

Parson Drove Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Parson Drove Parish Council

Held on 19th May 2021 at 19:35

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.

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 19:35 following the Annual Parish Assembly.

90/21. To appoint a Chairman.

It was proposed, seconded and **agreed** to appoint Councillor Gavin Booth as Chairman of the Council.

91/21. To appoint a Vice Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and **agreed** to appoint Councillor Peter Spriggs as Vice Chairman of the Council.

92/21. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and **agreed** for Councillors C Killingworth, R Fowler and P Unwin. They were also received of FDC S Bligh.

93/21. Requests for Dispensations

No requests were due or received.

94/21. Declarations of interest

No requests were due or received.

95/21. Public Participation (Open Forum). No members of the public requested a Zoom access. One member of the public informed the Council that the Community Speedwatch schedule had been published for May and June, however challenges being faced with volunteers not returning to the scheme meant that 3 out of 4 villages would receive coverage.. An appeal for volunteers was presented for the

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residents of Parson Drove to be aware of, with individuals encouraged to email Diane Cutler at csw.wsmppdward@gmail.com.

96/21. The minutes of the meeting held 14th April 2021 were **agreed** as a true record with a proposed spelling amendment at 77/21 from 'auctioned' to 'actioned'.

97/21. Clerks report - Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held 14th April 2021 not covered on the agenda (for information only)

The Chairman informed members that the Allowances report for District Councillors had been received and approved. The Council was also informed that from 81/21 b. the LED lighting had been confirmed. The new litter bins had been confirmed, with a site meeting to be arranged to agree their citing.

The council then proposed, seconded and agreed to move agenda points 106/21. B. and 107/21 a. as a courtesy to CCC S King.

- a) 106/21b including 107/21a. To receive outside reports: To receive the County Councillor reports

CCC S King opened to congratulate the Clerk in his role, as well as the appointed Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, then noted to the meeting that he was there to help anyone with any party allegiance. Members were then told of the first County Council meeting being held in Duxford, where the leadership of the Council had changed to a coalition of Labour, Liberal Democrat and Independents, with the new Independent chairman being appointed as Derek Giles. Members were also told that the new Mayor was the Labour candidate, where he hoped that the work into supporting North Cambridgeshire become more prosperous through rail links and road improvements still going ahead. CCC King then updated the Council as to actions from the last meeting, including a note that Silvers Lane potholes now had a work order to be repaired as well as taking steps regards the Fen Road hedge. There was also news with the temporary weight limit restrictions, with a meeting called of relevant stakeholders to progress the issue. The Guyhirn Roundabout would be closed over the weekend of 22/05/2021. Highways had informed that in the financial year after next there would be installed two bus pull offs alongside the other improvements being made. Finally, Members were told that a footpath on Back Road, Murrow, would be priced up to begin sourcing funding. It was noted that there would be great benefits to residents here as a path would form a flooding barrier with gully's and kerbs, whereas currently the observed flooding would run into private residences.

The meeting then took back to the agenda. CCC King left the meeting.

98/21. Planning matters – Applications made

- a) Councillors were told that no new applications have been received.

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Planning matters – Decisions noted to Councillors were as follows:

- b) Planning application F/YR21/0177/F GRANTED
- c) Planning application F/YR20/0963/F REFUSED
- d) Planning application F/YR20/0910/F GRANTED

99/21. Correspondence received.

- a) Members discussed the email about cars driving over the path at the shop on Main Road, where it was noted that they were egressing over the path rather than backing up and taking the existing access route out. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to write to the shop owner regards to the issue and to request that bollards be installed to stop the activity, as well as forwarding the letter to the Police through the Police Forum.
- b) It was noted there were no new comments for the Conservation Officer, but she would be invited to the Cage to spend some time with the documents available.

100/21. To approve cheques for payment.

- a) The Clerks salary £477.71 was **agreed**.
- b) The Clerks equipment £408.99 (including £68.17 VAT) was **agreed**.
- c) NI & PAYE £TBC
- d) (County Council speed limit amendment) ERP Gold fee of £250.00 was **agreed**.
- e) The auditing fee of £300.00 (including £50.00 VAT) was **agreed**.
- f) It was noted to members that as a result of the museum status of the Cage that they were in receipt of a Fenland business grant of £8,000 which would be discussed under 103/21.

101/21. AGAR

- a) Members accepted the Annual reconciliation of accounts, prepared in accordance with AGAR standards.
- b) The members received the internal auditors report and noted the recommendations.

102/21. To accept the ROSPA inspections and agree on the maintenance items from the ROSPA inspections.

Councillors had received the report prior to the meeting, where relevant information was forwarded to the Amenities 95 committee. The recommendation of the life buoy was refuted due to the liabilities placed onto the council as a result, where a reasonable mitigation to the risk of a fence was already in place.

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103/21. To agree a schedule of works for The Cage.

Members discussed what works could be completed to improve the Cage and its longevity, where it was noted the downpipe needs clearing, as well as the roof needed looking at and the pointing completing with lime mortar. It was suggested by one Member to investigate an energy efficient heating system with a thermostat that could be managed to help preserve physical records, as well as make the space better to use during colder months.

104/21. To discuss whether a time limit on parking bays near the school should be progressed

The Council considered the issue, where it had been noted by a number of residents and Councillors that many of the spaces were being used for all day parking, in particular a commercial vehicle and school users. One Councillor commented that it might require a LHI bid to get put into place. It was **agreed** to write to the school and ask their opinion on timed limits on parking bays.

105/21. To discuss and agree future maintenance arrangements of St John's Churchyard.

Members **agreed** to defer this motion to next months agenda.

106/21. To receive the outside reports

- b) The Members received the District Council report where they were informed the first face to face meeting in 14 months had been conducted where the Councillor allowance scheme was agreed with little amendment. The Fens Biosphere had come up in deliberation again as well as writing to the Boundary Commission as by 2026 there would be discrepancies.

107/21 Highways

- a) Members were informed of a temporary closure order 2021/516 at Harolds Bank from 07/06/2021 to 11/06/2021
- b) It was discussed regards a memorial be investigated for Sealeys Lane at the site of the bomber crash where two unrecovered airmen lost their lives. It was proposed, seconded and **agreed** to write to the War Graves Commission, as well as Councillor Williams speaking to the land owner.

108/21. Finance

- a) The members **approved** the Balance Sheet
- b) The members **approved** the explanation of variances proforma
- c) The members **approved** the Bank Reconciliation
- d) The members **approved** the Income and Expenditure

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The meeting was closed at 21:12

Agenda items requested for the next meeting:

- Amenities 95 report
- Agenda items for next meeting

For more information on agenda points, please contact the Chairman on 01945 701157 or the Clerk on parsondroveclerk@outlook.com