

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 13th April 2016.

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), C Bates, J Cook, J Hunt, C Killingworth & P Williams.
County Councillor G Gillick and 4 members of the public.

16/66. To receive apologies for absence.

No apologies had been received.

16/67. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests for Dispensations.

16/68. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Cllr Cook declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No.16/82 as he is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Committee.

Cllr Spriggs advised that he would leave the room whilst Agenda Item 16/74 d) was being discussed.

Cllr Booth declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Items Numbered 16/79 c) as he resides at John Bends Way and 16/81 as he is a Garden Allotment tenant.

16/69. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

The applicant for the planning application listed under Agenda Item Number 16/74 d) advised that he had been in communication with the District Council in September regarding the removal of the trees and bushes on the plot for the proposed new dwelling and as far as he was aware he had provided them with all the information and notice required.

16/70. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th March 2016.

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

16/71. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 9th March 2016. (Information only).

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

16/72. Community Police Officers Report.

An email had been received by the Clerk advising of crimes in the Parish during March consisting of 1 shed burglary. Speeding in rural villages was still a key community concern and they have organised some speed enforcement operations in the north rural villages. They will endeavour to attend the primary school on a regular basis following recent complaints regarding inappropriate parking.

16/73. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

County Councillor Gillick provided Councillors with a copy of the Index of Multiple Deprivation for 2015 for the Waldersey Division. Devolution was discussed at a recent County Council Meeting but was not supported.

District Councillor Booth advised that the District Council were still considering the idea of Devolution. Extra funding was being provided by Central Government for repairing pot holes. Further consultation was being proposed regarding the County Council division boundaries in view of the number of complaints received on the current proposed division boundaries.

16/74. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

M Avory, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0190/F, Agent J Kendrick, erection of a 2 storey 5 bed dwelling with integral garage, plot 3 land east of The Cottage, 259 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application but to raise concerns over inadequate off road parking provision in view of the size of the proposed dwelling.

b) J Foster Planning Application No. F/YR16/0192/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, variation of conditions 4, 5 and 8 relating to planning permission F/YR14/0877/F (Erection of a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of stores to rear & side) to enable change of roof tile and facing brick type, change window casements from timber to plastic, reduction in number of roof lights & rainwater goods to be mock cast iron at Church Farm 315 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to object to this application as the requested changes were not sympathetic to the Church and surrounding area.

c) J Foster, Planning Application No F/YR16/0193/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates, variation of conditions 6 & 8, relating to planning permission F/YR14/0764/F (erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with detached 4 bay carport (2 bays for 315 Main Road, and 1.5m high front boundary wall, involving alterations to existing accesses & demolition of existing barns & part of existing dwelling) to enable change of roof tile & facing brick type, change window casements from timber to plastic & rainwater goods to be mock cast iron.

Councillors resolved to object to this application as the requested changes were not sympathetic to the Church and surrounding area.

d) P Boreman, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0216/F, Agent Morton Hall Ltd., erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling on land west of 27 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Cllr Spriggs left the room for this Agenda Item.

Councillors resolved to support the application subject to the materials used being sympathetic and compliment the adjoining building and the Conservation area.

e) Z John, Planning Application No F/YR16/0220/F, Agent D Taylor, erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling involving the demolition of existing dwelling within a Conservation Area, Heathfield House, 30 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support this application as it would improve the street scene.

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

L.A. Allen, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0025/F, Agent D Broker, erection of a 3 storey 6 bed dwelling with detached garage on land west of 114 Main Road, Parson Drove.

R Goy, Planning Application No F/YR15/0845/F, Agent Swann Edwards, Architecture, erection of 5 two storey dwellings comprising of 3 five bed roomed and 2 four bed roomed dwellings with double garages, on land north of 15 – 27 Mill Road, Murrow.

Information noted by Councillors.

g) Email response received from FDC regarding our queries on the guidance notes provided by them regarding a pre-application consultation exercise in the event that the village threshold of 10% as specified in Policy LP12 of the Local Plan is exceeded.
Response noted by Councillors but it was considered that the reply did not provide enough clarification and the Chairman agreed to raise this matter at the next Fenland District Council Meeting.

16/75. Accounts & Finance

a). Councillors resolved to approve the following invoices for payment.
Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £521.78. L.G.A. 1972 s112.
Fenland District Council, rates for the Cage, £242. L.G.A. 1972 s133.
NALC, annual LCR subscription renewal, £17. L.G.A. 1972 s143.
North Level District Internal Drainage Board, drainage rates for the Allotments and Riverside Garden Allotments, £156.88. S. H. & A. A. 1908 ss23.
Citizens Advice Rural Cambs, Outreach Session, £78.70. L.G.A. 1972 s142.
EON, electricity for the Cage, £88.95. L.G.A. 1972 s133.

b) Request from Magpas for a grant/donation.
Councillors resolved to refuse this request as the limited funds available should be given to parish groups and organisations and a large annual donation is given to this organisation by the Car Bike & Trike Show Committee.

c) Request from East Anglia's Children's Hospices for a grant/donation.
Councillors resolved to refuse this request as the limited funds available should be given to parish groups and organisations.

d) To approve the completion by the Chairman of the Corporate Governance Statement required by the Internal Auditors.
The Corporate Governance Statement was completed by the Chairman and approved by Councillors.

e) To approve the Receipts & Payments, Bank Reconciliation and Budget reports for the year ending 31st March 2016.
Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented by the Clerk.

f) Notification from the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation that a grant from the Wyrde Croft Wind Farm Community Fund of £3,120 has been allocated to the Council for the installation of swings on the village green and requesting completion of the grant acceptance form. Also requesting information on how the preferred quotation was selected.
Councillors resolved to accept the grant offer of £3,120 and to accept the cheapest quotation received from Fenland Leisure Products Ltd., for the supply and installation of a two swing frame and supply and installation of safagrass complete with turf surfacing.
As the quotation specified 2 flat swing seats Councillors requested that one of these be changed to a cradle seat.

16/76. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.

The Chairman advised that the group's next meeting was on the 28th April when they would start to prepare the draft policies based on the findings from the questionnaire.

16/77. To review the complaints procedure and consider adopting a revised Policy.

Councillors were provided with a copy of the Policy recommended by CAPALC and resolved to adopt a Policy based on this model.

16/78. To discuss any issues raised at the recent Golden Age Fair held in the village hall.

The Chairman advised that the Fair was poorly attended. The two issues raised were the footpath along Sealeys Lane not being suitable for pushchairs and the disabled in view of the location of the signage within the footpath and a query on why a parishioner did not qualify for the reduction in their electricity in relation to the Wyrde Croft Wind Farm development.

16/79. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

Letter from Emmanuel & Southea Parochial Church Council regarding the fencing around the churchyard extension.

Councillors noted the request by the Parochial Church Council that a fence is not erected but the boundary marked by 4 concrete marker posts. The PCC were also offering to accept responsibility for any future fencing requirement.

Councillors resolved to proceed on the basis requested by the PCC and for the Clerk to obtain quotations for the installation of the concrete marker posts.

b) Letter from Circle Housing responding to our complaint regarding the use of the land at the top of Springfield Road.

Councillors were informed that Circle Housing had agreed to allow a resident to use this land subject to them not putting any structure or vehicle on it. Circle Housing had therefore contacted the resident and the shed and trailer had since been removed.

c) Letter of thanks from Murrow Book Cafe for the donation of £50.

Noted By Councillors

d) Email from Mr Bowditch, Stormbay Developments regarding the easement for the water supply pipe and the footpath from the front gate of the new house to join the Council's existing footpath. Email advice received from Solicitors, Carbon Law Partners.

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 for this Agenda Item.

Mr Bowditch had responded advising that he would not accept any of our proposals and was making arrangements for Anglian Water to move the water metre. Our Solicitors had contacted Mr Bowditch for clarification on this matter.

e) Email from CAPALC attaching the March Bulletin.

Noted by Councillors.

16/80. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

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

Councillors reported the road edges falling away along Fen Road and at Church End leaving large pot holes. Pot holes opposite Dealoves Farm, Long Drove and at Ingham Hall Gardens with the junction to Brewery Close. Over grown hedges and trees obstructing the footpath outside the telephone exchange and further along Fen Road.

The Clerk had been informed of a problem with earth and grass from the verge being pushed onto the footpath leading up to Clough Bridge and had already reported this to the County Council.

b) Email from the Local Highway Improvements Team regarding the first section of footpath for Sealeys Lane.

Our complaint regarding the position of the signage in the new section of footpath was being look into in relation to the cost of having the signage moved but this could result in an additional cost which the Parish Council would have to pay.

c) Email from the County Council Highways advising that John Bends Way was adopted by them at the end of October 2015.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) Faulty Street lights to be reported to the County Council.

Councillors advised that the street light outside Snips was still not working.

e) Update report regarding Parish Street Lighting.

The Chairman advised that there had been no further progress on this matter but he had been informed that Balfour Beatty's contract had been extended by 3 months.

f) Emails from Balfour Beatty advising of their proposed work to County Council street lights on Fen Road and Main Road commencing on 2nd June and requesting the Parish Council's comments by the 20th April.

Councillors were unable to understand the full extent of the working being proposed from the information provided and resolved to ask for clarification.

Councillors resolved not to accept the proposed changes to the street light in the traffic island at Swan Bridge and to request that this light is replaced with a similar heritage style street light at no cost to the Parish Council.

16/81. Request by Riverside Garden Allotment Tenants for each allotment garden to be clearly identified with boundary posts and garden numbers.

Councillors resolved to provide metal boundary marker posts with numbered signs. Clerk to obtain quotations.

16/82. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook advised that the Citizens Advice Bureau sessions had ceased due to the loss of funding. The deadline for the receipt of tenders for the work to the village hall was the 25th April. The Annual General Meeting was being held on Friday 6th May.

16/83. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

There were no questions asked by Councillors

16/84. Any other business (information items only).

There was no items raised by Councillors.

16/85. Dates for future Council meetings.

The next meeting was confirmed as the Annual Parish Council Meeting and would be held on Wednesday 11th May at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 9.35pm