

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 10th September 2014.

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), C Bellamy, G Bellamy, J Cook, P Everett & A Kraus.
Cllr D Broker (FDC), Cllr G Gillick (CCC) & 1 member of the public.

14/175. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from PCSO Dave Russ.

14/176. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

14/177. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

There were no declarations of interest made by Councillors.

14/178. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk had received an email from PCSO Russ detailing the crimes and incidences reported since the last meeting advising of 4 crimes consisting of 2 burglaries from garden sheds and 2 thefts of diesel from a tractor and combine harvester.

PCSO Russ advised that the main issue raised at the North Rural Forum on the 21st August had been speeding but fly tipping, and dog fouling had also been raised. A number of residents from Parson Drove raised an issue of anti-social behaviour and the Police are dealing with this matter and continuing with their investigations. The next Wisbech North Rural Forum will take place in Tydd St Giles on the 11th March 2015.

The Chairman advised that the organisation for the Wisbech North Rural Forum held in Guyhirn on the 21st August had been disappointing as the Outreach Bus had not attended and therefore no representatives from the District or County Council and PCC Outreach were present. Councillors resolved for the Clerk to write to the new Wisbech Inspector advising of their dissatisfaction on this matter.

14/179. 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 spoke about the Planning Application listed under Agenda Item Number 14/183 b) and referred to the two confidential documents submitted with the application relating to the covenant and bond.

14/180. To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th August 2014.

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

14/181. Matters Arising from the Minutes (For information only).

A letter from Fenland District Council dated 8th September had been received by the Chairman regarding the Concurrent Functions Grant advising that subject to full Council approval there would be no further reductions in this grant but further discussions were required to agree on how the grant would be allocated in the future. Fenland District Council was requesting that Parish Councils meet to discuss and agree on this and advise them of the proposal by the 3rd October.

Councillors agreed that this matter would be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting and the Clerk should inform the District Council that their request for a decision by the 3rd October could not be achieved.

14/182. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Broker advised that the District Council had been encountering some problems with their grass cutting contractors. Sharing resources with other local authorities for the collection of council tax and dealing with various benefits was in place and building control was now being considered for a similar arrangement.

Councillor Booth advised that a full report was being presented to Cabinet and then full Council regarding proposed changes to planning in relation to Delegated Powers and Councillors calling in planning applications for determination by the Planning Committee. Councillor Gillick advised that he had received complaints regarding speeding through the villages but had been unable to secure any funding for improvements. He was therefore intending to get up a petition for Murrow, Parson Drove and Guyhirn for new traffic calming.

14/183. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) C Delaney, Planning Application No. F/YR14/0643/F, No Agent, for the erection of a 2m high (max height) fence & gates to front boundary of existing dwelling (retrospective) at The Mulberries, 23 Main Road, Parson Drove.

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

b). Mr A Mclean, Planning Application No. F/YR14/0697/O, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, for the erection of a 4 dwellings involving the demolition of 3 The Bank on land north east of 2 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved by six votes in favour and one against to support the application and recommend approval is granted subject to the wording of the Bond being amended to cover the whole of the village green.

c). Notification that the following application has been refused.

T Jarvis, Planning Application No. F/YR14/00548/PNCOU, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., for change of use of agricultural buildings to 2 bed dwelling and workshop at Barns land west of Carousel, 117 Back Road, Murrow.

Information noted by Councillors.

d). Notification that the following planning application has been approved.

Miss C Corbett, Planning Application No. F/YR14/0426/F, for the erection of a single storey rear extension; conversion of garage to additional living accommodation & creation of a chimney to the side of the existing dwelling Carling, 21 Fen Road Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

Councillor C Bellamy left the room at this point.

14/184. Accounts & Finance.

a) Councillors unanimously resolved to approve the following Invoice for payment:- Mrs Y Reader, clerks quarter year salary & expenses £1,419.59. L.G.A. 1972 112.

b) Letter from Rural Cambs Citizens Advice Bureau requesting funding for the forthcoming financial year 2015/2016.

Councillors unanimously resolved to defer this matter to the next meeting pending further information being obtained regarding the Outreach sessions.

Councillor C Bellamy returned to the meeting.

14/185. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.

Councillor Kraus advised that the flyer advertising the public meeting on the 25th September had been distributed with Village Voices. Another meeting had been held to discuss and decide on how the public meeting would be managed and it was agreed that the meeting would be chaired by a representative from Cambridgeshire ACRE. Mr Colin Britt and the Parish Council Chairman would be the main speakers at the public meeting. The services being provided by Cambridgeshire ACRE were free of charge at the moment and they would be assisting with obtaining funding at a later date.

14/186. Parish Property Risk Assessment.

a) To report on the annual inspection of trees on the village green and agree on any action to be taken.

The Clerk advised that there was some work required to remove dead wood and broken branches. The contractors had also suggested that a Lime Tree outside number 12 The Bank be reduced by 30% and for 4 small trees that were in a very poor condition to be felled. The Blue Cedar identified as requiring felling last year was also showing signs of disease and as planning permission had already been granted to fell this tree and the contractor had agreed to honour his quotation for £350 Councillors resolved for this work to be carried out immediately. Councillors resolved for an application to be made for planning permission to carry out the work identified and for quotations to be obtained once this had been received.

b) The Clerk advised that she had enquired with the contractor about the areas requiring painting highlighted during the annual inspection of the assets and had been advised that they would not be able to complete any of this work before winter.

Councillors therefore agreed to proceed with the staining of the wood on the bus shelter already estimated at a cost of £180 and leave the other areas until the spring or early summer of 2015.

14/187. Update on fence at Swan Bridge.

The Chairman advised that a verbal quotation for £200 had been received to repair the fence and a written quotation would be provided in the next few days.

14/188. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Letter from Lee Bolton Monier-Williams Solicitors acting for the Ely Diocesan Board of Finance enclosing a draft transfer document and asking for confirmation as to who will be signing the document on behalf of the Parish Council for the Emmanuel Churchyard extension.

Councillors resolved that the Chairman and Vice Chairman should sign the document on behalf of the Parish Council.

b) Information regarding the recent meeting held to discuss the construction timescale and the Community Benefit scheme for the Wryde Croft Wind Farm.

Information noted by Councillors, no further action required at present.

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c) Letter from North Level District Internal Drainage Board inviting 2 Councillors to attend a tour of the works carried out by the Board on Wednesday 8th October 2014 from 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Councillors resolved that Councillor P Everett should attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

d) Email from Fenland District Council advising of The Openness of Local Bodies Regulations 2014 which came into force on the 6th August 2014.

Information noted by Councillors and in view of this it was agreed that the Parish Council's Standing Orders would require amending in the very near future to take into account the new regulations.

e) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the briefing meeting on Monday 15th September to discuss the Cambridgeshire Future Transport subsidies bus review project. The Chairman advised that although he had previously indicated that he would attend this meeting on behalf of the council he may not now be able to attend due to work commitments. There were no other Councillors available to attend and therefore the Chairman would try and attend if possible.

f) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council advising of their consultation on the Household Recycling Service.

Councillors resolved to respond to this consultation advising that they considered any reduction in services in Fenland would result in more fly tipping.

g) Email from Fenland District Council inviting Councillors to attend a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Thursday 25th September 9.30 to 11.30am in The Breakout Area at Fenland Hall, March.

Information noted by Councillors.

h) Emails from The Police & Crime Commissioner with information on Stop & Search: Immediate sign up to new measures. Also a request for volunteers to support the operation of the Volunteer Police Cadet Scheme.

Information noted by Councillors.

i) Letter from Fenland District Council regarding the Review of Polling Districts & Polling Places.

Councillors resolved to respond advising that they considered the Village Hall should continue to be the polling station but the staff should park in the rear car park to ensure sufficient parking is available to the public. It was also suggested that the Amenities Management Committee should ensure that the gates are open so that the rear car park is available.

14/189. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

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

The flooding of Ingham Hall Gardens adjoining Brewery Close had still not been resolved. Over grown hedges and trees were still causing problems along Highside, at the far end of The Bank up to Clough Bridge and both ends of Silvers Lane.

The white lines had still not been renewed along The Bank.

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

Street light number 14 was still on all the time.

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It was reported that Network Power & EDF Energy were installing replacement electricity poles in various locations throughout the village and concern was expressed if this would result in the loss of some of our street lights attached to their poles.

c) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council, reminder for applications under the Local Highways Improvement Initiative 2015/16 by the 12th September.
The Clerk advised that the application for a footpath along Sealeys Lane had been submitted. The Chairman advised that Gorefield Parish Council had decided not to participate in a joint application for the Bellamy Bridge junction. Councillors resolved for a joint application to be submitted from Parson Drove and Wisbech St Mary Parish Councils.

14/190. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook advised that he had nothing to report to the Council.

14/191. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

There were no questions asked by Councillors.

14/192. Any other business (information items only).

In view of the training received from C&PALC on the 8th September Councillors requested that Fenland District Council be approached requesting further training on declarations of interest.

Councillors reported moles on large areas of the village green and requested the pest control contractor be notified of this.

Councillor Bellamy advised that following complaints from residents of Springfield Road regarding the nettles and weeds Fenland District Council had been contacted requesting that this matter be attended to as soon as possible.

Councillor Spriggs advised that the Anglian Water post for the sewerage pot had been knocked down at the top of Riverside Gardens near the Garden Allotments roadway and that the access roadway to the Garden Allotments was being badly cut up by the farmer accessing the field at the far end. It was agreed that this matter would be included in the Agenda for the next meeting.

14/193. Dates for future Council meetings.

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 8th October at 7.00pm in The Cage and Councillors were reminded that the next Councillor Training session was being held on Monday 6th October.

Meeting closed 9.35pm