

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

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), J Cook, J Hunt, C Killingworth & P Williams.  
1 member of the public.

### **15/240. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllr C Bates.

### **15/241. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### **15/242. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

Cllr Cook declared a Personal Interest for Agenda Item No. 15/256 as he is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Committee.

The Chairman declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No.15/250 as he is an Allotment Garden tenant.

### **15/243. Public Participation – to allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.**

The parishioner present at the meeting complained about the poor condition of Seadyke Bank and enquired if anyone had been found to wind the Cage clock every week. The Chairman advised that a request was being made in the November Newsletter for a volunteer to wind the clock and the condition of Seadyke Bank would be reported to the County Council.

### **15/244. To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015.**

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

### **15/245. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 (Information only).**

Councillor Spriggs advised that the car had stopped parking near to the entrance of Swan Gardens every night.

Councillor Cook advised that we was given to understand from the Land Lady of the Swan Inn that the Christmas Tree had been ordered and was expected to be delivered in the coming week.

### **15/246. Community Police Officers Report.**

An email had been received from PCSO Dave Russ advising that there had been 1 burglary in the parish during the last month. PCSO's had been attending schools in the rural areas on a regular basis either at the beginning or end of the school day. There had been a number of thefts of garden ornaments over the last month in the Fenland area. It was suggested that photographs be taken to help identify the stolen items as they are often sold at car boot fairs and if possible to also secure the ornaments making it more difficult for them to be removed. The next North Rural Forum will be held in February 2016 and the New Horizon Outreach Vehicle will be visiting the villages during the month. Unfortunately the time frame in which these events can be held is limited as the Outreach Vehicle has to be back at the depot by 6.00pm.

**15/247. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.**

District Councillor Booth advised that Councillor's allowances were either being kept the same or reduced. Over 6000 survey responses had been received following the consultation on the District Councils budget for 2016/2017. These responses were now being collated and further consultation would take place before a final decision was made by the District Council.

**15/248. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.**

Notification that the following Planning Applications have been approved.

P Redman, Application No F/YR15/0613/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., alterations to existing garage to incorporate shop area & erection of a single storey extension to the front & a detached storage building to the rear of The Post Office, 7 The Bank, Parson Drive.

Information noted by Councillors.

Mr A Daiser, Application No F/YR15/0739/F, erection of a 2 storey 4 bed roomed dwelling with detached double garage with storage above, plot 1 land west of 114 Main Road, Parson Drive.

Information noted by Councillors.

Mr C Smith, Planning Application No F/YR15/0763/TRTPO, work to a weeping ash tree and a sycamore tree at St. John The Baptist Church, 317 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drive.

Information noted by Councillors.

**15/249. Accounts & Finance.**

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following Invoices for payment:-

Mrs Y Reader, Clerks monthly salary & expenses, £516.89. L.G.A. 1972 s112.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions Ltd., photocopier rental & copy charges, £124.25. L.G.A. 1972 s.111.

Cambridgeshire County Council, LHII 2014/2015 Scheme, Parish Council contribution of £867.12. Road Traffic Reg. Act 1984 s 72.

Bowles Tree & Garden Services, removal of fallen willow branch from the pond, £350.

Public Health Act 1936 s 260.

Anglian Water, water rates for The Cage, £16.33. L.G.A. 1972 s133.

b) Letter from Fenland District Council requesting the return of the Precept Form for 2016/2017 by the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016 also advising that the amount of Council Tax Support Grant and the Concurrent Functions Grant would be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> November and approved by the full Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

Information noted by Councillors.

**15/250. Report on the collection of the Allotments & Garden Allotment Rents and any issues resulting from this.**

The Clerk advised that all of the Fen Allotment Rents had been paid but there were 4 Riverside Garden Allotment Rents still outstanding. 4 Garden Allotments had been vacated by tenants and these were now being advertised on the Notice Board and in the Newsletter.

**15/251. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.**

The Chairman advised that 116 questionnaires had been returned and these were now being collated. Councillor Spriggs picked the winning ticket number 375 for the £50 prize and this would now be advertised in Village Voices. An Open Meeting would be held early in the New Year and it was hoped to arrange for the Referendum to be held to coincide with the Police & Crime Commissioners Election in May 2016.

**15/252. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.**

a) Letter from Peterborough City Council inviting Councillors to the Local Transport Plan Consultation event at Peterborough City Council, Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am to 5.00pm or to complete a questionnaire if unable to attend the event.

Information noted and Councillors resolved not to respond to the consultation.

b) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council advising of the need to make savings of £41 million in the next financial year and advising of a budget consultation ending on the 8<sup>th</sup> November.

Information noted by Councillors.

c) Email from RES advising that they intend to arrange a meeting of representatives from the various parishes to discuss how the wind farm fund will operate and to identify panel members for grants to be awarded in the Spring of 2016.

The Chairman advised that a date had now been set for the meeting which was to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Councillors resolved that the Chairman would represent the Parish Council on the panel.

d) Letter from the Local Government Boundary Commission advising that the consultation period for the City of Cambridge only had been extended and therefore their final recommendations will not now be published until 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016 instead of the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

Information noted by Councillors.

e) Newsletter from Cambridgeshire County Council.

Councillors with email requested a copy of the newsletter.

**15/253. Update report on the water supply to the building plot adjacent to The Cage.**

Councillors resolved to exclude the public and press in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 19 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be discussed.

Anglian Water had connected the water supply to the building plot. Our Insurers had now passed our claim onto a firm of Solicitors. Evidence had been obtained in respect of the front boundary of the building plot confirming that the storage container was on Parish Council land.

Councillors resolved to take no action pending communication from the Solicitors acting for our insurers.

**15/254. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.**

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

The Clerk was requested to report the pot holes and general poor condition of Seadyke Bank, the road surface cracking along Murrow Bank, the footpath outside Cannon House, Main Road, the damaged fence around the triangle following a recent road accident and the overgrown hedges opposite the bowling green obstructing the footpath. Councillors also expressed concern over the amount of mud being left on the roads.

The Chairman reported that the footpath outside the school had now been repaired.

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

Councillor Spriggs advised that the street light outside 16 Fen Road was leaning over and should be reported.

c) Update on the parish street light replacements and the independent survey.

The independent survey would be completed very shortly. The Chairman advised that he had now studied the Technical Report provided by the District Council and could find no reference to street lights rated as category 2 requiring replacement within 3 years and had raised this with Councillor King who had subsequently agreed to request clarification from Belfour Beatty

d) Update on the Local Highway Improvement schemes for Sealeys Lane footpath and the Bellamy Bridge junction.

The Chairman advised that he had met on site with an Officer from the County Council Highways to discuss the footpath along Sealeys Lane. It was being proposed that the first stage of the footpath should start at the top of Sealeys Lane on the opposite side of the road to the existing houses. An application for a further section of footpath along Sealeys Lane had been submitted for the Local Highways Bids for 2016/2017. The merits of combining the two schemes, if our application for next year is successful, had been discussed and reference to this had been made in our application for 2016/2017.

It was also suggested that an application be made to the District Council under the Rural Capital Grants scheme for additional grant funding for the 2016/2017 scheme if our application was successful.

Three options had been put forward by the County Council for improvements to the Bellamy Bridge junction and Wisbech St Mary Parish Council had discussed these at their last meeting and agreed to support Option 1.

Councillors resolved to invite the Officer managing the scheme to attend the next Parish Council Meeting to discuss the options being put forward in view of reservations over the effectiveness of option 1 resolving the problem.

e) Results of the questionnaire distributed along Back Road, Murrow by District Councillor Bligh.

Councillors agreed that the results appeared to be inconclusive as a wide range of alternatives and suggestions had been made by the residents.

Councillors resolved to provide Wisbech St Mary Parish Council with a copy of the collated results and to wait for Councillor Bligh's comments.

The Chairman advised that Wisbech St Mary Parish Council had submitted an application to the County Council under the Local Highways Improvements Initiative for improvements to Pidgeon's Corner junction with Back Road, Seadyke Bank and Silvers Lane.

f) Over grown trees on the public By Way at Elbow Lane.

The Chairman advised that he had received a complaint that agricultural vehicles could not get down the lane in view of the over grown trees.

Councillors resolved for this to be reported to the County Council.

**15/255. To consider information obtained on applying for approval of premises as venues for Civil Marriages & Partnerships.**

The Clerk advised that the information obtained to date indicated that an application for a licence would have to be made to the local authority involving a fee together with assurances that the building was a suitable venue with adequate space and facilities and complied with all Health & Safety Regulations. Planning permission may also have to be obtained for change of use. Councillors resolved to take no further action at the present time.

**15/256. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

Councillor Cook enquired if the Parish Council would agree to submit the Planning Application on behalf of the Amenities 95 Committee for the village hall. Councillors agreed that this would be acceptable as they were Custodian Trustees.

**15/257. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

Councillor Killingworth asked if a response had been received from the Thomas Clarkson Academy regarding the school bus pick up point. The Clerk advised that as no response had been received a reminder would be sent.

**15/258. Any other business (information items only).**

Councillors reported that dog fouling was a problem on the footbridge at Swan Bridge and it was agreed to ask the District Council to carry out patrols in this area.

**15/259. To confirm dates for future Council meetings for 2015/2016.**

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

Meeting closed 9.50pm