

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 8th June 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 & 1 member of the public.

16/107. To receive apologies for absence.

No apologies had been received.

16/108. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests from Councillors for Dispensations.

16/109. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Cllr Cook declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 16/122 as he is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Committee.

The Chairman declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 16/121 as he is a Garden Allotment tenant.

16/110. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

The Parishioner welcomed the extension of the 40mph speed limit at Church End but stated that unfortunately sometimes motorists do not adhere to it and therefore requested some speed checks at this location. The Chairman advised that a Speedwatch group was being established at Murrow and we could ask them if they would include Church End as the Parson Drove Speedwatch had ceased to operate.

16/111. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th May 2016.

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

16/112. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 11th May 2016. (Information only).

Councillors were informed that the County Council had responded to our request for repairs to the pot hole at Ingham Hall Gardens and Brewery Close advising that it did not warrant any action at the present time.

16/113. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk advised that no information on the crimes and incidences had been received for May from the Police.

16/114. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Gillick advised that Devolution was still being looked into by the County Council with a view of joining with Peterborough but they must still have a Mayor. Norfolk and Suffolk County Council were also considering joining together. The recent County Council Infrastructure meeting was all about how to make further budget cuts.

District Councillor Booth advised that the revised Licensing & Taxi Drivers Policies had been approved. The proposal regarding a License for landlords just for Wisbech was going forward and the final decision would be made by the Cabinet. Tenders were still being obtained for the District Council's street lighting contract. A meeting was being held on the 1st July regarding Devolution.

16/115. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

Notification that the following planning application has been withdrawn
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.
Information noted by Councillors.

Notification that the following Planning Application has been approved
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.
Information noted by Councillors.

16/116. Risk Assessment.

To arrange a date for the annual inspection of Parish Council Assets.
Councillors resolved to carry out the annual inspection of assets on Wednesday 6th July at 7.00pm.

16/117. Accounts & Finance

- a). Councillors resolved to approve the following invoices for payment.
Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £517.27. L.G.A. 1972 s 112.
Playsafety Ltd, ROSPA Annual Inspection Fee, £180.60. L.G.A. 1972 sch 14 para 27.
Anglian Water, water rates for The Cage, £15.62. L.G.A 1972 s133.
- b) Letter from The Royal British Legion asking for support for the Battle of the Somme 100 years ago by donating £15 for a Poppy at the Thiepval memorial.
Councillors resolved to give a donation of £15 for a Poppy. L.G.A. 1972 s 137.
- c) Letter from Cambridgeshire Lowland Search & Rescue asking for a donation.
Councillors resolved to refuse the request for a donation.

16/118. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.

The Chairman advised that the first draft of the Policies had now been completed and there would be a meeting shortly to finalise the drafts before they were forwarded to the District Council for their comments.

16/119. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

Emails from Carbon Law Partners, Solicitors, regarding the water supply pipe under the village green and the footpath from the front gate of the new house joining the Council's existing footpath.
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.
Councillors resolved to instruct Carbon Law Solicitors to proceed with legal proceedings in respect of the trespass relating to the laying of the water pipes over the village green.
Councillors resolved to start the process of applying to the Land Registry for registration of the small grass area currently unregistered.

b) Email from the County Council Highways inviting members to attend an Open Day on Wednesday 20th July 10.00am to 5.00pm.

The Chairman advised that he had already received an invitation to the Open Day and had responded requesting an opportunity to meet with the Highways Officers responsible for the Local Highway Improvement schemes. Cllr's Hunt and Williams expressed an interest in attending the Open Day and it was agreed to discuss and decide what Highway Issues they would raise on behalf of the Parish Council at the July Parish Council Meeting.

c) Letter from Fields in Trust and the Royal British Legion advising of the Centenary Fields Programme. The objective of the programme is to secure recreational spaces in perpetuity in honour of the memory of those who lost their lives in the Battle of the Somme.

Councillors resolved to pass this information onto the Amenities 95 Committee.

d) Invitation from CPRE to join them in celebrating 90 years of CPRE on Wednesday 6th July 10.00am to 4.00pm, at The Fleet, Peterborough.

There were no Councillors interested in attending this event.

16/120. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

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

The footpath outside the telephone exchange was still being obstructed by the over grown hedges and trees, Clerk to report this again.

There were pot holes to report along Silvers Lane, Fen Road and Long Drove.

Councillors reported problems with parking for the disabled outside the Church and it was agreed to ask the County Council if they could assist with this matter.

b) Email from the Local Highway Improvements Team regarding the footpath at Sealeys Lane.

The County Council had advised that there was now some funding available in the budget in relation to our application for the second phase of footpath along Sealeys Lane. The County Council were still waiting for a response regarding the cost of moving the illuminated sign from the first section of footpath recently installed.

c) Chairman's report on site meeting with Officer from the County Council and Chairman of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council regarding improvements to the junction of Back Road, Silvers Lane, Seadyke Bank and Front Road, Murrow.

The Chairman advised that he had met on site with the Chairman of Wisbech St Mary Parish Council and an Officer from the County Council to discuss improvements to this junction. It had been suggested that the speed limit be extended, signage improved, road markings re-freshed and the installation of a chicane at the entrance to Back Road. A plan detailing these proposal would be provided by the County Council in the near future.

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

Councillors reported that a street light outside No 37 The Bank was not working.

e) Update report regarding Parish Street Lighting.

The Chairman advised that no further progress had been made on this matter pending the outcome of the tendering process for the new contract by the District Council.

f) Email from Balfour Beatty regarding the intended work to County Council street lights on Main Road.

The Chairman advised that he had now received clearer photographs and plans detailing the proposed work. From this information it would appear that overall there would not be fewer street lights but a couple would be re-sited in a slightly different position. With regards to the heritage light in the triangle it was suggested that perhaps they might just replace the bulbs.

16/121. Riverside Garden Allotments.

To arrange a date for the annual inspection of the Fen Allotments and the Riverside Garden Allotments.

Councillors resolved to complete the inspection of the Gardens and Allotments on the same evening as the inspection of the assets, this being Wednesday 6th July.

16/122. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook advised that he had attended an event to discuss Big Lottery Grant Applications. This process was now in three stages and the Amenities 95 Committee would be submitting a stage 1 application to the Lottery for the Village Hall.

16/123. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillor Hunt enquired as to why only a small section of grass had recently been cut on the Byway near Elbow Lane, leaving the majority uncut resulting in this large section of the Byway unusable for walkers. Councillor Hunt also asked how often this grass should be cut by the County Council and if it was possible for the Parish Council to undertake this maintenance. The Clerk was requested to make enquiries with the County Council as the Chairman and Clerk were unable to answer all of the questions raised but did advise that these areas were not cut very often by the County Council due to budget cuts and the cost for the Parish Council to maintain this Byway was considerably more than the grant they would receive from the County Council.

16/124. Any other business (information items only).

The Chairman advised that he had received complaints about the over grown road side grass verges along Newlands Road.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had never maintained the verges down this road as they were previously maintained by the District Council before the houses were transferred to Roddons Housing Association.

The Chairman had contacted Roddons regarding this matter but had been informed that this area was not on their maintenance schedule. He would therefore make further enquires with the District Council.

Councillor Bates advised that she was holding a Tombola in September to raise funds for The Cage.

16/125. Dates for future Council meetings.

The date for the next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 13th July and the subsequent meetings would be held on the 10th August and 14th September 2016.

Meeting closed 8.50pm