

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in the Cage on Wednesday 14th February 2018.

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), J Hunt, C Killingworth, & P Williams
Cllr S King (CCC), and 8 members of the public.

18/25. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs J Cook and D Markillie due to illness.

18/26. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests from Councillors for dispensations.

18/27. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Cllr Hunt declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 18/31 as he is a committee member of the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

Cllr Hunt declared a Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 18/34 c) and took no part in the discussions or decision made for this Agenda Item. Reason for declaring the Interest was the applicant is a friend.

18/28. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

Seven members of the public attending the meeting raised their concerns over the work being completed by the Football Club on the Playing Field.

The Parish Council were questioned as to why residents were not informed about the work taking place in relation to the fencing and flood lights as well as other work being planned in the future. Also as to why the Parish Council had not been fully consulted about the Football Clubs plans.

Concerns were also raised over whether the work done so far should have been completed during the winter months as the playing field was being damaged.

Parishioners were concerned that other users would be prevented from using the Playing Field in view of the amount of alterations being completed now and proposed for the future by the Football Club. Some residents at the meeting were opposed to the Football Club's future plans to install some hard standing areas and concrete paths around the football pitch. One of the Parishioners requested that the Amenities 95 Management Committee provide the Parish Council with a full written report addressing all of the concerns raised ready for the next Parish Council Meeting on the 14th March.

The Chairman responded by trying to explain that the Parish Council were merely Custodian Trustees of the Playing Field and Village Hall and that the Amenities 95 Management Committee were the Managing Trustees, solely responsible for the management and day to day running of the facilities. Any complaints or concerns by Parishioners should therefore be raised with the Amenities 95 Management Committee at their Annual General Meeting on the 28th March. However the Parish Council acknowledged that maybe the community had not been made fully aware of the improvements being planned and in order to try and resolve this a paragraph of information provided by the Football Club would be included in the next Parish Council Newsletter. A more detailed article from the Football Club would be in the next issue of Village Voices.

The Chairman advised that the monthly Amenities 95 Committee information report normally given at Parish Council Meetings by the Amenities 95 Committee representative had not been received recently due to Cllr Cook not attending Parish Council Meetings owing to ill health.

18/29. To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on the 10th and 17th January 2018.

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

18/30. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 10th & 17th January 2018. (Information only).

Councillors raised that although the pot holes reported at the last meeting along Long Drove, Black Drove and Silvers Lane had been repaired the work had not been completed to a very good standard as they were re-appearing already.

18/31. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report and information regarding work being completed on the Playing Field by the Football Club.

At the Clerks suggestion the Football Club had sent an email outlining the work already completed on the Playing Field and future improvements being planned. In order to try and reassure residents some of this information was being included in the Parish Council Newsletter. Councillors resolved to request that the Amenities 95 Management Committee hold a meeting on Saturday 10th March at 10.00am for the Parish Council to attend to discuss the issues raised by residents. The Clerk was also asked to provide clarification on the Parish Council's role and responsibilities as Custodian Trustees ready for the meeting.

18/32. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk had received an email advising that there had been 1 reported crime of theft of a motor vehicle in December and no reported crimes in January. Special Constable Andy Thompson and PCSO Helen Norton-Smith hope to carry out speeding patrols during February and have been visiting rural schools during January. They had also been attending schools at the start and end of school times to try to combat some of the parking issues parents have been complaining about, unfortunately the main offenders were actually parents/guardians of children at the schools. Hare coursing remains a problem in rural areas and this is being carried out both during the day and in the evenings using vehicles with spotlights. PCSO Helen Norton-Smith has been liaising with Rosie Cook from Fenland District Council and they are eager to hold a Community Contact Point during March. The Clerk advised that it had not been possible to get a Community Contact session arranged in time for advertising in the March issue of Village Voices but she was trying to arrange for one to be held in the Cage in April.

18/33. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

County Councillor Simon King advised that he would take up the points raised regarding the repairs to the pot holes with the County Council. He had been informed that the repairs to the wooden footbridge over the drain along Murrow Bank would be completed towards the end of March.

District Councillor Gavin Booth advised that a District Council Meeting was being held on the 22nd February when a new Leader of the Council would be elected. The District Council were proposing a 3% increase in the Council Tax for 2018/2019.

18/34. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

R Goy, Planning Application No F/YR18/0022/O, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., erection of up to 3 dwellings, outline application with matters committed in respect of access on land east of 267 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to object to this application as the site was regarded as an open space which they wished to see retained. As Church End falls within the settlement hierarchy Other Villages where only single dwelling infill should be considered the proposal was contrary to LP3. Concerns were also raised that the proposed development could have a detrimental impact on the nearby Grade 11 Listed Building, Yucca House.

b) Messrs Coles, Planning Application No F/YR18/0066/O, Agent Maxey Grounds & Co., erection of a dwelling (outline application with all matters reserved) on land north of 38 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to object to this application as the location of the site was in the open countryside and away from the village centre.

c) Mr J Crowson, Planning Application No F/YR18/0103/O, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., erection of a dwelling, outline application with matters committed in respect of access, on land north of Elbow Cottage, Elbow Lane, Church End, Parson Drove. The Chairman and Councillors agreed to suspend the meeting to allow the applicant the opportunity to speak in support of his application as he had been unable to do so during Public Participation.

Councillors resolved to support the application providing a condition was imposed stipulating that the existing stables and paddock remain ancillary to the proposed new dwelling.

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

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.

Noted by Councillors.

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.

Noted by Councillors.

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.

Noted by Councillors.

e) Notification that the following Planning Applications have been refused.

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.

Noted by Councillors.

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.

Noted by Councillors.

f) Letter from Fenland District Council Planning Department regarding the 5 year housing land supply.

Information noted by Councillors.

18/35. Accounts & Finance

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

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

EON, electricity for the Cage, £112.27. L.G.A. 1972 s133.

Open Spaces Society, annual membership fee, £45. L.G.A. s 143.

b) To review and re-adopt the Council's Financial Regulations.

Councillors reviewed the Financial Regulations and resolved to re-adopt them with no changes being made.

c) To review and re-adopt the Financial Risk Assessment.

Councillors reviewed the Financial Risk Assessment and resolved to re-adopt this with no amendments being made.

d) To consider quotations received for the annual grass cutting and grounds maintenance contract.

Three quotations had been received from contractors for £2,737, £2,924 and £3,217 plus VAT. There would also be an additional charge of £324 for strimming around the new fencing recently erected around the football pitch by the Football Club.

Councillors resolved to accept the quotation of £3,217 from the current contractor as the quotation was based on the maximum amount of work that may be required but in previous years the invoice received had been less than the quotation provided based on the amount of work actually completed.

18/36. To review and re-adopt the Council's Risk Assessment.

Councillors reviewed the Risk Assessment for Parish Council Assets and after resolving to amend the risk category rating for the posts around the village ground to low risk re-adopted the Risk Assessment.

18/37. To review and re-adopt the Council's Standing Orders.

Councillors reviewed the Standing Orders and resolved to re-adopt these without making any changes.

18/38. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning and to consider the revised Planning Policies.

The Chairman advised that no further progress had been made but another meeting was being arranged for the near future.

18/39. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

Email from Brain Tumour Research asking if we would promote their fund raising.

Councillors resolved to forward this request onto Village Voices.

b) Invitation to attend the CAPALC AGM Extra Ordinary Meeting on 22nd March at 7.30 at the Histon & Impington Sports & Recreation Hall, Histon.

Information noted by Councillors.

c) Email from CAPALC advising of the training for the General Data Protection Regulations coming into force on 25th May 2018 to be held at Cambourne on 15th March 7.00pm to 9.00pm and 16th March 10.30am to 12.30, costing £35 per attendee.

The Chairman informed Councillors that he and the Clerk were considering attending one of the training sessions but there was still a great deal of uncertainty on how these new regulations would affect Parish Councils and also be adhered to due to conflicting advice being given.

18/40. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

Highway issues to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.

The poor work in relation to the pot holes along Long Drove, Black Drove and Silvers Lane had already been raised and discussed under Matters Arising. Councillor also complained about the road side verges being reinstated with loose earth following resurfacing work at various locations. The Clerk advised that she had already raised this with the County Council Highways Department.

b) To report any faulty Streetlights.

Two faulty street lights were reported by Councillors, one being reported at the previous Council Meeting and reported to the District Council last month.

18/41. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

There were no questions raised by Councillors.

18/42. Any other business (information items only).

The Clerk informed Councillors that she had provided copies of previous Council Meetings Minutes to the occupants of Swan House and spoken to them regarding the unauthorised laying of water supply pipes under the village green behind the Cage by the developer and the subsequent removal. She had since been informed that they wished to attend the next Parish Council Meeting to request the Parish Council's permission to relay these water pipes in view of the poor water pressure they were experiencing.

18/43. Dates for future Council meetings.

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

Meeting closed at 9.40pm.