

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 8th February 2017.

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), J Cook, J Hunt, C Killingworth, D Markillie & P Williams.
PCSO H Norton-Smith & PCSO D Russ. 2 members of the public.

17/28. To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies received.

17/29. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests from members for dispensations.

17/30. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Cllr Cook declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 17/44 as he is an Officers of the Amenities 95 Committee.

17/31. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

Mr Boreman explained the changes that had been made to his planning application in order to address the issues raised by the Conservation Officer on the previous application that had been refused by the District Council.

17/32. Inspector Davis, invited guest speaker.

Inspector Davis did not attend the meeting as expected.

17/33. To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on the 11th and 18th January 2017.

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

17/34. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 11th and 18th January 2017. (Information only).

The Clerk informed members that our nomination for Mr Sanderson and Guest to attend the Queens Garden Party at Buckingham Palace had not been successful.

The Chairman informed members that District Councillor King had contacted him to report on his enquiries regarding the ownership of the street lights at Springfield Road. Cllr King had been advised by Officers at the District Council that the ownership of the street lights had not been transferred to Roddons Housing Association as they were not situated on their property. The Chairman advised that they were actually situated in the gardens and the Clerk agreed to check her records for photographs to substantiate this.

Clarification had been received from the District Council regarding the consultation on the Public Spaces Protection Order confirming that the fenced play area on the playing field would continue to be subject to a Dog Ban.

17/35. Community Police Officers Report.

A verbal report was given to members by the PCSO's advising of 1 burglary in the parish during January. Speeding continued to be an issue but unfortunately they had been unable to carry out any speed checks in the last month due to lack of resources. 4 or 5 volunteers were still needed to set up a Speedwatch group for the village.

Hare coursing still remains to be a problem in various rural areas and extra patrols are continuing throughout rural villages in order to combat this problem. There have been several incidents recently where number plates have been stolen from cars and shed burglaries. The next Community Contact Point will be at Gorefield Community Centre on Tuesday 21st February and it is hoped to hold one every month in one of the villages. The Clerk agreed to liaise with PCSO Norton-Smith in order to arrange for a Community Contact Point to be held in The Cage during April or May.

17/36. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

District Councillor Booth informed members that the Chief Financial Officer would be leaving the District Council in the near future. Members of the LEP were being asked to attend a meeting of the District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee to discuss why Fenland was not getting any of their funding as recently reported in the local press.

17/37. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) T Jarvis, Planning Application No. F/YR17/0003/O, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd, for the erection of a dwelling on land west of 117 Back Road, Murrow.

Councillors resolved to object to this application due to the lack of infrastructure in relation to the inadequate road and lack of footpaths. The responses from the consultation questionnaire for the emerging Neighbourhood Plan also reiterated this view.

b) P Boreman, Planning Application No. F/YR17/0012/F, Agent Morton Hall Ltd, for the erection of a part 2 storey, part single storey 5 bed dwelling involving the demolition of existing barns on land north of 23 and 27 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support this application subject to materials being used to compliment the neighbouring properties and the Conservation Area.

c) C Hopper, Planning Application No F/YR17/0019/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd, for variation of condition 13 to enable amendments to approved plans of planning permission F/YR15/0845/F (erection of 5 two storey dwellings comprising of 3 five bed and 2 four bed with double garages) for Plot 1 only to change position of garage, removal of ground floor rear projection and internal amendments.

Councillors resolved to raise no objections to this application.

d) Letter from Fenland District Council advising that as from 1st July 2017 all planning application consultations for Town and Parish Councils will only be sent by email and available on their website.

Councillors resolved to respond to this letter advising of their objections to the changes in view of the additional work and expenses this will cause by having to print paper copies of planning applications for Councillors to view at Parish Council Meetings. Plans printed on A4 pages will make it difficult to determine the full details of the proposed layout and designs. To also point out that some Councillors do not have access to a computer or their website.

Councillor Killingworth raised the Alderman Payne Primary Schools concerns regarding the delay in erecting the boundary wall for plots 1 and 2 for the development of 4 dwellings on land north east of 2 The Bank. Councillors suggested that the school approach the developers about their concerns in the first instance and hopefully they would receive a satisfactory response.

17/38. Accounts & Finance

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following invoices for payment.
Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £507.24. L.G.A. 1972 s 112.
Konica Minolta Business Solutions Ltd., photocopier rental charges £119.28.
L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

b) To approve payment of a donation to St Marks Methodist Church for the use of the Church for the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting.

Councillors resolved to give a donation of £50. L.G.A. 1972 s 134.

17/39. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.

The Chairman informed members that he was still trying to arrange a meeting with an Officer from Fenland District Council to resolve the issues they had raised on the draft Planning Policies.

17/40. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

Letter from Anglian Water Services advising that as from 1st April 2017 they will no longer provide water and waste water to non- household customers and these customers will be transferred to Anglian Water Business Limited or you may choose another provider.
Information noted by Councillors.

17/41. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

a) Highway issues to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.
Councillor Williams informed members that the County Council highways department had marked the road at Church End where it was needing urgent attention so it was hoped that this matter would soon be resolved. There were no new highway issues raised by Councillors.

b) Update report regarding Parish Street Lighting.

The Chairman informed members that he had attended a meeting the previous evening with representatives from various other Parish Councils and a representative from one of the Street Lighting Companies following receipt of two quotations indicating the cost for the replacement of the streetlights and the future maintenance contract. Councillors considered the two quotations received and resolved to proceed with a survey of all the streetlights at a cost of £1,575 to ascertain how many street lights needed replacing or could be repaired. Councillors resolved not to make a decision on the future maintenance contract until confirmation had been obtained from Fenland District Council as to whether the maintenance budget would be devolved to the Parish Council if they opted out of the Balfour Beatty maintenance contract and made their own arrangements. Further information was also required from the preferred Contractor regarding the costs for the maintenance contract.

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

Councillors reported several street lights not working for the Clerk to report.

17/42. Review of the Parish Councils Risk Assessment for Assets & Finance.

Councillors reviewed the risk assessment for the assets and the risk assessment for finance and resolved to re-adopt them with no amendments made. The Clerk advised that a window had recently been broken in the bus shelter and repairs were being arranged.

17/43. To discuss Councillor Training.

The Chairman informed members that C&PALC would be prepared to provide Outreach Training Sessions at a cost of £350 per session. Councillors agreed that training on some topics would not be required, topics suggested for inclusion in the training session were Code Of Conduct, Register of Interests, Meeting Procedures and Parish Council Powers. Councillors resolved to consider the topics further before a final decision was made. Councillors also suggested that Members from Neighbouring Parish Council be invited to attend the training session.

17/44. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook informed members that the grant application to WREN was nearly completed ready for submission before the end of February.

17/45. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

There were no questions raised by Councillors.

17/46. Any other business (information items only).

Councillors Spriggs informed members that he had repaired the wooden post and the metal hooks ready for reinstating on the village green, outside No 26 The Bank, in the near future. Complaints had been received about dogs being allowed to go onto the Riverside Allotment Gardens and fouling.

The Chairman had attended the LHI panel meeting earlier in the day to make representations on behalf of the Parish Council for the bid to install the third section of footpath along Sealeys Lane.

17/47. Dates for future Council meetings.

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 8th March at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 9.10pm.