

# PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL

## MARCH 2013 NEWSLETTER

### **Chairman**

G. Booth, 3 John Bends Way, Parson Drove. Telephone 701157

### **Vice Chairman**

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### **Councillors**

C. Bellamy, Brewers Retreat, Brewery Close, Parson Drove, Telephone 700195

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### **Clerk**

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### **Precept**

The Parish Council Budget for 2014/2015 will be increased to £16,941, which comprises of the Precept of £15,000 and funding of £1,941 received from the Council Tax Support Grant. The Parish Council have had to increase the Precept due to the District Councils decision to reduce the Concurrent Functions Grant by £1,900 and whilst some savings can be made we cannot continue to maintain our public open spaces without increasing the Precept. The District have now however agreed to meet with Parish Councils to determine what level of support they can provide in the future instead of automatically phasing out the Concurrent Functions Grant over the next 3 years. In monetary terms this will result in a Parish Precept increase of approximately £1.33 for a band D household for the whole year although we appreciate it is an increase of approximately 3.6% as may be shown on your council tax bill when you receive it.

### **Parish Plan Refresh Questionnaire Results**

Thank you to every one who took the time to complete the questionnaires delivered to every household in the parish during September & October. We have had a very good response with over 32% questionnaires being completed and returned. The lucky winning ticket for returning the questionnaire was number 256 and the prize money of £50 was claimed by Sylvia Burks. The questionnaires are now being analysed and the results will be made public during a presentation at the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 in Parson Drove Village Hall.

### **Trees & Hedges**

Residents often complain about over grown trees and hedges obstructing the footpaths and obscuring the street lights and road signs particularly along Main Road. We would be very grateful therefore if home owners could bear this in mind and cut back their trees and hedges if they are likely to be causing an obstruction.

### **Allotment Gardens**

A vacancy has arisen for an allotment garden at Riverside Gardens, residents wishing to apply for the tenancy should write to the Clerk by the 10<sup>th</sup> April. Whilst preference will be given to applications from residents who reside in the Parish of Parson Drove consideration will be given to applications from neighbouring villages.

### **Village Green**

Wooden posts have recently been installed around the village green near to the War Memorial entrance together with some signs reminding residents and visitors that vehicles should not be parked on the grass. We appreciate that there are limited parking places around the school area but the village green is a place for recreational use and should not be used for parking. Please help us to protect the village green and prevent any further erosion of the grass by not parking on the village green.

### **Highway Fault Reporting System**

Cambridgeshire County Council has an interactive on-line reporting system for highway problems which will ensure the person reporting a fault is kept fully up to speed with its repair. The online service is available at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/highwaysfault](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/highwaysfault) in addition you are still able to report faults by telephone on 03450455212.

### **Police Warning on Scams**

There have been a number of scams recently whereby persons reporting to be police have requested the bank card and pin numbers of persons over the phone and arranged for a courier to collect the card and details. The person's bank account has then shortly afterwards been cleared of all funds. No one should request PIN Numbers or card details not even the Police.

### **Accessing Adult Social Care Services**

Social Care is personal and practical support to help people live their lives by supporting them to maintain their independence and dignity and ensuring they have choice and control over the support they receive. Many people don't think about social care until they or someone they know need support and then find they are unsure about where to find information or how to access the services they need. Adult social care customer services are the initial point of contact for all social care enquiries. The trained staff knows about the services available and can offer advice on who else may be able to help. Call them on 0345 045 5202. You can also find out more about adult social care in Cambridgeshire on the website Your Life, Your Choice [www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk](http://www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk) If you think you may need help with mental health issues you should contact your GP in the first instance.

### **Council Meetings**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in The Cage on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00pm in The Cage.

The Annual Parish Assembly Meeting on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in Parson Drove Village Hall

The Annual Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm in The Cage. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings and have the opportunity to raise any parish matter during Public Participation for a 15 minute period near the start of the meeting.