

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 10th August 2016.

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

16/146. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Killingworth as she was on holiday.

16/147. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests from Councillors for dispensations.

16/148. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Cllr Cook declared a Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Items 16/155 b) and 16/161 as he is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Committee.

Cllr Spriggs declared a Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 16/154 g) and left the room whilst this Agenda Item was discussed as he is a close family member to the applicant.

Cllr Spriggs also left the room for Agenda Item No 16/154 d).

16/149. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

One member of the public asked for a progress report on the installation of numbered posts for the Riverside Garden Allotments. The Clerk advised that she had still not received a quotation. Cllr Spriggs offered to supply oak posts for £2.50 each and these could either have the Garden Allotment Number painted on the top or metal numbers could be purchased. The Chairman was asked about whether a new membrane was going to be laid in the Community Orchard or if the area was going to be grassed. A member of the public at the meeting volunteered to cut the grass if this option was taken and advised that there were some apples ready for picking.

The applicant for Planning Application listed on the Agenda No 16/154 d) explained that this application was an additional application to the one discussed at the last meeting and provided Councillors with clarification on the access and exact location in relation to the existing Farmhouse.

16/150. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th July 2016.

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

16/151. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 13th July 2016. (Information only)

Cllr Williams advised that the hedges at Johnsons Drove had now been cut back from the highway by the land owner.

16/152. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk advised that an email had been received providing information on the crimes in the Parish during July consisting of 1 business burglary where cash and stock was stolen and a car being set on fire. An area of concern is where youths have been riding mini moto bikes & quad type bikes and any information regarding this should be reported to the Police.

Speeding in rural villages is still a key community concern and in an effort to help combat these issues the Police have undertaken speed enforcement checks. During July in the north rural area 12 speeding tickets were issued and 19 motorists were given a verbal warning.

16/153. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

District Councillor Booth reported that the issue of street lighting was still being looked into and a meeting with Parish Councils would be held before a decision is made.

Councillor Booth had requested that the District Council take notice of the comments received regarding the proposed changes to the brown bin collection service before a final decision is made.

16/154. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) Mr & Mrs Fewings, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0564/F, Agent Calfordseaden, erection of a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling involving partial demolition of lobby, The Bungalow, Sealeys Lane, Parson Drive.

Councillors resolved to support the application and recommend approval is granted.

b) N Bates, Planning Application No F/YR16/0608/O, No Agent, erection of 2 dwellings involving the formation of a new access on land east of 385 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drive.

Councillors resolved by a majority vote to object to the application as they do not support infill development at Church End, it does not follow the natural building line, concerns over the access from the highway and off road parking.

c) Planning Application No F/YR16/0622/PNC04, change of use from agricultural building to a 2 storey, 2 bed dwelling at Barn South of Poplar Tree Farm, Long Drive, Parson Drive. Information noted by Councillors.

d) P Boreman. Planning Application No. F/YR16/0627/F, change of use of barn and erection of a single storey extension to the side to form a 3 bed dwelling, Barn West of 27 Main Road, Parson Drive.

Councillor resolved to support the application subject to the materials being sympathetic to the adjoining building and the Conservation area.

e) J Askey, Planning Application No F/YR16/0642/TRTPO, to fell 1 Cherry Tree, 1 Maple Tree, 1 Beech Tree and works to 3 Ash trees, Apple Crumble Cottage, Church End, Parson Drive.

Councillors resolved to support the application subject to the agreement of the Tree Officer.

f) A Dixon, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0635/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., for change of use of a barn to a Tea Room and agricultural land to a Ti-pee Camping Site on land south east of Manor Farm, 344 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drive.

Councillors resolved to support the application subject to an additional dedicated site access being provided at the eastern edge of the camping field as one site access would be inadequate for the volume of traffic and too close to the adjoining property. A condition is imposed to ensure the camping site is only open for a maximum of 9 months of the year.

g) A Spriggs, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0641/RM, Agent David Broker, Reserved Matters application relating to Planning Application No. F/YR12/0962/O for the erection of 4 three bed two storey dwellings on land North of 9 Riverside Gardens, Parson Drove. Councillors resolved to support the application subject to 3 parking bays being provided for each of the four dwellings and the layout of the parking bays for plot 3 being revised as they would appear to be inaccessible.

16/155. Accounts & Finance

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

Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £500.L.G.A.1972 s112.

EON, electricity for The Cage, £138.98. L.G.A. 1972 s133.

Fenland Leisure Projects Ltd., installation of new swings on the village green, £4,123.20.

L.G.M. P. A 1976 s 19.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions, quarterly rental and photocopier charges, £103.92.

L.G.A. 1972 s111.

GBSG, annual Cage alarm system service, £92.42. L.G.A 1972 s. 111.

b) Letter from the Amenities 95 Committee requesting a grant towards the refurbishment of the village hall.

Councillors resolved to provide a grant of £1,500 during this financial year which could if required be used as the Third Party Contribution if their WREN grant application is successful.

Councillors also resolved to consider giving further grant funding in the next financial year.

16/156. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.

The Chairman presented the draft Planning Policies to Councillors and explained that these would have to be approved by the District Council. Cambridgeshire ACRE do not provide technical planning advice and therefore professional advice would have to be obtained from a planning expert. This would incur a cost and Councillors resolved to approve expenditure up to £2,000 to cover these professional fees.

16/157. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received. Email from Carbon Law Partners, Solicitors regarding the water supply pipe to the development next to The Cage.

The Clerk advised that the Solicitors had confirmed that as the water pipes had now been laid at a location permitted by the Grant Of Easement and therefore providing the land had been reinstated satisfactory and the original water metre and supply pipes removed from behind the Cage the matter was now resolved. Councillors resolved to accept that the land had been reinstated satisfactory, the original water metre had been removed and it would appear that the water supply pipes had also been removed therefore the matter was now concluded.

b) Letter from Cllr John Clark, Fenland District Council advising of the public consultation on the proposed Devolution for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.

This matter was discussed at the last Council Meeting when it was agreed that the Council did not support the proposed Devolution for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough and the Clerk had therefore already responded accordingly.

c) Letter from North Level District Internal Drainage Board inviting 2 Councillors to attend the annual day visit on Wednesday 5th October.

Cllr Cook was the only member wishing to attend this visit and therefore Councillors resolved for the Clerk to respond accordingly.

d) Email from a Research Student, University of Greenwich investigating the potential of bats to act as agents of pest control in agriculture and asking for assistance in identifying sites 2km from St John the Baptist Church, Church End, Parson Drove where insect traps could be sited. Cllr Williams advised that she was aware of this research and knew some land owners who would be interested in taking part and would be happy to respond to this email request. Councillors therefore resolved for Cllr Williams to respond to the request.

16/158. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

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

Councillors reported the over grown hedge up to Clough Bridge, damaged wood surround in the triangle at the Swan Bridge junction and the poor condition of the road surface at Church End as there are now several large dips.

The overgrown hedge along Silvers Lane was also raised but this matter had already been reported to the Clerk who had raised this with the County Council Highways.

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

The County Council had confirmed that the relocation of the lit sign in the first section of footpath would be included in the costs for the second section of footpath to be completed under the Local Highways Improvement scheme for 2016/2017.

c) To receive feedback report following attendance at the County Council Highways Open Day on the 20th July.

The Chairman advised that it had been indicated that Seadyke Bank and Silvers Lane may be re-surfaced next year. The extension of the 40mph speed limit up to Clough Bridge would have to be funded by the Parish Council if we submitted another LHI bid for 2017/2018 for a further section of footpath along Sealeys Lane. The cost for the speed limit extension could be £1,000 to £2,000 but the County Council would confirm this in due course.

d) Email from the County Council regarding the Culvert Bridge, Bridge Drove, Parson Drove. The County Council had responded advising that the culvert bridge was the responsibility of North Level Internal Drainage Board and they would contact them again regarding the repairs.

Councillors resolved to respond advising that this response was not acceptable as the County Council had previously promised to undertake this work.

e) Update report regarding Parish Street Lighting.

The Chairman advised that Cllr King had not yet arranged the meeting originally expected to take place during August.

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

Councillors advised that the street light on Swan Bridge was not working.

16/159. Riverside Garden Allotments.

To report on responses received to letters sent to tenants following the annual inspection of the Riverside Garden Allotments.

The Clerk advised that the tenant for Riverside Garden Allotment Number 7A had requested that the tenancy be ended.

The tenant currently occupying Allotment Garden 7B wished to take over this allotment and as there were no other applicants on the waiting list this was agreed.

The tenant of 8B had confirmed that he would tidy up his Allotment Garden but had requested assistance in clearing and demolishing the old shed. Councillors agreed that further clarification was required to ensure the tenant was referring to the correct shed and indeed the correct allotment garden.

16/160. Feedback report on CAPALC's Catch Up Training Day.

Cllr Williams advised that the training day had been very good and informative covering Partnership Working, Neighbourhood Planning, Finance & Audit requirements, Insurance, Risk Assessment and Risk Management, Planning and the National Planning Policy, the Local Councils Award Scheme and the Delegation of Services to Parish and Town Councils. Some of the information received was given to the Clerk for future reference.

16/161. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Cllr Cook advised that the grant funding applications were on going for the village hall refurbishment.

16/162. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillor Bates enquired if any Citizens Advice Bureau sessions were going to be held in the village this year. The Chairman advised that these sessions have ceased due to the poor attendance during the last year.

16/163. Any other business (information items only).

The Clerk advised that there had been another accident the previous day at the Swan Bridge junction.

16/164. Dates for future Council meetings.

The next Council Meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 14th September at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 9.50pm