

Parson Drove Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Parson Drove Parish Council Held on 12th July 2023 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, A Rouse, R Fowler & P Unwin.

Also in attendance were FDC Cutler 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 19:00.

152/23. To agree the apologies

Apologies were noted from FDC M Humphrey.

153/23. To receive requests for Dispensations and record interests

Cllr Booth registered his personal interest in item 167/23. Cllr Booth explained his predetermination for item 160/23. a. as he knew residents there. Councillors were reminded that they could register their interests at any time during the meeting.

153/23. a. To receive the resignation of Cllr Tania Cook and to publish Notice of Casual Vacancy for Co-Option for 14 days.

The Council received notice that following the resignation of Cllr Tania Cook a casual vacancy had arisen, whereby notice had been given.

154/23. Open Forum – Public participation.

Congratulations was passed to Cllr Williams and the Council on the successful Lancaster Bomber Memorial Event at the weekend. It was noted that FDC Chair Nick Meekins had sent his thanks. A presentation was made to Cllr Williams on behalf of some of the families.

Community Speedwatch informed the Council that Gorefield had begun the process to be included in the scheme. A new volunteer was noted that had now undergone training, with the appeal for volunteers reminded. It was also commented upon that the Police had been doing more enforcement checks based on the feedback they are receiving from the Community Speedwatch team.

155/23. To agree the minutes of the meeting on 14th June 2023 and 30th June 2023

The Council **agreed** the minutes of the 14th June 2023 with some minor amendments. The Council **agreed** the minutes of the 30th June 2023.

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155/23 a. Matter arising from previous minutes not covered on the agenda (for information only)

It was noted that the respective clerks will work together on the 20mph Back Road application.

156/23. To receive the District Councillors Report

Cllr Booth informed the Council that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 17th July. The Council were told that at an Overview and Scrutiny meeting, the inspector from the local area said that all 4 Police officers were now trained in the use of the speed gun. It had been noted at this meeting that there was not a mobile CCTV unit available for the rural areas, where the increase in anti-social behaviour was noted, in particular on motorbikes. The District Council had set up three new advisory committees, rural affairs, culture, and projects.

157/23. To receive the County Councillors Report

Cllr King was welcomed back to meetings. The report received earlier in the day was discussed, where it was noted that the Dragon Patcher had been seen down Long Drove recently but the potholes were already coming back out. The 30mph extension application was discussed, for Main Road and should be extended from John Bends Way to Sealeys Lane and extend to the settlement of Church End where the Village sign was. The LHI project limit increases were applauded as they considered the hikes in costs better. The dates of the 27th October to the 12th January 2024 were noted for the next round of LHI bids. The Council agreed to pursue a weight limit change on High Side, although the County Council initial response was that it was mainly used by agricultural vehicles, which the Parish Council agreed was incorrect. It was noted that Gorefield Parish Council also support reducing the weight limit.

158/23. Highways Matters

It was noted that again an accident had happened on Swan Bridge. Cllr Spriggs said that the speed limit signs on Fen Road were misleading, which CCC King said he would investigate.

158/23. a. The Council reported no new street lighting faults. It was noted that an email had been received with just the invoices on and no further information, which the Council **agreed** to reply to and ask for a covering letter.

158/23. b. Minor Highways Schemes

The Council were informed that the work had begun and there had been one parishioner give feedback about the siting of one pole.

158/23. c. The Council acknowledged TTRO 864/130099 on the 4th August 2023 between Long Drove and Blacks Drove.

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158/23. d. Cllr Booth told the Council that Wisbech St Mary Parish Council want to work together to look for a solution to the issues at Bellamys Bridge. Cllr Spriggs pointed out that there were more accidents and bigger issues at Swan Bridge. It was noted that the red markings were faded and hadn't been renewed last year and a crash barrier there had been left damaged for quite some time. It was **agreed** for Cllr Booth to pursue some options with Gorefield and Wisbech St Mary Parish Councils

159/23. The Council noted the planning application decision updates as follows;
159/23 a. F/YR23/0327/F Parson Drove Surgery 240 Main Road Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4LF Conversion of existing roof space to form consulting rooms, office space and meeting room involving the formation of an external staircase and balcony and changes to internal arrangements
Granted

159/23.b. F/YR23/0365/F Glebe Villa 222 Main Road Church End Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4LF Erect 1 dwelling (2-storey 3-bed) involving demolition of existing dwelling Granted

160/23. The Council **agreed** the following comments in regard to these planning applications;

160/23. a. F/YR23/0555/O Land North Of Longways 1 Back Road Murrow Cambridgeshire Erect 1 dwelling (outline with all matters reserved) Pending consideration The item was taken by Cllr Spriggs, where the application was considered. It was proposed for refusal for the access issues, drainage issues, the upkeep concerns of the drain, flood risk issues and to limit urban sprawl.

160/23. b. F/YR23/0562/TRCA Land North Of Springfield Road Parson Drove Cambridgeshire Works to 2 x Silver Birch trees within a conservation area Pending consideration. The Council recommended for approval pending the Tree Officers report.

It was noted that there was a Planning Training Day scheduled on the 19th July, where it was **agreed** Cllr Pam Williams and the Clerk would attend the day on the Councils behalf.

161/23. The Council **agreed** the payments of the Council as below;

- 161/23. a. Payments to make;
- i. Clerks Salary (£486.03)
 - ii. Working from home allowance (£30.00)
 - iii. Postage costs (£)
 - iv. Amenities 95 (Hall hire Lancaster Bomber meetings) (£280.00)
 - v. Internal Audit Solutions (£402.00 including £67.00 VAT)

161/23 b. Payments made;

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- i.E-On (£48.20)
- ii.Wave (£20.00)
- iii.EE Telephone bill (£24.91 including £4.98 VAT)

161/23. c. Payments received to note;

- i.Fenland District Council (Concurrent Functions Grant; streetlights) (£5,329.00)

162/23. To agree the asset inspection date

The asset inspection was **agreed** for the 16th August 2023, where it was also **agreed** to defer the allotment inspection.

163/23. To discuss the options for Village Voices (Cllr P Unwin)

Cllr Unwin informed the Council that the person currently running it, would stop from October and that another volunteer had not been found despite appeals. It was suggested that this had a benefit to those not on the internet but funding needed to be found to employ someone if a volunteer couldn't be found. It was agreed for Cllrs Unwin and Booth to work with other Parish Councils and the Parochial Church Council for discussions about how to keep the Village Voices alive.

164/23. To update the Council on the Bank Account change progress

The Clerk informed the Council that he had issues finding a community account application for Natwest and after approaching the closest branch was told that they don't offer new community accounts or switch them. It was **agreed** to pursue Barclays Bank next.

165/23. To hear the progress of the Website Working Party

Cllr Unwin informed the Council that the training they had had was a little rushed and came from a very technical individual so there were elements that were still being worked through to understand how to publish, but that this was the main priority now to ensure that documents were published such as agendas and minutes.

166/23. To receive an update on the Lancaster Bomber Project

The Council gave thanks to Cllr Pam Williams for her efforts to facilitate the event. It was noted that it had reached the front page of the Citizen, as well as made it onto the Peterborough Telegraph. The day went incredibly well, with overall great feedback from attendees who totalled over 200. There had been a project set up to capture some of the local history and preserve it including local anecdotes and stories wider than from just the crash. It was **agreed** to add the information board site to the grass cutting tender to be circulated for next year. A letter of thanks would be issued on behalf of the Chair.

167/23. To receive the Amenities 95 report

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Cllr Booth informed the Council that the car show was scheduled for this weekend, as well as the frustrations with bureaucracy for the licencing amendments.

167/23. a. To agree a representative from the Council for the Amenities 95 committee.

It was **agreed** to appoint Cllr Gavin Booth as a representative from the Council for the Amenities 95 committee.

168/23. To agree a bid to Wryde Croft Wind Farm

The Council deliberated the comments previously about some improvements to the street scene including benches for the elderly down Back Road as requested by a parishioner, a bench and some fencing at the Lancaster Memorial Information Board, bollards near the bus shelter at The Green and some planters to help with the problems at the shop. It was noted that the deadline for the application was the 1st August 2023 and the Council **agreed** to apply for these things. It was noted that the Street Pride group had requested some money from the Council toward replacing the Village log, they are also making their own Wryde Croft Wind Farm application.

169/23. To receive the Police report

Cllr Unwin informed the council that the meeting had been cancelled again but was rescheduled for next Friday 21st July.

170/23. To collate agenda items for the next meeting

- Village voices
- Bank reconciliation
- Repairs to the Cage Roof
- Footpath outside 33-35 Fen Road

171/23. To agree a date, time and venue of next meeting

The Council **agreed** to meet in the Village hall on 9th August at 19:00.

The meeting was closed at 21:11