

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th October 2013 in The Cage, Station Road, Parson Drove.

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

13/182. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Councillors C Bellamy, G. Bellamy, A Kraus & G Gillick(C.C.C.). PCSO Dave Russ.

13/183. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requested for dispensations.

13/184. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared a Discloseable Pecuniary Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 13/192 a) and left the room at the appropriate time. Reason – Councillor Booth is a Garden Allotment tenant.

Councillor Booth declared a Non Pecuniary Interest for Agenda Item Number 13/191 d). Reason – Councillor Booth is a member of the Youth Club Management Committee.

Councillor Spriggs declared a Pecuniary Interest for Agenda Item Number 13/192 b) and left the room at the appropriate time. Reason – a close family member is an Allotment Tenant.

13/185. 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.

13/186. Community Police Officers Report.

An email had been received by the Clerk advising of the crimes and incidences since the last meeting. There were 4 crimes consisting of 1 theft and 3 burglaries and 2 incidences consisting of a vehicle nuisance and a criminal damage.

13/187. To approve & sign minutes of the meeting held on the 11th September 2013.

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

13/188. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

UK Power Network had completed all the electricity cable work and a feed back card had been issued to every householder along The Bank. The damaged areas of the village green had been re-seeded.

The Chairman had attended the AGM for Cambridgeshire ACRE when an information session had been held on Neighbourhood Planning advising that there were grants of up to £7,000 available to parishes. Information had also been given at the meeting on new legislation regarding Community Right to Bid and Community Right to Buy.

13/189. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Booth advised that the Planning Application for Delamores Nursery site was not being included in the District Councils October Planning Committee Meeting. Central Government were making changes to the Council Tax Benefits and this would result in the District Council having to fund the shortfall by increasing the Council Tax or reducing the Council Tax benefits. Consultation was currently being undertaken by the District Council on this matter.

13/190. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) 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. Councillors resolved to support the application and recommend approval is granted.

b) 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.

Councillors resolved to respond stating that the work was recommended by a Tree Surgeon and should therefore be granted.

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

1. Mrs D Lutwyche, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0579/F, Agent J Trundle, for the formation of manage on land south east of Downyonder, Harolds Bank, Parson Drove. Information noted by Councillors.

2. Dr D Hattersley, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0613/TRCA, No Agent, for the felling of 1 Robinia Tree and works to 2 Acer Trees within a Conservation Area, 14 Main Road Parson Drove. Information noted by Councillors.

3. J Scrimshaw, Planning Application No. F/YR13/0481/EXTIME, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, for the erection of 3 dwellings on land north of 69 – 79 Back Road, Murrow. (Renewal of planning permission F/YR10/0200/O). Information noted by Councillors.

13/191. Accounts & Finance

a). Councillors resolved to approve the following invoices for payment. PKF Littlejohn, External Audit Fees, £120. Accounts & Audit Regs 2012. Information Commissioner, Data Protection Registration Renewal Fee, £35.L.G.A. 1972 s.111.

The Office Key, Parish Plan & administration supplies, £41.67. L.G.A. 1972 s.111.

EON, electricity for the Cage, £49.38. L.G.A. 1972 s.133.

Rapier Signs, No Parking on the Grass signs for the village green, £80. Open Spaces Act 1906. s 9.

b). To receive the External Auditors Report.

The Annual Return from the External Auditors had been received with no issues raised by them.

c). To receive and approve a Receipts & Payments Bank Reconciliation & Budget Report.

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented by the Clerk.

Councillors also resolved to vire the allocated budget of £500 for the Pond Project to the general maintenance of assets budget in view of the extent of work required to the trees on the village green.

d). To consider a request from Parson Drove Youth Club for a grant.

Councillors resolved to give a grant of £300 at the present time and to review the position again near the end of the financial year with the regards to giving a further grant if possible.

e). To consider a request from Victim Support for a grant.

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

f). To consider quotation received for works to the trees on the village green.

A quotation had been received to complete all of the work identified at the annual inspection for a total amount of £6050. In view of the high cost involved it was suggested that the felling of the Blue Cedar tree estimated to cost £350 and the reduction of the crowns for the 3 trees near the access road opposite the bottle bank costing approximately £1500 be left until the next financial year. The Clerk was requested to try and obtain further quotations in view of the high costs involved.

13/192. Allotments & Gardens.

a). To review the annual rent for the Riverside Garden Allotments.

Councillor Spriggs chaired the meeting for this Agenda Item as the Chairman had left the room.

Councillors resolved to increase the rent from £20 per full garden allotment to £25.

b). To review the annual rent for the Fen Allotments.

Councillor Spriggs left the room for this Agenda Item.

Councillors resolved to increase the rent from £75 per acre to £85 per acre for tenants with up to 2 acres and from £75 per acre to £95 per acre for tenants with over 2 acres.

c) To agree on date for the collection of the rents for the year ending 31st October 2013.

Councillors resolved to collect the rents prior to the November Council Meeting on the 13th November.

13/193. To consider request for new Neighbourhood Watch Signs along The Bank.

The Clerk advised that a new Neighbourhood Watch sign would cost £12 and the signs are erected by the Wisbech & District Neighbourhood Watch Chairman.

Councillors resolved to order 4 new signs for The Bank and 1 for Sealeys Lane.

13/194. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Email from Fenland District Council advising that the Core Strategy Development Plan Document and Policies Map has been submitted to the Secretary of State.
Information noted by Councillors.

b) Letter from Sir Graham Bright, Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner advising of the launch of Neighbourhood Alert.
Information noted by Councillors.

c) Email from CAPALC advising of training courses up to the end of the year.
Information noted by Councillors.

d) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council advising of their countywide consultation on their budget for the coming year.
Information noted by Councillors.

13/195. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

a) Highway issues to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.
The damaged fencing at the Swan Bridge junction had still not been repaired.
The Give Way sign approaching Swan Bridge from Fen Road was not being adhered to by some motorists.
Two Elder Bushes in the hedge were obstructing motorist's vision when coming over Swan Bridge. Clerk to notify North Level Drainage Board of this obstruction.

b) Outstanding Highway issues.
Sign for Church End and request for road signs for Horses.
The Clerk was requested to ask again about the above signage as no action had been taken or response received.

c) Faulty street lights to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.
There were 5 streetlights along Main Road not working also 1 outside Bridge House, Fen Road and the one on Station Road near the Cage had still not been repaired.

13/196 Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook informed Councillors that their Insurers had been informed about the recent tragic fatal accident on the playing field. The Insurers had visited the site and been provided with a copy of the CCTV footage and requested that any future correspondence be passed onto to them. The damaged fence had been repaired following clearance from the Police. The bereaved family wished to erect a memorial seat on the playing field and this had been approved by the Amenities Committee. Some Members of the Parish Council had attended the funeral.

13/197. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillor Cook enquired if the Amenities 95 Committee could lay a wreath at the Remembrance Day Service. The Chairman advised that he should contact the Royal British Legion Chairman or Secretary.

13/198. Any other business (information items only).

Councillors reported that moles were once again active around the War Memorial and The Cage and the Clerk was requested to inform the pest control contractor.

Vehicles were still being driven over the village green and it was agreed that this would be highlighted in the next Parish Council Newsletter.

A member of the public had reported a broken car window whilst parked in the lay by near the bus shelter claiming that the damage had been caused by the grass cutting contractor whilst strimming around the posts. The contractors contact details had been provided to the member of the public as this should be dealt with under their Liability Insurance.

13/199. Dates for future Council meeting(s).

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 13th November at 7.30pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 9.30pm.