

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015.**

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

### **15/33. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Everett and County Councillor Gillick.

### **15/34. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### **15/35. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

Councillor Spriggs declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 15/44 as a close family member is an Allotment tenant.

Councillor Cook declared a Pecuniary Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 15/52 as he is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Committee.

Councillor Booth declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 15/51 e.

### **15/36. 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.

### **15/37. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th January 2015.**

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

### **15/38. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015. (Information only).**

The Clerk advised that she had contacted the applicant regarding the covenant and bond for planning application number F/YR14/0697/O and he stated that he would contact his solicitors in due course and once the Planning Condition relating to the Archaeological Dig had been completed which he anticipated would take some time.

### **15/39. Community Police Officers Report.**

The Clerk advised that she had not received a response to the query raised in her email after the last Parish Council Meeting or any apologies and monthly report for this meeting. Councillors resolved that the Clerk write to the Wisbech Police Inspector and copy in the Police & Crime Commissioner Sir Graham Bright regarding this matter.

### **15/40. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.**

District Councillor Booth advised that there was a full Council Meeting at the end of February when the Council Tax would be agreed, an increase of 1.9% was being proposed.

### **15/41. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.**

a) M Woolcott, Planning Application No. F/YR15/0027/F, Agent Swann Edwards Consultants, for the erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with integral garage & formation of a new access involving demolition of existing dwelling & outbuilding Rupen, Long Drove, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application and recommend approval is granted but requested that the mature Hawthorn hedge at the front of the site was retained as much as possible.

b) S Poultney, Planning Application No. F/YR15/0038/RM, Agent Swann Edwards, for the erection of a 2 storey 3 bed dwelling on land east of The Poplars, Back Road, Murrow. Councillors resolved to object to this application as they considered the proposed dwelling was over development of the site and the width of Back Road, Murrow was inadequate to cope with any more traffic as a result of any further development.

c) N Bowditch, Planning Application No. FYR15/0045/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, for the erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with detached double garage on land south west of the Swan Inn, Main Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application but to raise concerns regarding the access being shown as Main Road in view of the Easement granted for access to the plot over the village green near to The Cage and the agreement made relating to the provision of car parking at the side of the Swan Inn. Councillors also agreed to request wooden window frames instead of UPVC as this would be more appropriate next to a listed building and in a Conservation area.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to also write to the Agent advising them of the rights of access and car parking arrangements agreed with Elgood & Sons Limited.

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

L Allen, Planning Application No. F/YR14/0935/F, Agent D Broker, for the erection of a detached car port to front of existing dwelling at 331 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Mr & Mrs G Cade, Planning Application No F/YR14/0973/F, Agent G Seaton, for the formation of a ménage involving the erection of four 10m high flood lights on land north of Fallowfields, Long Drove, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

e) Notification from Fenland District Council that the application for Neighbourhood Planning Designated Area for the whole parish of Parson Drove has been approved.

Information noted by Councillors.

#### **15/42. Accounts & Finance**

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

Konica Minolta Business Solutions, photocopier rental and copy charges £.102.32.L.G.A. 1972 s111.

Crowson & Ward, administration supplies, £53.48. L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

b) Report on outstanding Allotment Rents.

The Clerk advised that the part payment of £250 had been received and the balance of £260 would be paid by the tenant by the end of February.

c) To consider quotations received for the annual grounds maintenance and grass cutting contract for 2015/16.

The Clerk advised that 3 quotations had been received for the annual contract.

Councillors resolved to accept the quotation received from the existing contractor.

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

Councillors resolved to respond requesting confirmation that the Parish Council was granted a right of access when the properties were sold by the District Council as the position of some of these street lights are actually in the gardens of the properties. Councillors also resolved to request more information as the data provided still does not explain exactly what is wrong with the street lights and why they need replacing other than their age.

e) Letter from Fenland District Council advising that no further meetings would be held to discuss funding for the replacement of Parish Council street lights and changes to the allocation of the Concurrent Functions Grant until after the May elections.

Information noted but in the meantime it was suggested that the Chairman approach some of the other Parish Councils to discuss the possibility of obtaining another assessment of the street lights.

**15/43. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.**

Councillor Kraus advised that a meeting had been held two weeks ago when the first draft of the questionnaire had been completed. In view of the whole parish being designated as a Neighbourhood Area clarification was required regarding Back Road, Murrow before the final version of the questionnaire could be completed but it was hoped that this would be ready for distribution during April.

**15/44. Allotments & Gardens.**

To consider the application for a Fen Allotment. (Deferred from last meeting).

The Clerk advised that no further information had been received from the applicant since the last meeting. Councillors resolved for the Clerk to write to the applicant advising that unless the information is received before the next meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> March they will assume that he is no longer wishes to proceed with the application.

**15/45. Parish Property**

To report on an offer made to refurbish the Parish Council Notice Board.

The Clerk advised that the College of West Anglia had offered to refurbish the Parish Council Notice Board free of charge with the Parish Council only supplying the materials consisting of paint and some replacement wood. Councillors resolved to accept this offer.

**15/46. Update report on restarting the Citizens Advice Outreach Sessions.**

The Clerk advised that the Citizens Advice Bureau had indicated that they would be able to restart the Outreach Sessions in April and she was waiting for more information on the proposed dates and times.

**15/47. To discuss issues raised in the Parish Plan Refresh.**

Councillors resolved to look into the cost of providing more seats and bins and to approach the Doctors Surgery regarding the request for blood tests to be completed at the surgery.

**15/48. Complaints regarding dog fouling on the village green.**

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to enquire as to how many times Fenland District Council had visited the village as part of their campaign on dog fouling as this was one of the areas the Parish Council had asked them to target.

**15/49. Condition of Back Road, Murrow and continued housing development.**

The Chairman informed Councillors that since the last round of correspondence with the County Council in 2012 there had been more development along this road consisting of mainly infill development resulting in at least 12 additional properties. The continued development along Back Road was generating more traffic resulting in congestion and increasing the risks to pedestrian in view of the lack of footpaths. A pedestrian had recently had an accident whilst trying to step onto the rutted grass verge to avoid an oncoming vehicle. Councillors resolved to raise the matter of the inadequate width of the road and lack of footpaths again with the County Council, with a view that no further development should take place on Back Road, until the highway is brought up to an acceptable standard. As a response had not been received from our last letter to write to the Director of Highways at the County Council and Head of Planning at Fenland District Council.

**15/50. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.**

a) Letter from the Quilt Festival Organisers requesting that the £100 grant retained for future Festivals be donated to the refurbishment of Emmanuel Church.

Councillors resolved for the £100 held to be used towards the upkeep of the historic Church Organ if they had the power to do so. Clerk to look into this before responding.

b) Letter from the Valuation Office requesting the completion of Form VO 6030(10/11) in relation to The Cage.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to complete and return the Form.

c) Email from Fenland District Council attaching a letter from British Weights & Measures Association regarding units of measurements for Garden Allotments.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) Letter from Dong Energy inviting members to attend a pre-construction exhibition about the onshore construction elements of the Race Bank Offshore Wind Farm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2.00pm to 6.30pm at Walpole Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew.

Information noted by Councillors.

e) Email reminder from the County Council regarding the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> February and advising of the responses received from the public consultation on bus services.

The Chairman advised that he would be attending this meeting.

**15/51. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.**

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

Concern was again expressed by Councillors that Clough Bridge had still not been repaired.

The Clerk was requested to report over grown trees and hedges at the following locations: Elbow Corner, Seadyke Road and both ends of Silvers Lane.

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

The Clerk was requested to report the following faulty street lights:-

Fen Road, CCC 4, opposite the Butchers Arms and the bus shelter, in the traffic island at Swan Bridge.

c) Emails from the Local Projects Highways Improvement Initiative advising that our 2015/16 application for a footpath at Sealeys Lane was not successful but the application for improvements to the junction at Bellamy Bridge was successful.

The application for Sealeys Lane was on the reserved lists as it only just missed out being successful.

The Clerk was requested to inform the Highways Department that the information for the Bellamy Bridge scheme should be sent to Wisbech St Mary Parish Council.

d) Email from the County Council regarding contacting the Highways Authority.  
Information noted by Councillors.

e) Email from County Council Highways regarding the outcome of the Give Way trial at Church End.

Councillors resolved to proceed with the Give Way scheme but to request that it was moved nearer to Number 259 Main Road to avoid problems with agricultural vehicles accessing the entrance at number 255 Main Road.

**15/52. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

Councillor Cook advised that the Annual General Meeting would be held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

**15/53. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

There were no questions raised by Councillors.

**15/54. Any other business (information items only).**

The Clerk advised that Fenland District Council were holding an information session on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm for candidates and agents for the forthcoming May elections if Councillors wished to attend.

**15/55. Dates for future Council meetings.**

The following dates were confirmed for future meetings:

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

Annual Parish Assembly Meeting Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in St Marks Church.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm.