

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 13th December 2017.

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), J Hunt & C Killingworth.
16 members of the public.

17/226. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received and were accepted from Cllrs J Cook, D Markillie, P Spriggs & P Williams all due to illness.

17/227. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests from members for Dispensations.

17/228. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Cllr Hunt declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 17/238 as he is a member of the Amenities 95 Committee.

The Chairman declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 17/235 c) as he is a Riverside Garden Allotment tenant.

Cllr Killingworth declared a Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 17/234 g) as her daughter is related to the applicant.

17/229. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

Several parishioners raised their objections and concerns over the proposed development of 10 Bungalows with the demolition of the King William, 27 The Bank. Concerns raised were:-

The loss of Grade 1 agricultural land,

Encroachment into the open countryside,

Concerns over the road not being wide enough resulting in damage to the village green,

Noise and inconvenience during construction,

The loss of the King William,

Was there a need for 10 more bungalows in the village?

Is there sufficient infrastructure in place such as the Doctors and Primary School places?

Low water pressure,

Mud on the access road which would also be the access to the surrounding agricultural land.

A parishioner also raised his annoyance at not being able to contact the County Council by telephone to request a form for completion applying to install a dropped kerb at his property. He was informed that this could only be done on line which was difficult for the elderly and anyone who did not own a computer. The Chairman advised that he sympathised with the Parishioner but believed that requests and reports could also be completed over the telephone and we would make enquires with the County Councillor.

17/230. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th November 2017.

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

17/231. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 8th November 2017. (Information only)

The Chairman advised that he has been unable to attend the C&PALC's Annual General Meeting.

17/232. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk had received an email report advising that there were no reported crimes in the Parish for November. However there had been several shed burglaries in other rural villages during November and the theft of heating oil also remained a problem. There had also been numerous reports of Hare coursing.

17/233. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

District Councillor Booth advised that a full District Council Meeting was being held the following day. An Overview & Scrutiny Meeting was being held on the 8th January when issues relating to the lack of heating and hot water for the Housing Association tenants would be discussed.

17/234. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

a) Mr & Mrs L Upton, Planning Application No. F/YR17/1047/F, Agent Grahame Seaton Design Ltd, for the change of use of land to a traveller's site involving the siting of 2 mobile homes and 2 tourer vans & erection of a 1.2 metre high post & rail fencing on land at Sealeys Lane, Parson Drove.

Councillors had been contacted by several residents objecting to this planning application. Councillors resolved to object to the application as the site was unsuitable for any development due to the lack of infrastructure, located in flood zone 3, unsustainable and also questioned the need for additional traveller sites.

b) Mr & Mrs Geoghegan, Planning Application No. F/YR17/1053/F, Agent David Broker Design Services, for the erection of a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 261 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application and recommend approval.

c) Mr B Vasey, Planning Application No. F/YR17/0124/VOC, Agent David Broker Design Services, for variation of condition 10 for Plot 3 relating to Planning Permission F/YR16/1012/F erection of 4 two storey 3 bed dwellings) to amend shape & design of dwelling on plot 3 including change from 2 storey to single storey land north of 9 Riverside Gardens, Parson Drove.

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

d) Mr G Fisher, Planning Application No F/YR17/1080/F, Agent Morton & Hall Ltd., for the erection of a 2 storey 2 bed dwelling involving the formation of a new access on land west of 79 Back Road, Murrow.

Councillors resolved to object to this application in view of the lack of infrastructure along Back Road, Murrow in relation to the inadequate width of the road and lack of footpaths.

e) C Cox, Planning Application No. F/YR17/1092/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., for change of use of Church Hall to a 3 bed dwelling including addition of timber cladding to exterior, Church Hall west of Southea Parish Church, 37 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to object to this application as the location was not considered to be appropriate for a private dwelling.

f) Mr Woolcott, Planning Application No F/YR17/1099/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., for the erection of a single storey 3 bed dwelling involving the demolition of existing mobile home & outbuildings on Plot 1 Rupen, Long Drove, Parson Drove. Councillors resolved to object to this application as the site was too far from the centre of the village and unsustainable.

g) Mr L Allen, Planning Application No. F/YR17/1122/F, Agent David Broker Design Services, erection of a 3 storey 6 bed dwelling with detached garage on land west of 117 Back Road, Murrow.

This planning application was deferred to the next meeting as following the declaration of interest by Cllr Killingworth the Council was not quorate.

h) Mr G Patrick, Planning Application No F/YR17/1116/F, Agent Alexandra Design, erection of 5 two storey 3 bed dwellings with garages involving the demolition of existing sheds on land south of 218 – 222 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application and recommend approval is granted subject to a Community Contribution of £6,000 being made to the Parish Council for improvements to village facilities.

Mr T Jarvis, Planning Application No. F/YR17/1148/O, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., erection of up to 4 dwellings (outline application with all matters reserved) on land west of 111 Back Road, Murrow.

Councillors resolved to object to this application due to the lack of infrastructure in relation of the inadequate width of the road and lack of footpaths.

j) Notification that the following Planning Applications have been approved.

R Goy, Planning Application No F/YR17/0637/F, conversion of existing agricultural building to two 4 bed dwellings involving the demolition of existing store, south east of Bridge Farm, Long Drove, Parson Drove.

Messrs Coles, Planning Application No F/YR17/0770/F, conversion of existing barn to form a two storey, 2 bed dwelling, including raising the roof to accommodate the first floor & a single storey side extension involving the formation of a new access & demolition of existing lean-to shed & farm outbuildings, Barn north east of 39 The Bank accessed from Marshalls Bank.

Information noted by Councillors.

k) Pre-application consultation by Alexandra Design Services for the erection of 10, 3 bed roomed bungalows involving the demolition of The King William, 27 The Bank, Parson Drove.

The Agent advised that approximately 20 parishioners had attended the Public Consultation Event held on the 11th December when various issues had been raised. Revised plans would be drawn up taking into account some of these issues. The Chairman enquired if any written feedback had been obtained in the form of a questionnaire at the consultation event. The Agent advised that this had not been done and therefore it was suggested that perhaps this should be considered by the applicant. The Chairman also raised that whilst the King William was not a Listed Building it had been included in the last Conservation Area Appraisal as being a building of Historic Interest.

Councillors resolved to make no comment until such time as revised plans were presented.

17/235. Accounts & Finance

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

Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £529.29. L.G.A. 1972 s 112.

Clerks & Council Direct, annual subscription renewal, £12. L.G.A. 1972 s 143.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions, photocopier rental & copy charges, £155.68. L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

Cambridgeshire County Council, LHI scheme footpath at Sealeys Lane, £880.81. HA 1980 ss43, 50.

Royal British Legion, Remembrance Day Wreath, £20. L.G.A. 1972 s 137.

SLCC, annual membership renewal fee £100. L.G.A. 1072 s143.

Cambridgeshire ACRE, annual membership renewal, £55.50. L.G.A. 1972 s 143.

Anglian Water Business, water rates for The Cage, £13.32. L.G.A. 1972 s 133.

b) Letter from Emmanuel Southea Parochial Church Council requesting the annual grant towards the maintenance of the churchyard.

Councillors resolved to give a grant of £700. L.A.C.O. 1977.

c) Update report on the collection of the outstanding rents for the Riverside Garden Allotments.

The Clerk advised that all outstanding rents had now been paid apart from one where the tenant had been ill all year and not used his garden allotment and the tenancy had been terminated by the Council. Councillors therefore resolved to write off the outstanding amount of £31.25 as a bad debt.

d) Email from Electrical Testing with estimated costs for work required to Parish Council Street lights following their recent inspection.

Councillors resolved to approve the replacement of 6 street light brackets rated red at an estimated cost of £3850.08 by Electrical Testing as the number of street light brackets requiring replacement and the cost was considerably less than previously quoted by Balfour Beatty.

17/236. Risk Assessment

To consider action to be taken regarding trees around the village pond in view of damaged and fallen branches.

The Clerk had met with the District Councils Tree Officer who had recommended that the willow trees be pollarded in the near future he also confirmed that the broken and damaged branches on one of the trees could be removed immediately without the normal planning permission being obtained.

Councillors resolved for the damaged and broken branches to be removed as soon as possible and for the Clerk to apply for planning permission for the pollarding of the remaining willow trees in the next financial year.

17/237. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

Highway issues to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.

Councillors reported grass growing through the road and dips on the edges of the road at Common Bank, Throckenholt. Also a dropped pavement at the entrance to Ingham Hall Gardens.

b) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the LHI Scheme for improvements to the Bellamy Bridge junction.

Councillors resolved to approve a maximum contribution of £1,000 towards the improvements.

c) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the wooden footbridge over the drain along Murrow Bank.

The Clerk and County Councillor S King had received emails confirming that the bridge had now been inspected. A replacement bridge would cost approximately £200,000 but as it was a dead end right of way would not have sufficient priority to warrant this amount of expenditure. However the County Council believed that they could do a limited amount of repairs to extend the bridge's life for a few more years and it was anticipated that this work would be completed at the end of February 2018.

d) To report any faulty Streetlights.

There were no faulty street lights reported by Councillors.

e) Letter from District Councillor S King regarding Parish Street Lighting.

Cllr King's letter advised that Officers were in the process of preparing a specification and tender documentation to progress the repair and maintenance procurement process. Once this was complete a final proposal would be made by the District Council.

17/238. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

The Chairman advised that the Management Committee would be meeting with the National Lottery in early January 2018 to discuss their bid for grant funding for the village hall.

17/239. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

There were no questions raised by Councillors.

17/240. Any other business (information items only).

The Clerk advised that the Clock in the Cage had been serviced. The Chairman informed Councillors that he had requested a quotation for an automatic winding device to be fitted to the clock as the person completing this weekly task had retired due to ill health.

17/241. Dates for future Council meetings.

Councillors resolved to continue to hold the meetings on the second Wednesday of each month during 2018. The next meeting would therefore be held on the 10th January 2018. Councillors also resolved to hold an additional meeting on the 17th January to discuss and agree on the Budget and Precept for 2018/2019.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.