

# Parson Drove Parish Council

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## Minutes of a meeting of Parson Drove Parish Council

Held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 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 Unwin. Also in attendance was the Clerk David Boyce as well as four members of the public.

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

219/22. To agree the apologies

The Council **agreed** apologies for Cllrs Fowler, Williams & Hunt. The Council noted the agreed dispensation for Cllr Killingworth. The Council also accepted apologies from Cllr King and FDC Bligh. The Chairman confirmed the Council was quorate and commenced with the meeting.

220/22. To receive requests for Dispensations and record interests

Cllr Booth registered his personal interest for item 235/22. The Chairman then reminded Councillors that they could register their interests at any time during the meeting.

221/22. Open Forum – Public participation.

Two members of the public came to discuss a development they had previously proposed and had refused and explained that they were seeking councillor input as to what the Council felt would be acceptable on that site. The Chairman explained that comments would be best on the back of any application once submitted to the District Council as the Councillors would have something to comment upon, as well as the protocols and issues around prejudication, however offered to collate any questions for the developers from the Council at the next meeting with an item placed on the agenda to that end.

The Community Speedwatch representative gave the Council an update including that the sessions were due to resume in February, with 100 sessions completed in the previous 10 months. The group had increased in number with two volunteers, however, would really benefit from more Parson Drove volunteers to maintain a consistent coverage.

222/22. To agree the minutes of the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022

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The minutes were **agreed**.

222/22 a. Matter arising from previous minutes not covered on the agenda (for information only)

The minutes were reviewed and any matters arising were identified as on this agenda.

223/22. To receive the District Councillors Report

In FDC Bligh's absence, Cllr Booth informed Councillors that there had been a full District meeting since the last Parish Council meeting but he had not attended. Cllr

Booth explained that Street Pride support was asked about where no additional support was being sought to provide for this year. It was also commented that Planning had had another resignation and were struggling to meet their minimum working target, as well as struggling to deliver 65 affordable homes. FDC Bligh had been dealing with Clarion issues.

224/22. To receive the County Councillors Report

In CCC Kings absence, it was noted a report had been sent shortly before the meeting. Councillors discussed the Church End road repair, which had been identified as dangerous in September 2022 and only on the day of this meeting was being seen to, but the repairs proposed were insufficient for the requirements that were now presented with three months additional deterioration. It was also noted in the report that the drain covers were still not being reported.

225/22. Highways Matters

225/22. a. To report any new street lighting faults

The Clerk informed the Council of his frustration in getting anywhere with the issues currently with street lights, including the lack of general positive response from Cllr French in taking ownership of the portfolio responsibility for street lighting, having only forwarded on the same concerns already reported to the Officers at FDC with no effect. The Clerk also informed the Council that the District Council had not addressed the forwarded correspondence and managed the payment dispute. There had not been any explanation prepared by their accounts team and they had instead simply started a collection process, which the Clerk intervened with at FDC. The Clerk suggested to formally dispute the payment for street lighting as the Service Level Agreement had not been met by the District Council and it was noted that rate payers have been negatively disadvantaged financially as a result, including higher maintenance and running costs as a result of the replacements not having been done. The Council **agreed** to formally dispute the payment.

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225/22. b. The Council noted TRO 2023/035 to prohibit vehicular access between Main Road and Silvers Lane, Parson Drove as lies between Newlands Road and Cornish Rose from 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 for electrical cable installation works.

225/22. c. The Council acknowledged the Anglia Water scheme for Harrolds Bank and Marshalls Bank to begin the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 until 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024.

226/22. Planning application decision updates

226/22 a. The Council noted F/YR22/1160/F | Erect an agricultural building, formation of a cattle yard and extension of farm yard | Clough Cross Farm Marshalls Bank Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4JE GRANTED

227/22. Planning applications for comment

227/22. a. None

227/22. b. To consider the opportunity of a new planter on the Green supplied by the Street Pride group

Councillor Booth registered his personal interest in this item at this point in the meeting.

The Council invited the Street Pride representative present at the meeting to explain, where he told the Council that following feedback from local residents, the focus of the Green felt all at the bus stop end and nothing the other, hence the request for a planter. The Council **agreed** to the principle of the planter and its placement, then there was some discussion about a grant toward it, where Cllr Spriggs offered to supply the timbers and some support in installing them.

228/22. The Council **agreed** the payments as following;

228/22. a. Payments to make

- i. Clerks Salary (£486.03)
- ii. Working from home allowance (£25.00)
- iii. Postage costs (£16.99)

228/22 b. The Council **agreed** the payments made

- i. E-On (£33.00)
- ii. Wave (£20.00)
- iii. EE Telephone bill (£22.80 including £3.80 VAT)

The Clerk informed the Council that the Wave payment had not been taken as the account was in credit and so the agreed direct debit above was still in force, Wave had not taken it and will not until such time that the account is no longer in credit.

229/22. To receive the bank reconciliation

The Council **agreed** the bank reconciliation as below;

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30/09/2022

Opening balance	
42765802	£110,745.02
Opening balance	
05546583	£14,827.18
add receipts	£20,213.85
less payments	£13,735.87
unpresented cheques	£0.00
<i>Total</i>	£132,050.18

Current balance 42765802	£117,215.66
Current balance 05546583	£14,834.52
unpresented cheques	£0.00
<i>Total</i>	£132,050.18

Line 8 check = £0	£0.00
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\*Unpresented cheques

<i>Total</i>	£0.00
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230/22. To discuss changing bank account provider

The Council discussed the arrangements with Santander, including no online banking, not being able to change the address to the Clerks amongst other issues with access. The Clerk had circulated some options for other Banks still offering the Community account service for the Council to choose from. It was agreed to have Cllrs Booth, Unwin and Spriggs as Signatories as well as the Clerk.

231/22. To receive the tree work tenders

The Clerk explained that it had been a challenge to find someone demonstrably qualified and insured that would stand by a termed quote and had received one more since the last meeting. All quotes were broken down into sections. A discussion ensued, where it was **agreed** to use Icen Tree Care for the mandatory works and to try contact UK Power Networks in the first instance for the trees touching the power lines. It was **agreed** to make the planning application for the works. It was **agreed** to seek one more crown lift quote and to put this onto the January 2023 agenda.

232/22. To discuss the Fishlock quote for bollards (£5,592.00 including £932.00 VAT)

Cllr Booth presented the quotes received for installing the bollards near the bus stop, with the difference being in materials. The cost was discussed in comparison to the benefit, where it was **agreed** to apply to Wryde Croft wind farm for the funding for

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these enhancements to the Green and to consult with the Street Pride group prior to application for any other community identified enhancements such as the bollards which would improve pedestrian safety and amenity accessibility.

233/22. To receive an update on the Lancaster Bomber Memorial project

The Clerk informed the Council that the bid had been successful with Wryde Croft Wind Farm and that the payment was expected shortly, solicitors had been

instructed, the memorial masons had been talked to by the Clerk and that there was a memorial being planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the crash.

234/22. To hear the progress of the Website Working Party

Cllr Unwin explained to the Council that Tamar had undergone the work to create the website and he had had a meeting with Cllr Booth and the website was well under way, with an appeal to Councillors for any relevant content or photos. It was noted that the Council were unable to publish any documents onto the website until it was live, however members of the public could request copies of minutes, agendas and such from the Clerk at [parsondroveclerk@outlook.com](mailto:parsondroveclerk@outlook.com).

235/22. To receive the Amenities 95 report

In Cllr Hunts absence, Cllr Booth told the Council that the cabaret held at the Village Hall had been a success with lots of money raised and then reminded Councillors of the Christmas Party to be held the coming weekend which was free for children.

236/22. To receive the Police report

Cllr Unwin explained that the Police have cancelled all meetings at the last moment for quite a while so there was no information to report. Cllr Unwin told the Council that he was directed to the internet for crime statistics for the area. There were no items to feed back to police, but it was noted that the Police had issued a “no further action” within an hour of reporting a stolen van in the Parish recently.

237/22. To collate agenda items for the next meeting

- To receive the tree crown lift tenders
- To collate any questions for the developer at Ingham Hall Gardens
- Allotment update

238/22. To agree a date, time and venue of next meeting

It was **agreed** to meet on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 19:00 at the Village Hall for the main meeting and the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 for the HR meeting at 19:00 then the precept setting meeting at 19:30.

*The meeting was closed at 20:47*