



PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 8th January 2025 at The Cage, Village Green, Parson Drove

Attended by Councillors: A Rouse (Chairman), P Spriggs, P Unwin, Y Reader, G Booth and P Williams

FDC Councillors: D Cutler | CCC Councillor:

Members of the public: 0

Also Present: Sarah Phillips (Clerk)

01/25. To agree apologies for absence

Apologies had been received and accepted from Fenland District Councillor M Humphrey, CCC Councillor S King and R Fowler.

02/25. To consider any requests by Councillors for dispensation.

None.

03/25. To receive Members Declarations of Interest

- Cllr Rouse declared a pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 21/25 as an employee of FACT.
- Cllr G Booth declared a pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 23/25 as he is a committee member of the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

04/25. Open Forum – Public participation. Agenda item time limited to 15 minutes.

To allow up to 3 minutes for each member of the public who wishes to address the Council.

None.

05/25. To agree the minutes of the meeting dated 11th December 2024.

The minutes of the meeting dated 11th December 2024 was agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

06/25. Matters arising from previous minutes not covered on the agenda (for information only)

- The War Memorial railings are to be painted.
- Concrete blocks have been added to Clough Bridge but there is no further information of when the bridge will be repaired.
- The clerk confirmed that WSM Parish Council have agreed for Parson Drove PC to be included in the newsletter. As discussed in the December meeting it was agreed that £1000 would be a reasonable contribution towards the newsletter and a grant will be sought if needed and up to 4 pages would be requested.
- It was confirmed under agenda item 360/24 that the slabs outside The Cage would be taken up and relayed and not replaced.

07/25. To receive the Chairman's Report

Cllr Rouse confirmed that not much has taken place due to the weather but reported the following.

- A meeting has taken place with the Clerk.
- Had a walkaround Parson Drove.

08/25. To receive the District Councillors Reports

Cllr Cutler confirmed that the next full council meeting will not be taking place until February so nothing to report.

Cllr Booth reported:

- The Fenland Business plan does not include any plans for villages.
- There is a consultation taking place for local government to move to unitary authorities of which has been suggested for Cambridgeshire and may mean that the elections are cancelled.

- Cllr Booth has agreed to chase what is happening with the planned traveller site at Seadyke as a lot of work is happening on site.

09/25. To receive the County Councillor Report

No report received.

10/25. Highways Matters

a) To report any new street lighting issues and receive updates

Street light PC3 outside bungalow Witch Hazel has been reported as having a “red” status which means it will need to be removed or replaced.

The lights on Ingham Hall Gardens and Riverside Gardens have been replaced and are now not very bright and there are two streetlights on Main Road not working, this will be reported to Cambridge County Council by Cllr Rouse.

It was confirmed that potholes have been marked.

b) Any Highways Issues to be raised by Councillors

Potholes continue to be an issue.

c) Contribution towards the LHI bid by the parish council

It was **RESOLVED** that a 10% contribution (£5000) will be made towards the LHI bid if successful for the applications submitted for the parish council and community speed watch. A higher contribution would be considered if needed.

Councillors discussed the outstanding LHI bid invoice which has been outstanding for 3 years and ask the clerk to chase.

11/25. Planning Applications – Decision Updates: Nil.

12/25. Planning Applications - For comment:

(a)	F/YR24/0962/F	Apple Crumble Cottage 318 Main Road Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4LF Replacement of conservatory roof including the insertion of 2 x rooflights, to existing dwelling	There were no objections but asked for all workers to park on site.
(b)	F/YR24/0963/LB	Apple Crumble Cottage 318 Main Road Church End Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4LF External works to a listed building: Replacement of conservatory roof including the insertion of 2 x rooflights, to existing dwelling	There were no objections but asked for all workers to park on site.

13/25. Finance Matters – To receive the Finance & Budget Report for 2024/2025 to date

Councillors went through the finance report, and it was noted that funds given to Parson Drove Street Pride for £700 is to come from the Wrydecroft Community Fund and £750 be moved to the churchyard grant which is currently under Wrydecroft budget headings.

It was **RESOLVED** that the hedge cutting will continue up to Murrow and as previously agreed of which £500 is available to cover the additional charge.

14/25. Finance Matters - To agree the outstanding payments of the Council:

Councillors **RESOLVED** that the following payments be made.

Item	Description	Total Amount	Power to Spend	VAT Element
(a)	Clerks November pay (month 10)	515.20		0.00
(b)	Clerks October Expenses	39.20		0.00

15/25. Finance Matters – To ratify payments made:

(a)	Street Pride (planters)	350.00		0.00
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(b)	EE October Telephone Bill (Direct Debit)	24.60	LG Act 1972 S111	4.10
(c)	E-on – The Cage November Energy (Direct Debit)	39.21	Parish Councils Act 1957 S3	1.87

16/25. Finance Matters – Grant Applications – Nil.

17/25. Finance Matters – Wrydecroft Small Grants Programme

It has been requested that the grants application form be added to the website.

18/25. Infrastructure Delivery Plan Fenland District Council

The councillors went through each item giving a rank of importance.

19/25. Gardens and Allotments

a) Waiting list update

The clerk confirmed that those on the waiting list have been contacted, two on the waiting list confirmed they are no longer interested. Availability is to be advertised on the website.

20/25. For Councillors to receive an update regarding Tree Works in the Parish.

A confirmation email has been received from Ark Tree Arborists to confirm that the horse chestnut tree was diseased hence why it was removed rather than receiving a crown lift. The email will be kept on file for future records.

21/25. For Councillors to receive an update for FACT Shuttle Bus Service

The use of the shuttle bus service has been used less than expected. Those who have used the shuttle bus were very appreciative of the service. Cllr Rouse confirmed that in spring FACT will do another promotion to local villages to use Dial a Ride Service and Wisbech North is well subscribed. It was agreed that the flyer should be included in the newsletter.

An invoice for £236.99 was received from FACT and **RESOLVED** to pay.

22/25. The Cage Maintenance

Two quotes have been received for works on The Cage brickwork for £4600 and £4100. It was proposed by Cllr Booth and seconded by Cllr Unwin that the quote for £4600 will be successful due to the history of the work previously completed. **RESOLVED** and Cllr Unwin will instruct for the work to commence.

23/25. To receive Amenities 95 Management Committee Report

The last meeting was cancelled with the next scheduled for 18th January, planters and potholes are on the agenda.

A quiz night is due to take place on the Saturday night.

24/25. To collate agenda items for the next meeting

Agenda items for the meeting on 12th February are:

- Heating for The Cage
- BT Box /Defibrillator
- Standing orders
- Financial Regulations
- Ris Assessment
- Clough Bridge
- Update on banking

25/25. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 22nd January 2025 7:00pm

Parson Drove Village Hall, Main Road, Parson Drove

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm

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