

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), C Bellamy, G Bellamy, J Cook, & A Kraus.

### **15/56. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Everett and Mrs Y Reader (Clerk).

### **15/57. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### **15/58. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

Councillor Cook declared a Pecuniary Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 15/73 as he is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Committee.

### **15/59. 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 at the meeting.

### **15/60. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015.**

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

### **15/61. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015. (Information only).**

The Chairman advised that no further information had been received concerning the parish street lights. He reported that the letter concerning the condition of Back Road, Murrow had been drafted but in the absence of the Clerk could not confirm whether it had been sent.

### **15/62. Community Police Officers Report.**

No report had been received but an email from Inspector Alan Boughen advised that PCSO Andy Bush was on long term sick leave. PCSO S Clark would therefore be covering during his absence and would attend Parish Council Meetings at least every three months.

### **15/63. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.**

As a District Councillor the Chairman reported that there would be no increase in the District Councils Council Tax. Matters concerning parish street lighting had been deferred until after the May elections. The Developers Contribution Supplementary Planning Document had been adopted by Fenland District Council without acknowledging any of the comments made by Parish Councils.

### **15/64. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.**

Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Application has been refused.

R Goy, Planning Application No. F/YR14/1013/PNCOU, change of use of agricultural buildings to two 2 bed dwellings and associated building operations south of Bridge Farm, Long Drove, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors. There were no Planning Applications to consider.

**15/65. Accounts & Finance**

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

Open Spaces Society, annual membership £45. L.G.A. 1972 s143.

Anglian Water, water rates for The Cage, £17.95. L.G.A. 1972 s133.

Mrs Y Reader, Clerks quarter year salary & expenses £1,402.52. L.G.A. 1972 s112.

b) Report on outstanding Allotment Rents.

The remaining outstanding Allotment Rent had now been paid.

c) To consider request from FACT for a grant.

Councillors resolved to defer this request in order for enquiries to be made as to why FACT needed a grant. To also request a response to our enquiries concerning the provision of a shuttle link to Guyhirn.

d) Update report from Fenland District Council regarding the ownership and replacement of 2 street lights in Springfield Road.

Councillors were advised that no response had been received from Fenland District Council concerning access rights for the replacement of two street lights in Springfield Road.

e) To confirm date for the Internal Audit.

Councillors were advised that the Internal Audit would be completed on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

f) To consider quotations received for work to the trees on the village green.

Two quotations for work to the trees on the village green had been received.

Bowles Tree & Garden Services for £1,950 and NTS for £2,000 + VAT.

Councillors unanimously resolved to accept the quotation from Bowles Tree & Garden Services.

**15/66. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.**

Councillor Kraus reported that the meeting scheduled for the 26<sup>th</sup> February had been re-scheduled for the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015. The Parish Neighbourhood Plan can include consideration for Back Road, Murrow but for planning purposes Back Road is considered part of Murrow settlement. Church End and Murrow are already over quota for development and Parson Drove is slightly below quota for development numbers. The questionnaire is to be completed and Gareth Martin, Chief Development Officer, Fenland District Council is to be consulted before publication and distribution.

**15/67. Allotments & Gardens.**

A letter had been received from the applicant advising that he wished to withdraw his application for a Fen Allotment. The Clerk was therefore to write to the other applicant offering these allotments.

**15/68. Chairman's update report on Public Transport Meeting.**

The Chairman reported that the results of the survey had been collated but no decision was expected for two to three months.

**15/69. Update report on restarting the Citizens Advice Outreach Sessions in April.**

Citizens Advice Bureau were proposing to hold monthly sessions on the second Thursday of each month 10.00am to 12 noon starting in April. If Wisbech St Mary and Gorefield Parish Council's are agreeable to this a quarterly session would be held in the Pavilion.

**15/70. To review Standing Orders and Financial Regulations in view of changes made to the models by NALC following recent legislation.**

Councillors resolved to defer this matter until the next meeting in view of the absence of the Clerk.

**15/71. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.**

a) Invitation from the Chairman of Fenland District Council to attend the Commonwealth Flag Raising Ceremony at 10.00am on the 9<sup>th</sup> March at Fenland Hall. Information noted by Councillors.

b) Information from Cambridgeshire Police Shrievally Trust on the Bobby Scheme. Councillors resolved to enquire about the services offered and for a breakdown of why a grant was being sought.

c) Email from the Police & Crime Commissioner advising of a surgery on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March between 2 pm and 4 pm in March on the Horizon Bus to be located in the car park of March Library. Appointments must be booked in advance by telephoning 0300 333 3456. Information noted by Councillors and it was suggested that this should be advertised by the Clerk putting up suitable notices on the village notice boards.

d) Email from Fenland District Council responding to our enquiry regarding dog fouling on the village green. The Street Scene Officer at Fenland District Council had reported that she had found little evidence of dog fouling but had erected new signs. It was noted that the Street Scene Officer only provides a small percentage of time to the rural villages. It was suggested that further signs be considered by the Parish Council at a later date.

e) Email from the Clinical Commissioning Group was noted by Councillors.

**15/72. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.**

a) Highway issues to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council. The lack of responses by Highways to previous reports was noted. The Chairman suggested that greater use should be made of reporting issues via the County Council's website email reporting system.

b) Response received from the County Council regarding repairs to Clough Bridge. An email had been received from the County Council's Bridge Engineer advising that they were aware of the damage but the bridge was structurally sound. The mortar required for the repairs was lime based and could not be used until the likelihood of frosts had ceased but the repairs would be completed as soon as the weather improved.

c) Faulty street lights to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council. There were no new faulty street lights reported.

**15/73. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

Councillor Cook advised that a 1940's event was being held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2015 as part of the WW2 Commemorations.

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**15/74. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

There were no questions asked by Councillors.

**15/75. Any other business (information items only).**

The new tenant of the 3 acre allotment was requesting a deferment of the annual rent increase to reflect the amount of work needed to make the allotment suitable to yield a crop. This request was deferred to the next meeting.

It was noted that the Garden Allotment roadway was in a very poor condition but the Drainage Board were unwilling to make any repairs.

The Chairman distributed the nomination packs for the 7<sup>th</sup> May Parish Elections and advised that the date for the count of the Parish Council Elections had not yet been set. The latest date for voters to register is the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

**15/76. Dates for future Council meetings.**

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm.