

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on 10 February 2021 at 19.00.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and in line with new regulations, the meeting took place virtually & physically. Notices of the meeting were posted on the village notice board and on the council's website, giving members of the public the opportunity to participate.

In attendance were Parish Councillors: G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs, P Williams, J Hunt, C Killingworth, R Fowler.

Also, in attendance: and CCC Cllr S King

29/21. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from FDC Cllr S Bligh. It was noted that there is currently no Clerk and the Chair was undertaking the administration duties of the Council.

30/21. Requests for Dispensations.

None Received.

31/21. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Killingworth 46/21 Prejudicial – Secretary of Amenities 95.

Cllr Booth & Cllr Hunt 46/21 Personal – Committee Members.

32/21. Public Participation - None.

33/ 21. Parish Council Vacancy – Co-option – Receive short presentation from candidates. It was resolved by a majority vote to co-opt Paul Unwin to the council.

34/21. Members approved the minutes of the meetings held on 13 & 20 January 2020, with the addition of Cllr Fowler being present at the meeting on 13 January.

35/21 Matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda (information only)

Minute 198/20 Response now received by the County Council on MVAS application, which should be combined with Speed limit amendment applications (minute 201/20 c)

Minute 219/20 f) Installation of additional Bollards on the Village Green had taken place that day.

Minute 11/21 LHI bids will be considered on 1 March 2021.

Minute 27/21 c). Precept forms had been submitted to FDC.

It was also noted invitations to tender for the grass cutting contract had been sent.

36/21 Planning Matters - Applications made -

Planning Matters - Applications made - Members are asked to read the Fenland District Council Planning site at www.fenland.gov.uk/publicaccess to prepare for the meeting.

- a) F/YR21/0079/CERTP - Certificate of Lawful Use (Proposed): Conversion of part of existing detached garage to form a self-contained 2-bed annexe ancillary to existing dwelling - 76 Main Road, Parson Drove - Recommend Refusal of this application due to concerns on the increased level of traffic using the narrow driveway, consider it is overdevelopment for the size of plot and consider this back land development inappropriate.

37/21 Notification of the planning decisions from Fenland District Council were noted:

- a) F/YR20/1195/F - Erect an agricultural store - Land East of Harmony House, Long Drove, Parson Drove – Granted – Cllrs were concerned that the application had been granted based on incorrect information that has not been verified by the planning department.
- b) F/YR20/1266/TRCA - Fell 1no Poplar and 1no Silver Birch within a Conservation Area - Teal House, Station Road, Parson Drove – Granted

38/21 Correspondence – members are asked to note:

- a. Email from CCC Highways regarding LHI Feasibility for Sealey's Lane Scheme. Agreed to highlight the council would only contribute the amount indicated on the application.
- b. Email from Cllr Dee Laws regarding Flooding concerns. The following points were noted:
 - Timely action is not being taken when Badgers burrow into or near drains across the district.
 - The road drains along Main Road & Fen Road need replacing.
 - Flooding at the Bowling Green needs addressing.
- c. Letter of Thanks from Parochial Church Council for grant - Noted.
- d. Letter of Thanks from Churches Conservation Trust – Noted.

39/21 Fenland District Council

- a) Cllr Reports - Cllr Booth confirmed the next Full Council is scheduled for 23 February. The update meeting on the Guyhirn Roundabout changes at the A47 had taken place, it was noted that the County Council were opposing temporary weight restriction through the villages. Also no laybys would be installed for bus stops at Guyhirn. Cllrs noted their disappointment in these decisions.
- b) Street Lighting – It had been requested that a quote be obtained for replacing the remaining streetlights with LED lanterns to reduce energy costs. It was noted light FPC3 Fen Road, had been knocked down and a replacement had been requested.

40/21 Cambridgeshire County Council

- a) Cllr Report - Cllr King reported the revised Local Highway Improvement bids process would be presented on 9 March, no major changes were expected. CCC would set council tax increase of 2.99%. Cllr King would chase the grass cutting grant.
- b) Highways matters – Silvers Lane potholes have still not been repaired. Potholes reported in Elbow Lane had not all been repaired by the CCC. Potholes in Silvers Lane and Elbow Lane had been repaired, however Cllrs noted that the issues had not been resolved. It was also noted the footbridge at Swan Bridge is now very slippery. Johnsons Drove and Bridge Drove roadway is becoming impassable due to ridge in the middle of the road. Pothole has appeared Long Drove.
- c) Drain Clearance Main Road – It was noted that Gully and Kerb cleaning had been requested to alleviate the issue. Cllrs noted the ongoing issue in Fen Road, Cllr King suggested that waiting to see the effect of gully cleaning before any further action is taken.

41/21 Police Update Report

The police monthly meeting has not taken place.

42/21 Financial Matters

Payments made.

- a) None
Payments to be agreed.
- b) D A Pest Control, Annual Contract, £375. Agreed
- c) To note Eon Direct Debit set up for £33 per month. Instruction provided to Wave, set at £20 per month. Noted.
- d) Note email from Wryde Croft Community Fund that £5,000 was paid to the account on 13/01/21.

Noted.

- e) Review Financial Risk Assessment Agreed the amended version presented. Agreed to book electrical testing for The Cage.

It was noted statements had been received confirming the following amounts held:

Current Account: £83,037.09

Savings Account: £14,825.58

43/21 Review of Standing Orders

Agreed the amended version presented. It was agreed that the Council would not incorporate recommendation 4 from the internal auditor to reduce the formal tender amount from £25,000 to £5,000 given the extra admin this would incur and the fact the model standing orders had been amended in 2020.

44/ 21 Review Parish Council Risk Assessment

Agreed the amended version presented.

45/21 Consider whether further litter bins are required in the Parish.

The following locations were suggested: Clough Bridge and sewerage works layby, Marshalls Bank. This would be suggested to FDC who are reviewing where bins should be placed. The issue of placing domestic food waste in bins was also raised.

46/21 Amenities 95 Report – No meeting had taken place. The Hall & Pavilion had received grants for being closed.

47/21 Any Other Business (Information Items only, no formal decision can be made under this item)

Cllr Hunt requested that the next agenda include an item to promote wildlife projects in the Parish. It was noted that dog fouling remains an issue near the allotments, which was agreed to investigate with FDC what signage could be put up.

48/21 Staffing - Members are asked to consider a resolution for Council to exclude members of the public and press from the meeting pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the sensitive nature of the business to be transacted. Agreed unanimously. Meeting agreed to enter negotiations with the applicant for the role.

49/21 Date of next meetings agreed 10 March 2021 at 7pm.

Signed as a correct record G. Booth (Chairman)

10 March 2021