

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in the Cage on Wednesday 9th January 2019.

Attended by Councillors: G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), J Hunt, C Killingworth, P Williams & G Watson.
District Councillor S Bligh and 2 members of the public.

19/1. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Hammond and County Councillor S King.

19/2. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.

There were no requests from Councillors for Dispensations.

19/3. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Cllr Killingworth declared a Prejudicial Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/16 as she is an Officer of the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

Cllr Hunt declared a Personal Interest in respect of Agenda Item No 19/16 as he is a member of the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

19/4. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

A member of the public who resides near to Clough Bridge raised his dissatisfaction with the County Council Highways on line reporting system and the way outstanding reports were not carried over from one financial year to the next or until they had been resolved. He had reported various issues over the last few years but seldom received any response or action. One issue reported in 2016 had still not been resolved and is now dangerous and he had therefore reported it again. The Right of Way signage was also considered to be confusing and there had recently been 2 accidents on the bridge. The Chairman responded advising that the Parish Council were also sometimes frustrated at the lack of action taken on some highway matters reported with the County Council frequently blaming lack of funding.

19/5. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th December 2018.

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

19/6. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 12th December 2018. (Information only).

A response had still not been received regarding maintenance repair work along the Main Road at Church End and the Clerk was asked to make enquiries again with the County Council and Cllr King.

19/7. Community Police Officers Report.

The Clerk had received an email with the report for December again showing no reported crimes or incidences for Parson Drove. Councillors were informed that after checking the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website the Clerk had found that according to the information on this there had been 14 crimes reported during November for Parson Drove. In view of the discrepancies in the information being provided the Clerk was asked to contact Sgt Levens about this.

19/8. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

District Councillor Bligh advised that the Enforcement Officer had looked into the complaints regarding the plot next to Avondale but had been informed by the District Council that at this time there had not been any planning contravention that warranted action being taken.

District Councillor Booth advised that at the last Fenland District Council Meeting a report had been received from the Combined Authority.

19/9. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.

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

Councillors resolved to object to this application as the location was outside the main village curtilage, it was back land development and not in keeping with this area and would result in loss of amenity with a detrimental impact on the adjacent property.

b) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Application has been refused.

Mrs Lee, Planning Application No's F/YR18/1000/F Agent Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., formation of a vehicular access on land north of 305-307 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drove.

Noted by Councillors.

c) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Applications have been approved.

Mr B Butler, R & B Home Improvements, Planning Application No's F/YR18/0961/F & F/YR18/0962F, Agent Sketcher Partnership Ltd., change of use of land for domestic purposes & installation of piping & infilling of drain to create new access to plots 4 and 5 of 15-27 Mill Road, Murrow.

Noted by Councillors.

19/10. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.

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

The missing chicane near the school have still not been replaced and was considered to be dangerous. Cllr Watson had placed some cones at the site and the Clerk was requested to contact the County Council Highways again about this matter.

A response had still not been received from the County Council or Cllr King regarding highway patching and repairs at Church End, Clerk to contact them again.

In view of the comments made during Public Participation regarding Clough Bridge Councillors agreed to ask the County Council for some speed signs and poor visibility signs on the approach to the bridge.

Silvers Lane was still not considered to be acceptable even though some further patching work had been completed. Some soil had been put at the side of the road but there was still a drop.

The Speed Watch group had held 2 events monitoring 104 vehicles with 14 exceeding the speed limit, more training sessions were being held.

b) To report any faulty Streetlights.

Councillors reported a faulty street light along Fen Road and some along Main Road.

19/11. Accounts & Finance

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

Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £533.92.L.G.A. 1972 s 112.

Bowles Tree & Garden Services, pollarding of willow tree at the back of pond, £650. O.S.A. 1906

Cambridgeshire ACRE, annual membership renewal fee, £57. L.G.A. 1972 s 143.

T A Blackamore Ltd., annual grounds maintenance & grass cutting charges, £4,093.46.O.S.A.1906

D A Pest Control, annual mole control contract, £350.O.S.A. 1906.

b) Up-date report on the outstanding rent for the Riverside Allotment Gardens.

The Clerk advised that the outstanding rent of £31.20 had still not been paid and Councillors resolved to request payment by the end of January or the tenancy would be withdrawn because of the non-payment of rent.

c) Letter from County Councillor S King enclosing a cheque for £30.

Noted by Councillors.

19/12. Up-date report on Neighbourhood Development Plan Public Consultation.

The Chairman advised that another Public Consultation event was being held on Saturday 12th January in the Cage. Responses were being received from the other consultation bodies.

19/13. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.

a) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council with additional information on the Bikeability Cycle Training costs.

Councillors resolved by a majority vote to pass the request for future funding of the scheme to the John Bends Charity for their consideration.

b) Email from CAPALC asking for nominations to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 29th May 2019.

Councillors resolved to nominate the Chairman.

c) Email from the County Council asking for the views of the Parish Council via their online survey regarding council services and proposed changes to the council tax.

The Clerk had printed off a copy of the questionnaire and this was completed by the Council at the meeting ready for submission on line.

19/14. To discuss the proposed new site for Wisbech Secondary School.

Cllr Bligh had attended the public consultation event held at Wisbech St Mary and Wisbech earlier in the day. She reported that these events were very well attended with the majority of those attending raising various objections to the proposed location of the new school. The County Council Highways department were not present at the consultation event even though a lot of the objections were relating to infrastructure and access concerns. Seven other sites had been considered by the County Council for the location of the new school but the Barton Road site had been selected by them. Councillors resolved that a letter should be sent to the County Council Education Department asking why local Parish Councils had not been consulted on the proposed site for the new school prior to a decision being made.

19/15. To review the Parish Council's Risk Assessment on Assets & Finances.

Councillors reviewed the Risk Assessments for the Assets & Finances and resolved that no amendments were required.

19/16. Amenities 95 Management Committee report.

Cllr Hunt advised that a Committee Meeting had not been held since the last Parish Council Meeting and therefore he had nothing to report. Cllr Killingworth advised that an information meeting had been held with Cambridgeshire ACRE the previous day when some Committee Members had attended, the meeting had proved to be very informative. The Tesco's tokens for the Amenities 95 application for new tables and chairs was now running in the Wisbech store. The Lottery grant funding had now been completely approved and the building work on the village hall would be starting on Monday 14th January.

19/17. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

There were no questions asked by Councillors.

19/18. Any other business (information items only).

Councillors reported that there had been another accident at the Swan Bridge junction 2 weeks ago, fortunately there were no injuries resulting from this.

19/19. Dates for future Council meetings.

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 16th January at 7.30pm to set the budget and precept for 2019/2020.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.