

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on Zoom on 24 June 2020 at 19.00**

**It was noted that due to the current situation related to virus control, and in line with national advice following the Statutory Instrument, the meeting took place virtually. Members were invited to the meeting by the Chairman, Gavin Booth, as the host, via email addresses, and telephone, with additional support given to members so they could participate.**

**Notices of the meeting were posted in the normal way on the village notice board and on the council's web-site, giving members of the public the opportunity to participate.**

In attendance were parish Councillors: G Booth (Chairman), P Williams, C Killingworth, R Fowler, J Hunt. Also, in attendance: E Murat (Parish Clerk), S Bligh (Fenland District Cllr).

20/91. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors: P Spriggs, and G. Watson, and from CCC Councillor S. King

20/92. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.  
None requested.

The Chairman noted that the recording of the meeting on Zoom was for information only. Members considered publishing the recording and confirmed that they agreed to the meeting being recorded, and to be used for information only – not to be published - and the Chairman, as the host, set Zoom to record.

20/93. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

In relation to item 20/98 (a) Cllr Mrs Killingworth declared her interest as Secretary of the Village Hall, and Cllrs Booth and Hunt declared their interests as members of the Village Hall Management Committee.

20/94. Public Participation – The Chairman received no requests to participate from members of the public and none attended.

20/95. Members approved the minutes of the meetings held on 29 May 2020.

20/96 Matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda (information only)

- a) It was noted that there had been continued activity on the site at Sealey's Lane, and the Clerk is to write to FDC Planning to report that building work has commenced prior to planning permission being granted.
- b) Members asked that in future a schedule of cheques paid be recorded on the agenda.

20/97 Planning Matters

- a) F/YR20/0332/F Erect a dwelling (2-storey, 4/5-bed) and associated works including an arbour at Land West Of 10 Main Road Parson Drove Cambridgeshire.

Members noted that the applicants have submitted new plans fully addressing the Parish Council's concerns and should be commended for doing so – Members recommended approval of this application.

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- b) F/YR20/0507/TRTPO AtSouthea Grange 33 Main Road Parson Drove Wisbech Works to a Sycamore tree covered by TPO 08/2003

Members agreed to recommend that this planning application proceed subject to the TRTPO

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- c) F/YR20/0437/A 1 Main Road Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4JA Display of 1no internally illuminated fascia sign to front, 6no non-illuminated canopy signs, and 7no non-illuminated vinyl signs and 1no menu board

Members agreed to recommend that this application be deferred, seeking clarification of exact nature of the illuminated signage, and for the applicants to agree to mask the air conditioning unit e.g. by fencing.

- d) F/YR20/0436/F Land East Of 14 - 27 The Bank Parson Drove Cambridgeshire Erect 10 dwellings (2 x single storey 2-bed, 4 x 2-storey 2-bed and 4 x 2-storey 3-bed with garages)

Members noted that the applicant had provided what appears to be a draft application to de-register a section of the village green, in the name of the Chairman of the Parish Council, and that this was completely misleading. Members agreed, and re-iterated that the Parish Council does not agree to any de-regulation of any part of the village green, nor do members agree with the disposal of any part of the village green.

The Chairman has already challenged the submission by Fenland District Council.

The Council resolved to recommend refusal for the application as it clearly does not have community support, there will be Highways issues, loss of grade 1 agricultural land and does not fulfil the requirements of the Parson Drove Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted and welcomed that 27 The Bank can now be kept.

The Chairman has already challenged the submission by Fenland District Council.

20/98Correspondence

The Council considered the two grant requests.

- a) Request from Parson Drove Village Hall for 4 table tennis tables at a total grant request of £350.00.

Members agreed to ask the Clerk to write to the applicant – seeking clarification of, the grant support they have already received for Table Tennis tables.

- b) Request from Murrow Book Cafe for an unspecified amount. The Parish Clerk suggests £100.00 to be appropriate

Members approved grant support of £50.00

#### 20/99 Accounts & Finance

- a) Members noted that there were no approvals required that are not already payable under Financial Regulations, and that the Clerk is authorised make payments up to a value of £500 in consultation with the Chairman, and that services, regular payments, and salary related expenditure could also be authorised by the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman.
- b) Members also asked that in future a schedule of cheques paid be recorded on the agenda.

#### 20/100 Annual reconciliation of Accounts.

- a) Members noted that the Clerk and the Internal Auditor had completed their collaboration on the annual accounts, and that the auditor's report was awaited prior to the continuance of the Annual Governance scheduled programme for the financial year 2019/2020.

#### 20/101 Any Other Business

Members noted that there is not an item for any other business, due to Parish Councils' statutory responsibility to publish any matters that are due to be discussed three days prior to the meeting. For future reference, should members require items to be placed on the agenda for discussion, the Clerk must be notified before the agenda is completed.

The Chairman accepted the following items under any other business:

- a) Email received from Cllr King on 26 June 2020 with four items:
  1. Although all non-urgent major highway works have had to be suspended as required by the government, Cambridgeshire County Council has continued to repair potholes. This has also included potholes that do not meet the normal intervention levels as CCC has spare capacity
  2. The new £5 million capital fund is proving very popular. Two substantial proposals within my Division have already been progressed to the second stage
  3. There has been a change in the committees at CCC and I am pleased that I am a member of the new committee responsible for Highway policy
  4. We had a virtual meeting of CCC members to discuss LHIs and I suggested the

following: as towns can submit LHIs based upon the number of county councillors, this should be extended to parish councils; the amount of money available for LHIs should be increased; in order to better manage expectations for completing schemes, we should not give firm completion dates; the advice we get from the police is often inadequate and unhelpful and we should be challenging them more.

- b) The Clerk was asked to let the County Council know about the overhanging hedges along Highside.
- c) The Clerk was asked to refer the matter of re-surfacing The Bank to Cllr King.
- d) It was noted, with thanks, that Cllr Fowler, as a volunteer, has cut the hedge at the bridge, around the junction.
- e) The local window cleaner, on a voluntary basis, has cleaned the signage on the bridge.

#### 20/102 Date of next meeting

The Chairman suggested that the Council should return to scheduled meeting dates on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings will be held on Zoom until further notice.

Signed as a correct record G. Booth (Chairman)