

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

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and in line with new regulations, the meeting took place virtually. 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, P Unwin.

Also, in attendance: FDC Cllr S Bligh and CCC Cllr S King

50/21. Apologies for absence.

None. It was noted that there is currently no Clerk and the Chair was undertaking the administration duties of the Council.

51/21. Requests for Dispensations.

None Received.

52/21. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Killingworth 67/21 Prejudicial – Secretary of Amenities 95.

Cllr Booth & Cllr Hunt 67/21 Personal – Committee Members.

Cllr Booth 63/21 e Prejudicial – Payment of expenses incurred.

53/21. Public Participation - None.

54/ 21. Parish Council Vacancy – Co-option – Witness and receive acceptance of office forms from Paul Unwin and welcome to the council.

55/21. Members approved the minutes of the meetings held on 10 February 2021.

56/21 Matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda (information only)

Minute 15/21 A planning application had been submitted for works to the trees on the Green, quotes are being requested.

Minute 11/21 LHI bids the Chair had presented the case for the Council on 1 March 2021.

57/21 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/YR21/0136/VOC - Variation of condition 14 to enable amendment to approved plans of planning permission F/YR19/1082/F (Change of use of land to a traveller's site involving the siting of 2no mobile homes, 2no tourer vans; erection of 2no day rooms, 1.8-metre-high fence and 1.2 metre high post and rail fencing (part retrospective)) at Land South Of Harolds Bank, Sealeys Lane, Parson Drove. Recommend refusal as did not support the original application for this site. We note that the size of the day room is considerably greater than the agreed permission, in the open countryside and continue to have concerns regarding the proximity to the Main Gas line and feel that a consistent approach is not being taken with building developments in the Parish near this gas line. We also have concerns regarding the use of generators that is causing a noise nuisance.

- b. F/YR21/0177/F - Change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian use involving the erection of a stable/tack room, hardstanding and 1.2-metre-high post and rail fence – Tearaways, 307 Main Road, Church End, Parson Drive. Recommend Approval.
- c. F/YR21/0233/O - Erect up to 9 x dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) - Land South Of 12 - 24 Ingham Hall Gardens Parson Drive. Recommend refusal for this application as they do not believe it has obtained community support as per the Neighbourhood Plan and would be an extension into the open countryside, beyond the established building line on this side of Main Road, Parson Drive. Also note that the Design & Access statement has several factual inaccuracies that need to be rectified. 1. The Parish Council opposed the previous application on this site and the copy of our objection is on the District Councils file. 2. The Parish Council has not been approached formally by the agent and given any indication of support.

58/21 Notification of the planning decisions from Fenland District Council were noted:

- a) F/YR20/1266/TRCA - Fell 1no Poplar and 1no Silver Birch within a Conservation Area - Teal House Station Road Parson Drive – Granted
- b) F/YR20/1010/F - Change of use of land to a traveller's site involving the siting of 2 x mobile homes and 2 x touring caravans, and the erection of 2 x Day Rooms and a 1.2m high (approx.) front boundary fence (retrospective) - Land East of Sealeys Lane Parson Drive – Granted

It was also noted that development appears to be in progress on Seadyke Bank, without planning permission. It was also highlighted that FDC Traveller Housing Needs assessment needs updating. It was also noted that FDC had not received emails sent regarding planning applications and were investigating the issue.

59/21 Correspondence – members are asked to consider:

- a) Confirmation of ROSPA inspection of assets during April 2021. Noted
- b) Census 2021 update. Noted
- c) FDC – Consultation Cycling, Walking and Mobility Improvement Strategy. Agreed to highlight routes needed from villages into Wisbech.

60/21 Fenland District Council

- a) Cllr Reports - Cllr Booth & Bligh confirmed a 0% FDC council tax rise. Council tax support payments would be increased to 20%, although Cllr Booth recommended it remain at 14%. A culture strategy had been adopted. Motion had been agreed for Conservation Area reviews but required Parish Councils pay towards this. It was highlighted that FDC had agreed on numerous occasions to review the Parish Conservation area in the past, but never undertook the review.
- b) Street Lighting – Quote received to replace remaining streetlights with LED lanterns to reduce energy costs at £4,561. It was agreed to wait for other quotes before a final decision, however noted reserves are available to potentially pay for this. Cllr Fowler also requested a streetlight be placed near “Honey Corner”; quote will be obtained once he provided an exact location.

61/21 Cambridgeshire County Council

- a) Cllr Report - Cllr King had sent an email report prior to the meeting. The revised LHI process had been agreed. The county had revised its verge cutting policy.
- b) Highways matters – It was noted that centre white lining on Fen Road, was finally being reinstated. Johnsons Drove and Bridge Drove roadway ridge had still not been repaired. It was noted that there was no update on the County Councils opposition to temporary weight limits while work on the A47 Guyhirn Roundabout was being undertaken.

62/21 Police Update Report

The police monthly meeting has not taken place, next meeting 19 March 2021, 6pm.

63/21 Financial Matters

Payments made.

c) None.

Payments to be agreed.

d) Fishlock Stables and Groundwork – Bollards Village Green - £1414.80. Agreed

e) CAPALC – Membership Renewal & DPO Membership - £500.99. Agreed but defer payment to after 1 April 2021.

f) Open Spaces Society – Annual Subscription - £45.00. Agreed

g) Gavin Booth – Chairs Expenses – Zoom = £71.95, Postage £13.00, Printing £26.59 = £111.54. Agreed

h) Grant Request – Village Voices. Agreed to provide a grant of £225 under S137.

i) Consider Quotations for Grass Cutting Tender. Three quotes received for £3411, £2540 & 2524 (excl VAT) Additional prices had been provided for additional works such as verge cuts. After debate it was decided to award the grant to T.A.Blackamore for £3411.

j) Confirmation from Cambridgeshire County Council that Speed amendment application is received and will cost an additional £250.00. Noted

k) Eon changes to electricity contract. Noted

l) Confirmation CCC Grass Verge Cutting grant paid - £656.11. Noted

It was also noted that work on the Internal Audit had commenced.

64/21 Consider Wildlife Projects for the Parish. After debating it was agreed to support the project in principle, however further details are needed before expenditure can be agreed.

65/ 21 Consider whether further litter bins are required in the Parish. A quote for suggested locations has been requested from FDC.

66/21 Potholes on Roadway in Front of The Cage. Agreed to request new clerk write to Elgoods when in place.

67/21 Amenities 95 Report – No meeting had taken place.

68/21 Any Other Business (Information Items only, no formal decision can be made under this item)
None.

69/21 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 the terms negotiated with the applicant for the role.

70/21 Date of next meetings agreed 14 April 2021 at 7pm.

Signed as a correct record G. Booth (Chairman)

14 April 2021