

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 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 Williams, J Hunt, C Killingworth.  
Also, in attendance: and CCC Cllr S King, FDC Cllr S Bligh.

1/21. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from P Spriggs. It was noted that there is currently no Clerk and the Chair was undertaking the administration duties of the Council.

2/21. Requests for Dispensations.

None Received.

3/21. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Booth 14/21 – Personal – Allotment Holder

Cllr Killingworth 18/21. Prejudicial – Secretary of Amenities 95.

Cllr Booth & Cllr Hunt 18/21. Personal – Committee Members.

Cllr Williams 13/21 g) Prejudicial – Church Warden

4/21. Public Participation - None.

5/21. Members approved the minutes of the meetings held on 9 December 2020.

6/21 Matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda (information only)

Minute 193/20 b) Letter sent to Pretoria Energy – No response yet received.

Minute 198/20 No response yet received by the County Council on MVAS application.

Minute 201/20 c) Police view on Fen Road Speed limit amendment has been requested by CCC.

Minute 219/20 b) The process to set up Direct Debits has started with EON & Wave.

Minute 219/20 f) Installation of additional Bollards on the Village Green expected February.

Minute 222/20 Statement had been drafted and sent to the website provider.

7/21 Planning Matters - Applications made -

a) F/YR20/1266/TRCA - Fell 1no Poplar and 1no Silver Birch within a Conservation Area at Teal House, Station Road, Parson Drove – Approve subject to Tree Officer recommendation

b) F/YR20/1269/F - Erect an agricultural building involving the demolition of 2 x existing agricultural buildings - Land East of The Clough, 39 The Bank, Parson Drove - Approve

8/21 Notification of the planning decisions from Fenland District Council were noted:

None

9/21 Correspondence – members are asked to note:

- a. Email regarding refurbishment & future maintenance of play equipment on the playing field. After discussion it was agreed to wait for further details of what is proposed once the project by FDC delivers new equipment.

## 10/21 Fenland District Council

- a) Cllr Reports - Cllr Booth confirmed the Helping Hands scheme was continuing to operate. The budget review at Overview & Scrutiny panel indicated that a 0% FDC Council tax rise was being proposed. Next Full Council is scheduled for 23 February. Cllr Bligh was continuing to deal with individual parishioner enquiries. Cllr Bligh confirmed the next update meeting on the Guyhirn Roundabout changes at the A47 were taking pace the following week.
- b) Street Lighting – The quotes for replacement streetlights from FDC was waiting for cost estimates from UKPN. It was also suggested that a quote be obtained for replacing the remaining streetlights with LED lanterns to reduce energy costs. It was noted the light outside 19 Main Road was not working, report to CCC as appears to be one of their lights.

## 11/21 Cambridgeshire County Council

- a) Cllr Report - Cllr King reported he continued to work on the Local Highway Improvement bids process. The Budget for CCC would-be set-in February but he was unable to confirm what the proposal would be at this stage. The LHI bid review meetings are likely to take place in March.
- b) Highways matters – Silvers Lane potholes have still not been repaired. It was suggested that photos are taken of the flooding along Fen Road and forwarded to CCC. Potholes reported in Elbow Lane had not all been repaired by the CCC.
- c) Sealeys Lane Footpath Extension – Road Closure 25 January to 19 February 2021. - Noted

## 12/21 Police Update Report

The police monthly meeting was cancelled. It was noted a burglary had taken place in November.

## 13/21 Financial Matters

Payments made.

- c) None
- d) Payments were agreed for item d) & e)
- d) Cambs ACRE - Annual Membership - £57
- e) T A Blackamore Ltd - Annual grounds maintenance & grass cutting charges - £4,093.46.
- f) SLCC - Annual Membership – £45 - Decision on renewal was to wait for a new clerk to join.
- g) Request from Parochial Church Council for the annual maintenance of the Churchyard grant. It was resolved to provide a grant for £700.

14/21 Allotments - Update on Payment of rents – All had now been received.

15/ 21 Receive report on condition of Trees on the Green & the Pond. It was noted that the report recommended heavily pollarding one tree, with maintenance to several others. Agreed to look at submitting an application and obtain quotes.

16/21 Painting of the village sign – Agreed to accept quote for £375 from S Tawn. Works would take place on site and the rust would be treated. It was noted that the Council had only been able to obtain one quote after considerable time, due to the specialist nature of the work required.

17/21 Update on quote requests for clearance of the graveyard for St John the Baptist Church. The Chair had obtained 3 quotes for £750, £1,750 & £2,328 from local contractors. It was agreed that this should be passed onto the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT) to action. It was also resolved to provide a grant of £375 towards the project. It was also recommended that CCT apply to Wryde Croft Wind farm and John Peck Society for additional funding.

18/21 Amenities 95 Report – No meeting had taken place. The gutters had been cleaned. It was

suggested to the Surgery that the hall could be used for Covid 19 vaccines.

19/21 Any Other Business (Information Items only, no formal decision can be made under this item)  
It was noted that a report would be submitted for next months Village Voices. It was also noted that there were no litter bins on the popular walk between Sealey's Lane, Marshalls Bank and The Bank. Agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. It was noted that fly tipping had occurred again at Silvers Lane which the Chair had reported.

20/21 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 invite an applicant to an interview meeting.

21/21 Date of next meetings agreed 20 January (Precept setting) 2021 at 7pm.

Signed as a correct record G. Booth (Chairman)

10 February 2021