

# Parson Drove Parish Council

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## Minutes of a meeting of Parson Drove Parish Council

Held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 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, P Williams, J Hunt, R Fowler and P Unwin.

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

*Cllr G Booth Chaired the meeting and opened it at 19:00.*

225/21. To agree the apologies

The Council **agreed** the absence of Cllr Killingworth. The Council also received apologies from DC Bligh.

225/21. a. A motion was **agreed** to approve the continued absence for Cllr Killingworth as per Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

226/21. To receive requests for Dispensations and record interests

Councillors registered the following interests; Cllrs Gavin Booth & John Hunt registered interests for 241/21, Cllrs Gavin Booth and Peter Spriggs for 235/21 and Cllr Paul Unwin for 236/21. Members were reminded that they could record an interest at any point in the meeting.

227/21. Open Forum.

Two members of the public delivered a short representation in regard to a planning application that they had made and appealed for Councillor comments and support. The Members all concurred that their biggest concerns were drainage and that they would take the relevant item on the agenda sooner to address the member of the public's comments. The Chairman gave the Community Speedwatch report in their representatives' absence, including that the batteries had failed and replacements had been obtained. The group had no planned activity for the month of December.

228/21. To agree the minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021

The Council **agreed** the minutes of the meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

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228/21 a. Matter arising from previous minutes not covered on the agenda (for information only)

Members were informed that some works had been requested of Highways down Ingham Hall Gardens.

*The Chairman then proposed to move the agenda item 232/21. to this point of the meeting.*

233/21. Planning applications for comment

233/21. a. F/YR21/1351/TRTPO Works 1 x Lime tree covered by TPO WR/15/2/465/2 at Village Green The Bank Parson Drove (Parson Drove Parish Council application). It was noted that this was the Councils own application for works on the Green.

233/21. b. F/YR21/1307/F Erect 4no dwellings comprising of 3 x 3-bed single-storey and 1 x 2-storey 4/5-bed with garages including temporary siting of a caravan during construction on Plot 3 only at Land North Of 1-5 Brewery Close Parson Drove. The Council had previously supported this application and were in agreement that there must be sufficient flood alleviation measures put into the conditions of the application if consent was granted including ensuring that the proposed drainage gully be connected correctly to the Highways gully already there.

233/21. c. F/YR21/1348/VOC Variation of conditions 5, 6 and 13 of planning permission F/YR19/0971/O (Erect up to 5 dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access)) to amend footway and access provision at Land East of The Silverings 114 Main Road Parson Drove. Councillor R Fowler registered an interest at this point. The Council had no further comment to add.

233/21 d. F/YR21/1418/CERTLU Certificate of lawfulness (Existing): Use of site as Building Contractors Yard Lavender Cottage, Seadyke Bank, Parson Drove – to note. The Council had no objection to this application, noting it had been this way a very long time.

233/21 e. F/YR21/1332/CERTP Certificate of lawfulness (Proposed): Erect a double stable and hay store on skids and formation of a hardstanding Land East of Downyonder, Harolds Bank, Parson Drove – to note. The Council had no objection to this application.

*The Chairman then restored the agenda and commenced it from 229/21. The two members of the public left the meeting.*

229/21. To receive the District Councillors Report

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Councillors were informed that the meeting had been held that day where it was mostly portfolio holder reports but one item to note was that the Traveller housing needs

assessment had been suggested that it would be completed by the second consultation stage of the new Local Plan.

230/21. To receive the County Councillors Report

CC King addressing the issues down Fen Road, proposing that the Council under 231/21.c. to put an LHI bid in to have the works remediated and stop the flooding. CC King noted that there had been another £5,000,000 fund set up for community capital projects, of which Gorefield had received some monies. It was quickly noted that this would come low in comparison to other schemes on the list that would address safety issues and therefore be rather unlikely. It was discussed about it being a drainage issue and CC King reported the Highways Officer said that the new surface did not allow drainage through it where the previous surface would which is what was causing the problems. Members widely felt this should be a drainage works order which they requested of CC King. The Clerk asked about the process for challenging sub standard works and how to address this moving forward as it appeared in investigation that this had not happened, to which the Clerk was told that any works not to a standard should be reported to CC King who would personally address them and see them through.

As it was relevant at this point, the Chairman brought 231/21.c. forward to this point.

231/21. c. Consider alternative LHI bid for 2021/22

Councillors were informed that as their previous LHI bid was defunct after the pathway scheme was finished with another fund, the Council had been offered the opportunity to bid on another scheme. CC King's suggestion of the Drainage down Fen Road was discussed but felt widely that the amount of money concerned with an LHI bid would not be sufficient to address this issue properly. It was also discussed of extending the footpath down Fen Road, to extend the 30mph limit from the Bowls club down to Silvers Lane now both sides of the road had been built upon, traffic calming either side of the Swan Bridge or reducing speed limit at Church End to 30mph. It was proposed and **agreed** to apply to extend the footpath down Fen Road toward the junction of Bridge Drove with this LHI Bid application, then note that the future consideration for LHI bid be for speed reduction schemes along Main Road middle and Church End.

231/21. Highways Matters

231/21. a. Members collated street lighting issues with repairs, such as the note that the knock down on Fen Road had been chased and they were informed

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that this would be replaced 'in due course'. Councillors were informed that an email had been recently received about the replacement scheme, explaining that costs had gone up as UK Power Networks had to be involved who faced costs such as road closures which would total around £3,000 for the 7 lights, which were **agreed** by the Council. Cllr Fowler supplied a list of faulty streetlights, of which some had not

worked for three years, which was **agreed** to be reported to CC and District Council. These lights were Outside Snipps hairdressers, 5A Church, PC11 Newlands, FPC7, PC4 The Green, PC2 The Green by the swings, L1BHQ by the top of Ingham Hall Gardens, Outside The Ceders, PC3 Honey Corner.

231/21. b. Members requested an update on MVAS & Speed Limit Changes from CCC which had still not been done, where CC King offered to email and follow up as well as the Clerk.

231/21. d. The Members acknowledged TRO 864/096969 in respect of the road closure of Back Road, Murrow Bank, on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 from 09:30 to 15:30.

231/21. e. The Members acknowledged TRO 2021/1118 in respect of stopping any vehicle from proceeding along High Side, Parson Drove as lies between Seadyke Bank and Iris Cottage on 3 December 2021 and continuing until these works have finished or on the 2 June 2023, whichever is the earlier.

232/21. The Council noted the Planning application decision updates as follows:

232/21 a. F/YR21/1180/F Erect a single-storey rear extension involving the demolition of existing conservatory to existing dwelling 24 The Bank, Parson Drove – Granted.

232/21 b. F/YR21/1058/F Erect a single storey garage to front of existing dwelling Willow Lodge 31B The Bank, Parson Drove – Granted.

232/21 c. F/YR21/1163/F Change of use of residential land and garage to commercial workshop with parking/storage area with 2.0 metre close boarded fence including erection of a single storey extension and 2.0 metre high close boarded fence/gate to front and side Land West Of Sycamore Lodge, Seadyke Bank, Murrow – Granted

232/21 d. F/YR21/1176/F Erect a single-storey side and rear extension to existing dwelling together with the siting of a log cabin and change of use of land to residential curtilage The Lairage, High Side, Parson Drove - Granted

234/21. The Council **agreed** the payments of the Council as below:

234/21. a. Payments to make

i. Clerks Salary (£477.71)

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- ii. Working from home allowance (£25.00)
- iii. EE Telephone bill (£22.80 including £3.80 VAT)
- iv. CPRE membership (£36.00)
- v. SLCC membership (£112.00 membership, £8.00 joining fee)

234/21 b. Payments made

- i. E-On (£33.00)
- ii. Wave (£20.00)

235/21. To update the Council on the collection of the allotment rents

The Council was informed by the Clerk that the rents had been coming in and were being banked, with 6 letters issued to allotment holders that hadn't yet paid with further payment instructions on them.

236/21. To consider a donation for St Johns Church

Cllr P Unwin gave a presentation to the Council with regards to the sought heaters at a cost of £99.99 each to support the Church with their events. It was suggested that John Bends Charity would be a good source of revenue for support and was noted that there was guidance about giving monies to the Church, in particular for the upkeep for the buildings which was restrictive. It was **agreed** to fund one heater.

237/21. To discuss the use of Facebook

The Conversation started with the website and so Cllr Booth brought item 238/21. forward to now. It was noted that the existing provider did not have a path map to quote on, so a job sheet would need to be created and taken out for a better quote. It was noted that Facebook would need a good website behind it and this was the key focus of the Council. Cllr J Hunt gave members a prepared report on the uses of Facebook and some of the set-up options, as well as explaining that he could build a website. It was noted that whatever option was chosen would require training for at least some Members as well as the Clerk, that many members of the public already use the website for reading minutes and agendas, therefore the domain would need to be purchased. It was **agreed** to appoint Cllrs P Unwin and G Booth to form a working party to bring their findings back to the Council.

238/21. To discuss the explored options for a website

This was discussed under the previous agenda item.

239/21. To agree official Council position on the District Council Boundary Review

Cllr Booth described how the new boundaries would create a 42 Councillor District Council, but see the split of Murrow into between two wards, given it was in two Parish Council areas. It was noted that a 41 member council could mean that the existing arrangements for Parson Drove and Wisbech St Mary ward could be maintained. It was proposed and **agreed** to write to Fenland District Council and the

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LGBCE expressing concerns as to the break-up of the Murrow Community with these boundary reviews with the proposed new boundaries.

240/21. To consider the Youth Community Coordinators offer

This was discussed by Members, who felt it was easy enough to set these things up, but it was the longer term buy in and facilitation which would require parents and facilitators moving forward. It was **agreed** to promote locally instead.

241/21. Comment on FDC Cycling and Walking Strategy

It was noted that within this Strategy was no provision for local villages and therefore would not present any benefit to the people of Parson Drove.

242/21. To receive the Amenities 95 report

Members were informed that there had not been a new meeting since the last one.

243/21. To receive the Police report and collate comments to forward on

243/21. a. Anti-social parking John Bends Way reported by Parishioner

Cllr Gavin Booth declared a personal interest as he lived nearby, but brought the parishioner concerns to the Council, where he explained that there was anti-social parking on the path restricting wheelchair and buggy users in particular but in places forcing pedestrians into the Highway. It was requested that Cllr Unwin report this at the next opportunity. It was also **agreed** to refer the matter back to the John Bends Charity.

*Cllr P Williams left the meeting at 21:13*

243/21. To consider request from Street Pride regarding War Memorial maintenance

Cllr G Booth declared a personal interest at this point. Complaints regards the state of the railings and the concrete base were presented to Members, then an offer by a private individual to clear up these issues to their own time and expense. It was noted their work would be covered by the Street Pride insurance. It was **agreed** this was acceptable.

244/21. To collate proposed agenda items for the next Council meeting

Councillors had requested the working party website findings go onto the agenda. The Clerk reminded Councillors to forward any agenda requests in a timely manner in readiness for the January 2022 meeting.

245/21. To agree the proposed date, time and venue of the next Council meetings:

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Meeting dates for January 2022 were **agreed** as the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 7.00pm, at the Village Hall, then to set the Precept it was **agreed** to meet on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 7.30pm, Village Hall (Precept Setting).

*The meeting was closed at 21:55.*