

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

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), J Cook, J Hunt, C Killingworth & D Markillie.
Inspector Davis & Fenland District Councillor S King.

17/48. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllr P Williams.

17/49. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests for dispensations from Councillors.

17/50. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Cook declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No.17/64 as he is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Committee.

17/51. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

17/52. Inspector Davis, invited guest speaker.

Inspector Davis apologised for not attending the previous meeting as arranged due to unavoidable circumstances.

Inspector Davis explained that he was responsible for all PC's and PCSO's in Fenland. Due to lack of resources it was not possible to attend Parish Council Meetings but if it was really necessary an Officer would attend a meeting to discuss a particular issue. More people were responding to the online survey than ever attended the Horizon Bus so this was proving to be more effective although they will continue to organise the Community Contact Points in conjunction with Fenland District Council when resources allow. Hare coursing was still a great challenge and discussions took place on how actions might be improved upon to deal with this matter. Speed Enforcement is still the biggest issue that people raise but they are struggling to get Speedwatch teams started and due to limited resources are not always able to respond to requests for Speed Checks.

17/53. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th February 2017.

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

17/54. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 8th February 2017. (Information only).

The wooden post and iron work had been reinstated on the village green by Cllr Spriggs but the Clerk had received a complaint about the amount of adhesive left on the post. Cllr Spriggs advised that this was intentionally left at the time but he was going to remove it in the near future.

Councillor Killingworth advised that the Alderman Payne School had approached the developers regarding the development to the rear of The Bank and the delay in the building of the boundary wall for plots 1 and 2. The developers had stated that this should be built during the Easter holidays or if not soon afterwards.

17/55. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk had received an email advising that no crimes had been reported in the Parish during February. A Community Contact Point would be held in The Cage on Wednesday 12th April between 10.00am and 11.00am and the Clerk was arranging for this to be advertised in Village Voices.

17/56. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Fenland District Councillor Booth advised that the Council Tax had been published in the local newspaper. Some residents had queried why food waste could not be put in the brown bins after 31st March. The reason for this was because the District Council are not allowed to charge for the collection of food waste and as from 1st April the charge for the collection of the Brown Bins would be implemented.

Some confusion had recently arisen regarding Community Benefit payments for new developments and clarification had been received from the Planning Department advising that Parish Councils must refer to any Community Benefits agreements discussed when they respond to Planning Applications and request a Planning Condition be imposed in order for the District Council to draw up the required agreement.

17/57. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

P Allen, Planning Application No F/YR17/0172/F for the erection of a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling, 21 The Bank, Parson Drove.

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

b) K Codona, Planning Application No F/YR17/0170/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., for change of use of land to form a travellers site for 4 caravans, washrooms/toilet blocks, bin store and bunding to site perimeter on land east of Dragonfly Cottage, Seadyke Bank, Murrow.

Councillors resolved to object to the application on the grounds that the application was not sustainable, the site was too far from the village centre so lacked any amenities and concerns over possible flooding.

c) R Goy, Planning, Application No F/YR17/0166/TRCA, for works to 5 Lime trees in a Conservation Area, Southea Emmanuel Church, 37 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application and recommend approval is granted subject to no objections being raised by the Tree Officer.

d) Notification from Fenland District Council that Planning Application No. F/YR17/0003/O, T Jarvis, for the erection of a dwelling on land west of 117 Back Road, Murrow has been approved.

Information noted by Councillors

e) Email from Fenland District Council asking for suggestion on a road name for the development of 4 dwellings off The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to propose the name of Mader Close for the new development.

17/58. Accounts & Finance

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following invoices for payment.
 Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £515.56. L.G.A. 1972 s112.
 Open Spaces Society, annual membership fee £45. L.G.A. 1972 s143.
 Anglian Water, water rates for The Cage, £11.57. L.G.A. 1972 s133.
 Paul Tibbs Ltd., replacement of broken window in the bus shelter, £96. L.G.M. P.A. 1953 s4
 Bowles Tree & Garden Services, to pollard Lime tree outside 24 The Bank, £650. Open
 Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10.
 Bowles Tree & garden Services, general maintenance of trees on the village green, £1,200.
 Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10.

b) To consider quotations received for the annual grounds maintenance and grass cutting.
 The Clerk advised that two quotations had been received. Councillors resolved to continue
 with the current contractor.

c) Request from Murrow Book Café for a grant.
 Councillors resolved to give a grant of £50. L.G.A. 1972 s 137.

17/59. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.

The Chairman advised that he and another member of the working group had met with
 Officers from Fenland District Council to discuss the draft Planning Policies and they had
 received some useful guidance and advice. Amendments were now being made to the draft
 Policies and once completed further public consultation would take place.

17/60. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

Invitation from the Parochial Church Council of Emmanuel Church to a Service for the
 Consecration of the Burial Ground and a Blessing of the reordered works in Church by the
 Bishop of Huntingdon on Thursday 16th March at 11.00am.
 The Chairman and Councillors Spriggs and Markillie agreed to attend the Service.

b) Email from C&PALC consulting on their draft Membership Agreement.
 Councillors resolved to support the draft Membership Agreement and requested the Clerk
 complete the response questionnaire.

17/61. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

Highway issues to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.
 The uneven surface and dips in the road reported 3 months ago at Church End had still not
 been repaired. Councillors also reported a dip in the road near the Doctors Surgery at Church
 End.

b) Update report regarding Parish Street Lighting.
 Fenland District Councillor S King informed Councillors that Balfour Beatty had not
 provided an adequate level of service for the last 6 months as they had been concentrating on
 the PFI work and he apologised for this lack of service. Balfour Beatty had assured the
 District Council that their service will improve. The new maintenance contract with Balfour
 Beatty for the street lights had still not been completed and signed by the District Council and
 they were now looking into obtaining an alternative quotation from another contractor. The
 Parish Council would be receiving a letter detailing exactly what would be involved if they
 opted to arrange their own maintenance contract with another contractor.

The Parish Councils request for confirmation that the maintenance budget would be devolved to the Parish Council was still being considered.

The issue of ownership of the street lights at Springfield Road was being looked into.

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

There were no faulty street lights to be reported.

17/62. To discuss Councillor Training.

Councillors resolved to request C&PALC provide an Outreach Training Session on a Wednesday evening during May covering the topics suggested at the last Council meeting. The Clerk advised that Wisbech St Mary Parish Council had been approached to see if they would be interested in attending the training session. Councillors also resolved to approach Fenland District Council to enquire if they would provide a Planning Training session.

17/63. Request to FACT for shuttle link to X1 Bus service at Guyhirn.

Although an approach had been made to FACT two years ago to look into providing a shuttle link to the X1 bus service at Guyhirn no progress had been made. Councillors therefore suggested that Wisbech St Mary Parish Council be approached to enquire if they would consider making a joint application to the Wryde Croft Wind Farm Community Fund to obtain a grant to fund a pilot scheme in order to see how sustainable a shuttle link to the X1 Bus service at Guyhirn would be.

17/64. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

Councillor Cook advised that grant applications had been submitted to WREN and The Big Lottery for the refurbishment of the village hall.

17/65. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

Councillor Hunt asked why there were no chevrons on the corners at Highside. The Chairman advised that there had been some in the past but they were knocked down following an accident and we had asked for them to be replaced.

17/66. Any other business (information items only).

Councillor Spriggs advised that the edges of the village green had been damaged by vehicles parking outside the development site along The Bank and as it was a planning condition that construction vehicles park on the development site this should be referred to the District Council Planning department for enforcement.

Councillor Spriggs advised that he had received complaints that a wooden building was being erected on land north of Avondale, Fen Road, fronting Swan Gardens when the planning permission granted was for the development of a single storey 3 bed dwelling with integral garage.

17/67. Dates for future Council meetings.

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 12th April at 7.00pm in The Cage. The Annual Parish Assembly Meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 26th April at 7.30pm in St Marks Church.

Meeting closed 8.55pm.