

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in the Pavilion on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019.**

Attended by Councillors: G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), R Fowler, J Hunt, C Killingworth, & G Watson.

Fenland District Councillor S Bligh, County Councillor S. King.

17 members of the public.

### **19/124. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Williams due to illness.

### **19/125. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.**

There were no requests from Councillors for dispensations.

### **19/126. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

Cllr Killingworth declared a Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/139 as she is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Management Committee and a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/137 b) as her son is an Allotment Garden tenant.

Cllr Hunt declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/139 as he is a member of the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

Cllr Watson declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/137 b) as his son is an Allotment Garden tenant.

Cllr Fowler declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/132 as his Grandfather owns adjoining land.

Cllr Booth declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/139 as he is a member of the Amenities 95 Management Committee and Agenda Item 19/137 b) as he is an allotment garden tenant.

Cllr Spriggs declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/137 b) as his son is an Allotment tenant.

### **19/127. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.**

The Speed Watch Team Co-ordinator advised that the Parson Drove & Wisbech St Mary Ward Community Speed Watch had now been operating for a year during which time 34 sessions had been held monitoring 2,320 vehicles, of which 223 or 9.7% had been recorded as speeding. A second speed watch kit had now been obtained by Cllr's Bligh & Booth.

Several members of the public raised their concerns and objections regarding the Planning Application by Mr Upton for the change of use of land to a travellers site at Sealeys Lane, Agenda Item No 19/132 a).

### **19/128. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019.**

The minutes were taken as read, agreed as a true record after amending Page 1407 Agenda Item No 19/114, 1<sup>st</sup> line of paragraph 3 from He has to There were and signed by the Chairman.

**19/129. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019. (Information only)**

The Clerk confirmed that the grant application had been submitted to the District Council for the Wheelie Bin Stickers.

The new litter bin for Back Road, Murrow had been ordered and installed the previous day.

**19/130. Community Police Officers Report.**

The Clerk had received the normal monthly report by email which highlighted no crimes or incidences for the Parish for June. The Chairman stated that at a meeting with the Police some time ago they promised to inform us of any trends of rural crimes but this information is not being provided. Councillors therefore resolved to request this information in the future monthly reports.

**19/131. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.**

County Councillor S King advised that he had arranged a site meeting for Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July with the Highways Officer, County Councillors, District Councillors and Parish Councillors to discuss the recent work completed at the Bellamy Bridge junction in view of the dissatisfaction with the work done.

Cllr King had recently attended a Highways & Infrastructure Meeting when the recording of accidents and incidences was discussed and the inconsistency on recording historic data following the use of new software. However the new data had highlighted an increase in accidents in the Fenland area and a study was now being undertaken on this information.

District Councillor S Bligh advised that a Golden Age Fair was being held in Wisbech St Mary Community Centre.

District Councillor G Booth advised that a Council Meeting was being held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July. The Council were reviewing the Local Development Plan over the next 3 years and he would be on the working group. 4 Speed Watch sessions had been held in the parish monitoring 438 vehicles of which 62 were speeding.

**19/132. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.**

a) Mr L Upton, Planning Application No. F/YR19/0540/F, Agent Dr S Ruston, Ruston Planning Ltd., change of use of land to a traveller's site involving the siting of 2 mobile homes, 2 tourer caravans, erection of 2 day rooms, 1.8 metres high fence & 1.2 metre high post & rail fencing (part retrospective) on land south of Harolds Bank, Sealeys Lane, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to object to the planning application and recommend refusal for the same reasons as the previous application as it was considered that the application was unchanged despite additional information submitted by the new Agent.

b) Mr M Fyson, Planning Application No. F/YR19/0584/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., for the erection of 3 Poly-tunnels on land north of Harolds Bridge, Sealeys Lane, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval was granted.

c) Notification from Fenland District Council that an appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision to refuse the following planning application:

Mr M Lee, Planning Application No. F/YR18/1127/O for the erection of a dwelling & garage on land east of 34 The Bank, Parson Drove involving the demolition of existing garage & the erection of a detached garage to serve 34 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Application has been granted.

Mr & Mrs N McCarter, Planning Application No F/YR19/0329/F, Agent Swann Edwards Architecture Ltd., change of use of existing annex to self-contained 2 bed dwelling including erection of a porch to front & formation of a new vehicular access to The Bungalow, Long Drove, Parson Drove (retrospective).

Information noted by Councillors

### **19/133. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.**

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

Following complaints received about the grass verge near to John Peck Close and the road junctions in the village due to the grass was growing rapidly this year Councillors resolved to request that the roadside verges were cut sooner than normal.

The Chairman was also asked if it was possible to spray off the rubbish near the top of the wooden fence at Swan Bridge. North Level Internal Drainage Board would be asked if this was possible.

Councillors reported pot holes along Long Drove.

Following a request for a Zebra Crossing near the Alderman Payne Primary School

Councillors resolved to ask the County Council if it would be possible to have one installed.

b) To report any faulty Streetlights.

Councillors reported a faulty street light at Elbow Lane and on Swan Bridge.

c) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council Highways inviting applications under the Local Highway Improvement scheme for 2020/2021 by the 4<sup>th</sup> August.

Councillors resolved to submit an application for a further section of footpath along Sealeys Lane.

### **19/134. Accounts & Finance**

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

Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £540.50. L.G.A. 1972 s 112.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions, photocopier printing and copy charges, £58.45.L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

GBSG, Cage alarm annual service and replacement battery, £127.78. L.G.A. 1972 s133.

Fenland District Council, street light repairs & maintenance charge, £858.00. P.C.A. 1957 s3.

b) To receive and approve a Receipts & Payments Bank Reconciliation Report and Budget up-date report.

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented by the Clerk.

c) To consider a request from Murrow Primary Academy for a grant towards a new outdoor classroom cum shed. (Deferred from last meeting)

The Clerk advised that CAPALC could not confirm if the Parish Council had the required power to agree to give a grant and a request for confirmation had been referred to NALC but as yet a response had not been received.

**19/135. Up-date on Neighbourhood Development Plan & to approve the Basic conditions Statement.**

Councillors resolved to approve the Basic Conditions Statement for submission to the District Council.

**19/136. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.**

a) Letter from Stephen Barclay MP thanking the Parish Council for supporting his Read to Succeed campaign.

Noted by Councillors.

b) Email from the Secretary of Wisbech Stroke Club thanking the Parish Council for the grant of £50.

Noted by Councillors

c) Email from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority advising of the public consultation until the 27<sup>th</sup> September on the Local Transport Plan for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.

Councillors resolved to look at this consultation document ready for discussion at the next Parish Council Meeting.

**19/137. Risk Assessment.**

a) To receive a report on the annual inspection of Parish Council Assets.

The Chairman advised that the following areas had been identified as requiring attention following the annual inspection.

Cage – repairs to dropped slates on the roof and re-staining of the wood surround of the internal doors.

Public Seats – cleaning of the seat at the far end of the village green, repainting of the seat near the War Memorial, repair slat on seat near The Cage.

Village sign – arrange for this to be repainted.

Bus Shelter – repair broken window and re-stain all wood sections.

Trees on village green – 4 trees had been identified as requiring to be substantially cut back as they were too tall and encroaching onto private land. Clerk to liaise with the Tree Officer and obtain the necessary planning permission.

Although the BT telephone Box in front of the Swan Inn was not a Parish Council asset it was agreed to contact BT asking them to replace the missing windows and clean or repaint the Kiosk in view of its current very dirty condition.

b) To receive a report on the annual inspection of the Riverside Garden Allotments & the Fen Allotments.

Cllr Spriggs advised that 4 Riverside Allotment Gardens were not up to the expected standard. Councillors resolved to monitor this for the next month and if no improvements had been made then letters would be issued to the tenants.

Cllr Spriggs advised that the Fen Allotments were all deemed to be acceptable.

**19/138. To receive a report from the Human Resources Sub-committee on the forthcoming staff vacancy for Parish Council Clerk.**

The Chairman advised that the Human Resources Sub-Committee had meet earlier in the evening to discuss the applications received for the staff vacancy. In view of the poor response received so far they were recommending that the vacancy be advertised in the Fenland Citizen Newspaper and on various On-line Jobs networks. The Clerk had indicated that she would be prepared to delay her retirement for a couple of months if necessary. Councillors resolved to agree to the HR Sub-Committee's recommendations regarding further advertising and to extend the deadline for applications to the 12<sup>th</sup> August.

**19/139. Amenities 95 Management Committee report.**

Cllr Hunt advised that the Silver Surfers were applying for a grant to provide WIFI, a Projector and Monitor for the village hall as it was hard to see the Bingo numbers.

The official opening of the refurbished village hall had taken place earlier in the day attended by pupils of Alderman Payne Primary School and the general public.

**19/140. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

Cllr Hunt asked if a response had been received from the Electoral Commission regarding our complaint on the amount of paper forms issued by them for the recent Parish Council Elections. The Clerk advised that to-date she had not received a response.

**19/141. Any other business (information items only).**

There were no matters raised by Councillors.

**19/142. Dates for future Council meetings.**

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7.00pm following a HR Sub-committee meeting at 6.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.