

Parson Drove Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Parson Drove Parish Council

Held on 10th November 2021 at 19:00

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, J Hunt, R Fowler, P Unwin and.

Also in attendance were and CCC S King, Clerk David Boyce as well as one member of the public.

Cllr G Booth Chaired the meeting and opened it at 19:02.

206/21 To agree the apologies

Councillors P Williams and S Killingsworth gave their apologies which were accepted by the Council. District Councillor Sarah Bligh also sent her apologies for the meeting.

207/21. To receive requests for Dispensations and record interests

The following registration of interests were noted for councillors:

216/21. c. Cllr G Booth

220/21 for Cllrs G Booth and J Hunt

Councillors were then reminded by the Chairman that at any time during the meeting they could register their interest before the item concerned.

208/21. Open Forum – Public participation.

The Community Speedwatch representative gave her update including Fen Road and The Bank having been the recognised areas of speeding, as well as Main Road where their focus had been, but appealed for feedback as to any other sites that may be experiencing high motoring speeds. The Members were informed that the late sessions had now stopped until Spring when the light would be better. There was a Street Pride update in that the memorial had been prepared for the Remembrance Day activities and were appealing for volunteers moving forward, currently working with the Primary School to get families involved in caring for where they live.

209/21. To agree the minutes of the meeting on 13th October 2021

The Councillors **agreed** the minutes of the meeting on 13th October 2021

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209/21 a. Matter arising from previous minutes not covered on the agenda (for information only)

The Chairman informed Councillors that he had met with the Highways Officer to discuss some of the areas where flooding had been seen and how that could impact any future proposed development in that area.

210/21. To receive the District Councillors Report

In the absence of the District Councillor, the Chairman told the Council that the District Council hadn't met since the last Parish meeting, but were due to meet on the 8th December 2021. Cllr Booth then went on to explain some outcomes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, including leisure facilities and CoVID-19 guidance needing updating as it was showing the details from before lockdown was ended. Cllr Booth had also challenged about when the Travellers Needs Assessment would be completed, to which he was given no date.

211/21. To receive the County Councillors Report

County Councillor Simon King's report had been accepted by the Council. Cllr Spriggs asked to understand why Highways had expressed that there was no issue with the Fen Road and flooding, even after photographs had been submitted as further evidence of the problem existing, to which CC King expressed he would seek a meeting with the head of the department at the site to take things further. Cllr Fowler raised the point that the man hole covers on Main Road had still not been done, so CC King expressed he would follow that up. Cllr Spriggs then said that some pot holes had been done down Long Drove, but the extent of the works was two workmen had thrown some loose tarmac into them and patted it down with a shovel. The Councillors widely expressed that many of the issues were as a result of poor workmanship, which had been reported on multiple occasions, but it was felt this was never followed up or taken action upon.

212/21. Highways Matters

Cllr Fowler expressed that the pot holes were emerging badly again down Silvers Lane, as well as raising the current poor & worsening condition of Murrow Bank. It was widely noted that Highways current strategy was to keep patching Murrow Bank until other Government money could be secured to repair it.

212/21. a. The Council acknowledged the TRO for the whole day of 03/12/2021 road closure to Lay new duct across carriageway for Broad Band provision and Network Capacity Increase that is essential.

213/21 a. The Council noted the notice from Cambridgeshire County Council, the effect of which is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Back Road, Murrow as

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lies between Sandlewood Farm and Fourways between 27 October and 29 October 2021.

214/21. Planning application decision updates

214/21 a. Councillors noted F/YR21/0248/F - Use of land for the temporary siting of 4 x mobile homes during construction of approved scheme
F/YR21/0600/RM - Land North Of 135 Front Road, Murrow – Approved

214/21 b. Councillors noted F/YR21/082/RM & F/YR21/1026/RM - Reserved Matters application relating to detailed matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale (for Plot 3 & 2) pursuant to outline permission F/YR19/0971/O to erect 1 x dwelling (2-storey, 4-bed with first floor home office) - Land East Of The Silverings 114 Main Road, Parson Drove Approved

215/21. Planning applications for comment

215/21. a. Councillors noted F/YR21/1176/F at The Lairage High Side Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4LJ was discussed, where Councillors had no issue in principle with the proposed extension raised concerns as to the lack of explanation of the log cabin. It was noted some applications for things of this nature around the Parish had ended up as permanent, full time dwellings and the Parish Council would seek a condition that the log cabin would not be a permanent dwelling.

216/21. The Members **agreed** the payments of the Council as below:

216/21. a. Payments to make

- i. Clerks Salary (£477.71)
- ii. Working from home allowance (£25.00)
- iii. Clerks postage expenses (£15.84)
- iv. EE Telephone bill (£22.80 including £3.80 VAT)
- v. Paul Tibbs LTD (£204.00 including £34.00 VAT)
- vi. ICO Annual Subscription (£40.00)
- vii. SLCC subscription (£12.00)

216/21 b. Payments made were **agreed** as below:

- i. E-On (£33.00)
- ii. Wave (£20.00)
- iii. Royal British Legion Poppy appeal (£20.00)

216/21 c. To report on the collection of the rents for the Riverside and Fen Road allotments

The Clerk informed Members that the letters had been sent and some of the rents had been paid. The Chairman brought to his attention that the cheque book details and statement details were different and therefore a new letter needed to be sent out to Allotment holders with the correct information.

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217/21. To discuss the website (Cllr P Unwin)

Cllr P Unwin explained that, having been using the website recently, he was surprised at how much out of date content was still on the site, as well as the lack of relevance to the public and its clunky, old feel. It was noted the benefits of a more navigable website for the public and Councillors. Cllr Unwin had investigated as to the cost with a local computer company who had completed similar works before, to which an estimate of £800.00 to £1000.00 had been given. Cllr Hunt raised that some entities like the Mens Shed used Facebook which was free. The discussion moved to the benefits and failings of a Facebook page. The Clerk explained some data protection principles, some best practices used by other Councils as well as the challenges highlighted by NALC in regards to the use of email addresses. The Clerk also explained about the time constraints the additional management Facebook may need as it was more widely accessed and more interactive than a website. It was **agreed** to find two more quotes with linked email addresses and to agenda for the next meeting. It was **agreed** to put Facebook onto the agenda for proper discussion at the next Council meeting.

218/21. To update the Council on the tree works (Clerk)

The Clerk explained that the dead wood removal was well underway, as well as the fractured Willow limb having been removed from the pond and the other from the Green. The Technical planning officer had come back with some questions the day prior to the meeting with regards to the larger works requested on the Green, which the Clerk was collating the information for.

219/21. To update the Council on the street light works and collate any further issues to be reported.

Cllr Booth told Members that he had requested an update as it had ben a long time since any update and there were a growing number of street lights to follow up on. It was suggested that street lights become a regular part of the agenda again to keep on top of the issue, as many councillors felt let down and that the service was not near expected, with some lights out of commission for years despite numerous fault registrations. It was **agreed** to request the service level agreements to follow up on the dilapidations.

220/21. To receive the Amenities 95 report

Cllr Hunt informed the Council that the flood light project for the playing field had now been completed, at a cost to the group of £3,600.00. A new notice board has been erected for the tennis schedules and Members were informed that the Baby and Toddler group was growing quickly. The AGM for the committee had been set for the 15th January 2022.

221/21. To receive the Police report and collate comments to forward on

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Cllr Unwin informed the Council that he had attended the meeting last Friday night, where the Police admitted they had struggled to support the community policing. There had been reports of pigeons being shot on the Green where the Police had provided reassurance. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme was lacking in volunteers and will appeal more formally for volunteers in the new year. There was a request to feed back with regards to the monitoring planned for the roads when the Guyhuirn Roundabout was closed, as well as antisocial behaviour that happened on football nights on the Green.

222/21. To agree comments on the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme

Councillors received an explanation that this was to do with the contributions faced by the lowest income households toward their Council Tax payments, increasing from 14% to 20%.

223/21. To collate proposed agenda items for the next Council meeting

The following items were requested for the next agenda:

- To consider a donation for St Johns Church
- To discuss the use of Facebook
- To discuss the explored options for a Website
- To receive an update on the collection of rents for the Allotment

224/21. To agree the date, time and venue of the next Council meeting

The Council **agreed** to meet at 19:00 on the 8th December 2021

The meeting was closed at 20:55