had been another incident at the building site next to the Doctors Surgery and the Clerk was requested to query why this was not included in the report.

Speedwatch checks had been undertaken on the 24<sup>th</sup> October along Main Road near to Springfield Road when 60 vehicles were checked with 11 exceeding the speed limit, also at Murrow Bank when 50 vehicles were checked with 7 exceeding the speed limit.

Further speedwatch checks are to be made at Church End to help support our application for a reduction in the speed limit and installation of traffic calming measures near to the Doctors Surgery.

**13/205. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013.**

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

**13/206. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).**

The Chairman advised that the Planning Application for the proposed large development on Delamores Nursery site was not being considered by the Planning Committee at their November meeting.

**13/207. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.**

Councillor Broker had nothing to report other than the progress of the Core Strategy which was already included in the Agenda.

Councillor Booth reported that the District Council had appointed a Deputy Monitoring Officer.

Councillor Gillick advised that he was trying to get the over hanging hedges and trees cut obstructing the public footpaths and highways. He would also be speaking to the Road Safety Officer at the County Council regarding any major development in the parish.

**13/208. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.**

a) Mr & Mrs J Williams, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0784/RM, Agent D Broker, for the erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with detached double garage on land east of Nicola, Fen Road, Parson Drove.

Councillor Broker left the room whilst Councillors discussed the above application. Councillors resolved to support the application and recommend approval is granted.

b) Mrs H Roberts, Planning Application No F/YR13/0793/TRTPO, Agent Mr B Roberts Anglia Tree Contractors Ltd., to fell 1 Sycamore Tree & works to 8 Lime trees covered by a TPO at The Old Rectory, 312 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove. Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application subject to the Tree Officer supporting the application.

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

1. D Crawford, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0438/F, Agent David Broker, erection of a 2 storey 4 bed roomed dwelling with detached double garage & siting of temporary static caravan on plot 4 land east of The Cottage, 259 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

2. Mrs A Beldom, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0542/F, Agent K Elener, for the erection of a single storey 3 bed roomed dwelling with integral double garage on land south of 76 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

3. 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.

Information noted by Councillors.

4. Alderman Payne Primary School, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0651/F, Agent D Broker, for the erection of a polythene pool cover over existing swimming pool.

Information noted by Councillors.

5. Parson Drove Parish Council. Planning Application No's F/YR13/0689/TRTPO & F/YR13/0690/TRCA, No Agent, to fell 1 Lime Tree, works to 1 Ash Tree, 3 Horse Chestnut trees, 10 Lime trees, 2 London Plane trees & 1 Oak Tree covered by a tree preservation order and to fell 1 Blue Cedar tree and work to 2 Norwegian Maple trees, 2 Cherry trees, 2 Beech trees, 1 Sycamore tree and 4 Lime trees within a Conservation area on the village green, The Bank, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

### **13/209. Accounts & Finance**

a). Councillors resolved to approve the following invoices for payment.

Anglian Water, water rates for the Cage, £12.02. L.G.A. 1972 s. 133.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions, quarter year photocopier rental & copy charges £194.98.L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

The Office Key, envelopes for Parish Questionnaire, £12.32. L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

b).To consider quotations received for works to the trees on the village green.

The Clerk had invited 4 contractors to submit quotations in addition to the 1 already received. However only one further contractor had responded and therefore Councillors resolved to accept the first quotation received for the general pruning work estimated to cost £3,250. The second quotation for £600 received for the felling of the Lime Tree was accepted and the felling of the Blue Cedar Tree costing £350 and the crown reduction for 3 trees costing £1,500 was to be left until the next financial year.

Councillor Kraus enquired if it would be possible for volunteers to assist with the work in order to reduce the costs. In view of Health & Safety issues this would not be possible but volunteers could assist the Street Pride Group with improvements to the village environment.

### **13/210. Allotments & Gardens.**

a). Report on the collection of the rents for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013 and to discuss any issues arising.

The Clerk advised that there were 4 Riverside Garden Allotment Rents not yet paid and 1 Fen Allotment Rent. A reminder letter would be sent to these tenants if the rent had not been paid within the next week. There were no issues raised by tenants. The Chairman advised that he had again sprayed off the rubbish on 1 of the Riverside Garden Allotments and the Community Orchard Garden Allotment.

**13/211. Report on request for new Neighbourhood Watch Signs along The Bank.**

The Clerk advised that the Neighbourhood Watch signs had been ordered and received by the Chairman of the Wisbech & District Neighbourhood Watch who would erect these in the near future.

**13/212. Information on Neighbourhood Planning & agree on action to be taken.**

The District Council had provided the Clerk with detailed information on the 8 key stages of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and Councillors were provided with a copy of this information for consideration.

Councillors resolved to invite a representative from Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire ACRE to attend a future Parish Council Meeting to discuss the process and obtain clarification on some of the stages before holding a public meeting.

Councillors also suggested inviting March Town Council to attend this meeting as they were already proceeding with a Neighbourhood Plan.

**13/213. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.**

a) Email from Fenland District Council advising that the Core Strategy Development Plan had been submitted to the Secretary of State and an Inspector had been appointed. The Hearing Sessions will commence on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am in the Council Chamber at Fenland Hall. The Matters & Issues for Examination had been published on the District Council website and further statements must be sent by 22<sup>nd</sup> November and requests to attend the hearing by the 11<sup>th</sup> November.

The Chairman agreed to attend the Hearing on behalf of the Parish Council if possible but if he was unable to attend Councillor Kraus agreed to attend on the Councils behalf. The Chairman & Councillor Kraus would prepare the Parish Councils Statement.

b) Letter from a Parishioner regarding the article on Affordable Housing in the November Parish Council Newsletter.

In view of the discussions that had taken place during the Public Participation session Councillors resolved to write to the District Council expressing their concern over the information being given by the Housing Association to applicants. Councillors also requested a meeting with the Housing Association and the District Council to discuss their concerns and to obtain clarification on the allocation process.

c) Letter of thanks from Victim Support for the grant of £50.  
Information noted by Councillors.

d) Email from CAPALC advising of the Annual General Meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm at Histon & Impington Recreation Ground Pavilion, Impington. The Chairman advised that he would be attending the meeting.

e) Email from CAPALC advising of a Parish Council Conference on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 10.00am to 4.00pm in the Bedford Hall, Thorney.  
Councillors Kraus indicated that he would perhaps attend this Conference.

f) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council advising of recent changes to the Rights of Way Team & inviting members to attend a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November at Toft, 19<sup>th</sup> November at Sawtry or the 21<sup>st</sup> November at Witchford.

There were no Councillors who wished to attend this meeting.

g) Letter from Bowers Solicitors confirming that they will act on behalf of the Parish Council regarding the purchase of land to extend the Churchyard.

Information noted by Councillors.

h) Email from Fenland District Council inviting members to attend a Funding Fair & Training Session on How to write effective funding bids on 26<sup>th</sup> November at Fenland Hall, cost £60.

Information noted by Councillors.

i) Letter from Eastern Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority informing the Council that they are consulting on some proposed bylaws in relation to the coast line of Norfolk, Suffolk & Lincolnshire.

Information noted by Councillors.

j) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council providing information about a Housing Related Support for Older People Project.

Information noted by Councillors.

### **13/214. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.**

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

There were no new highway issues reported by Councillors and a response had been received advising that the Church End sign would be replaced shortly.

b) Letter from the County Council regarding Swan Bridge junction.

Councillors resolved to respond advising that the suggestion to apply under the Local Highway Improvement Initiative for improvements to the Swan Bridge junction was ridiculous in view of the cost limits under this initiative. Also in order to obtain accurate information and data regarding accidents at this junction all the accidents should be recorded and to ask again why the current traffic calming scheme was installed against the Parish Councils advice.

c) Email from the County Council advising that applications can again be made under the Local Highway Improvement Initiative by the 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Councillors resolved to re-submit last years application for the reduction of the speed limit at Church End from 40mph to 30mph and the installation of a traffic calming build out near to the Doctors Surgery.

Letters of support for the application would be requested from County Councillor Gillick, Stephen Barclay MP and the Police.

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

Three faulty streetlights were reported located at the top of Sealeys Lane, outside the Village Hall and outside Snips. The street light outside 14 Sealeys Lane was also not on at the correct times.

e) Filling in of the drain outside 12 – 14 Ingham Hall Gardens.

The Chairman advised that the surface rain water drain outside 12 – 14 Ingham Hall Gardens had been filled in making the flooding of the road even worse. Clerk requested to enquire with Highways at the County Council for an explanation for this work.

f) Request to cut hedging along Harolds Bank.

The Chairman advised that the hedge outside 100 Acre Farm was obstructing the highway and requested that this be reported to the County Council.

g) Loose manhole cover outside the Village Hall.

The Clerk was requested to report this matter to Anglian Water as it was the sewer cover in the road. To also report a damaged sewer control post outside Pine Lodge.

**13/215. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

Councillor Cook had no report to give to the meeting. Councillor Kraus enquired what was being done about the cycle rack outside the village hall being in the dark in view of the risk of an accident. Councillor Cook advised that this was being looked into by the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

**13/216. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

Councillor G Bellamy asked if the Affordable Homes were being built outside the building line as they appeared to be very close to the road. The Chairman advised that there was now no building line.

**13/217. Any other business (information items only).**

The Clerk advised that the annual Clock service was being completed on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November.

**13/218. Dates for future Council meeting(s) 2013 and 2014.**

Councillors resolved to hold an additional Parish Council Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 to discuss and agree the Budget and Precept for 2014/2015 with a Human Resources Committee Meeting being held on the same evening starting at 7.00pm. in The Cage.

Councillors resolved for the normal monthly Parish Council Meetings for 2014 to continue to be held on the second Wednesday of each month.

Meeting closed 10.10m.