

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in the Cage on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), J Hunt, C Killingworth, D Markillie & P Williams.  
Cllr S King (CCC), PCSO Helen Norton-Smith, PCSO Dave Russ & 5 members of the public.

### **17/171. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllr J Cook.

### **17/172. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.**

There were no requests for Dispensations.

### **17/173. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

Cllr P Spriggs declared a Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 17/179 b) as he rents and farms the agricultural land and therefore took no part in the discussions for this application. Cllr P Spriggs declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item 17/179 e) as he rents land from the applicant.

### **17/174. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.**

Four Parishioners raised their concerns over Planning Application No F/YR17/0756/F. One Parishioner asked about the progress regarding the unsafe condition of the footbridge over the drain along Murrow Bank reported by him at the last meeting. The Clerk advised that this had been reported to the County Council and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the County Council again. A parishioner reported a possible planning breach in respect of windows installed in a property along Long Drove.

### **17/175. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2017.**

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

### **17/176. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> August 2017. (Information only).**

Cambridgeshire County Council Highways advised that they were arranging for the correct capping stones to be used on the bridge repairs at Swan Bridge following our complaint last month.

The Chairman advised that he had spoken to the landlord of the Swan Inn about tapping off the village green in future in order to try and prevent vehicles parking on the grass.

### **17/177. Community Police Officers Report.**

PCSO Helen Norton-Smith advised that enforcement speed patrols had been completed in the villages that day and further patrols would take place during September. Training for Speedwatch groups was being arranged. The next Community Safety Partnership meeting is due to take place in The Cage on the 27<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm. The crimes reported in the parish during August were 1 criminal damage, 1 theft and 1 arson.

**17/178. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.**

County Councillor S King advised that August was a relatively quiet month but the County Council were starting the budget process for 2018/2019. He would be pressing for more money to be allocated for Highway repairs in the Fenland area.

District Councillor G Booth advised that there was a District Council Meeting the following day when street drinking in Wisbech would be discussed. As requested he had enquired if there was any funding available from the District Council to upgrade the Play Equipment on the Playing Field but unfortunately the District Council have no funds available and so any improvements would have to be funded by the Parish Council or grants obtained from other sources.

**17/179. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.**

a) Mr & Mrs G Fisher, Planning Application No F/YR17/0732/F, Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., for the erection of a 2 storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 73 Back Road, Murrow.

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

b) M Yates, Marr James Ltd., Planning Application No F/YR17/0754/F, Agent Alexandra Design, formation of a gravelled access to agricultural field & demolition of brick pier & wall within a Conservation Area, land north of 27 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support the application subject to the County Council Highways approval and the village green was protected from damage. Councillors stressed that this support should not be seen as giving agreement to any future development on the agricultural land.

c) Mr & Mrs M Sharman, Planning Application No F/YR17/0756/F, Agent Grahame Seaton Designs Ltd., for the erection of a single storey 2 bed dwelling with detached single storey 1 bed self-contained annex & detached timber garden shed for use as temporary living accommodation (part retrospective) land north east of Avondale, Fen Road, fronting Swan Gardens, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to object to this application as it would result in over development of the site, the proposed buildings and materials were not in keeping with the adjoining properties. Concerns were also raised over the vehicular access and refuse bin access. Councillors also expressed a view that if the application was refused as they recommended then enforcement action should be taken as soon as possible in view of the work already completed and the state of the plot.

d) Messrs Coles, Planning Application No F/YR17/0770/F, Agent Maxey Grounds & Co., conversion of existing barn to form two 2 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.

Councillors resolved to support this application subject to an agricultural restriction being imposed.

e) G Patrick, Planning Application No. F/YR17/0773/F, Agent Alexandra Design, erection of 4 two storey 3 bed dwellings with garages involving demolition of existing sheds on land south of 218 – 222 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

The Chairman advised that he had requested for the planning application to be determined by the Planning Committee.

Councillors resolved to support the application subject to a community contribution being made as previously agreed with the applicant. Contrary to the County Council Highways opinion Councillors considered that additional parking provision was required as previously suggested.

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

1. Mr & Mrs Rudd, Planning Application No F/YR17/0538/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., for the erection of a single storey rear extension & conversion of garage to additional living accommodation to existing dwelling Midway, Long Drove, Parson Drove.

2. D Risley, Planning Application No. F/YR17/044//F A M Wright Ltd, erection of a detached single garage for existing dwelling at 96 Main Road, Parson Drove.

3. M Woolcott, Planning Application No. F/YR17/0288/CERTLU, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., Certificate of Lawful Use application in relation to the occupation of the existing mobile home as a separate residential dwelling at Leyland, Long Drove, Parson Drove.

4. C Hopper, Planning Application No F/YR17/0553/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., for the erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling with detached double garage, plot 1 north of 15 – 27 Mill Road, Murrow.

Information noted by Councillors.

g) Notification that the following Planning Application has been refused.

Mr & Mrs N McCarter, Planning application No F/YR17/0429/F, Agent Swann Edwards, change of use of existing annex to self-contained 2 bed dwelling including erection of a porch to front and formation of a new vehicular access to The Bungalow (part retrospective), The Bungalow, Long Drove, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

### **17/180. Accounts & Finance**

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

Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £518.68. L.G.A. 1972 s 112.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions Ltd., photocopier copy charges for 2 quarters, £273.97. L.G.A. 1972 s111.

Anglian Water Business, water rates for The Cage, £12.10. L.G.A. 1972 s 133.

PKF Accountants, External Audit Fees, £240.00, Accounts & Audit Regulations.

b) To consider the External Auditors report for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

The External Auditors report raised no issues on the Accounts and therefore no action was required. Councillors thanked the Clerk for her work in ensuring the accounts were approved.

c) To approve the ordering of a replacement litter bin near the Public Right of Way near the Village Hall following its disappearance.

The Clerk advised that although this litter bin would be covered under the Insurance Policy there was a £100 excess. Enquiries had been made with the District Council to see if they could provide or purchase a replacement litter bin but to date no response had been received. Councillors suggested that as the litter bin along Johnson Drove was not used that this could perhaps be moved to replace the missing bin but a final decision was not made pending a response from the District Council.

**17/181. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.**

The Chairman advised that the District Council had responded advising of further amendments necessary to the Planning Policies and these were now being made.

**17/182. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.**

a) Invitation from CPRE to attend their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in St Ives Corn Exchange, St Ives.

There were no Councillors wishing to attend.

b) Invitation from Citizens Advice Rural Cambs to the launch of their Transformation Strategy For Delivering Advice in Today's World on the 26<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm at the Contact Centre, Eastfield House, Huntingdon.

There were no Councillors wishing to attend.

c). Email from Mike Brooks, Cambridgeshire Police, suggesting that Parson Drove Parish Council with Wisbech St Mary Parish Council apply to the Wryde Croft Wind Farm Community Grant Fund in order to obtain a Speedwatch Kit to be used across the local area. Councillors resolved to agree to this suggestion once a Speedwatch group was in operation as the Chairman advised that as some volunteers had now come forward to set up a Speedwatch Group.

d) Email from Cambridgeshire ACRE advising of workshops on the future of Libraries in Cambridgeshire on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00am to 12.30 The Eastrea Centre, Coates Road, Eastrea, Whittlesey.

Cllr J Hunt agreed to attend this workshop on behalf of the Parish Council.

**17/183. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.**

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

The Chairman advised that he had discussed having repeater 30mph speed limit signs along Back Road, Murrow with the County Council Highways Officer today but as these would have to be funded by the Parishes it was agreed for this to be included in the Agenda for the next meeting.

The County Council's Highway Officer had agreed to meet with the Chairman and Cllr Hunt on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September to discuss the Parish Councils request for additional chicanes at Highside.

b) Email from the County Council Highways regarding the Community Gritting Scheme for 2017 - 2018.

The Clerk advised that the volunteer from last year was prepared to volunteer again for this winter and the County Council had been notified.

c) Emails received regarding improvements to the Bellamy Bridge junction.  
The Chairman advised that a joint meeting for County Councillors, District Councillors and Parish Councillors for Wisbech St Mary, Gorefield and Parson Drove was being arranged to discuss possible improvements at this junction in view of the number of accidents.

d) To report any faulty Streetlights.  
No new faulty street lights were reported by Councillors.

e) Update report regarding Parish Street Lighting.  
The Clerk advised that the independent inspection had been completed and she was now waiting for the report.

**17/184. Progress report on the future maintenance of the North Level Drainage Board Riverbank from Swan Bridge to Murrow.**

The Clerk advised that the Drainage Board had confirmed that the riverbank was now available if the Parish Council wished to take over the tenancy. She was still waiting for an estimate from the grounds maintenance contractor for the cost of cutting the riverbank on a regular basis. The Clerk was also waiting to hear from North Level regarding the annual rent and terms and conditions of the tenancy.

**17/185. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

In view of the absence of Cllr Cook the Chairman advised that a Consultation Event had recently been held in the village hall to support the Big Lottery, phase 2 of the grant application. Parson Drove Football Club had restarted and a Planning Application was being submitted for floodlights on the playing field. The Chairman advised that the annual Gymkhana was being held on the playing field on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

**17/186. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

There were no questions raised by Councillors.

**17/187. Any other business (information items only).**

Councillors reported that although the planning application for some caravans at Sealeys Lane had been withdrawn there had been some recent activity on the site with earth, tree roots and fencing being moved. The Clerk was requested to inform the District Council Enforcement Department of this activity.

The Housing Association had inspected the mould reported to the Parish Council in the house at 6 Riverside Gardens and as this was far worse than the Housing Association realised some action was being taken by them. The occupier had expressed their thanks to the Parish Councils for their assistance in this matter.

Councillors advised that G W Vials & Son would be closing the shop and petrol pumps at the end of September and it was agreed for this information to be included in the Agenda for the next meeting for discussion as a Community Asset.

**17/188. Dates for future Council meetings.**

The next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.