



PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held on
**Wednesday 14th May 2025 at Parson Drove Village Hall, Main Road,
Parson Drove**

Attended by Councillors: P Spriggs, Y Reader, G Booth, R Fowler, A Rouse, P Williams

CCC Councillor: A Osborn

Members of the public: 1

Also Present: Sarah Phillips (Clerk)

119/25. To Elect a Chair and sign acceptance of declaration of office form

It was proposed with all in favour and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Rouse be elected as Chair.

120/25. To Elect a Vice Chair and sign acceptance of declaration of office form

It was proposed with all in favour and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Booth be elected as Vice Chair.

121/25. To agree apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Unwin.

122/25. To consider any requests by Councillors for dispensation.

None.

123/25. To receive Members Declarations of Interest

- Cllr G Booth declared a pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 133/25 planning item and 152/25 as he is a committee member of the Amenities 95 Management Committee, Cllr Rouse declared an interest in 149/25 due to being employed by FACT.

125/25. 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.

A parishioner confirmed that they are unable to maintain the grassed area of Springfield Road anymore.

There were some areas which were highlighted as areas of concern:

- A piece of land on the eastern side of Springfield Road is full of weeds and rubbish, which has been there for a number of years.
- Parts of the pavements are dangerous.
- The road is full of potholes.
- When it rains the middle of the road is flooding. When vehicles go through the water it is going onto the pavement and gardens. It was noted that drainage holes are blocked of which has been the case for some time.
- Concerns that a parking area for parents to drop off/pick up children from school is being used regularly by another user which is preventing parents parking close to the school.

The parish council gave thanks for the years given with maintaining the grassed area in Springfield Road and confirmed that the issues will be discussed further. Cllr Booth confirmed that a team were supposed to be looking at the collapsed drain, and other complaints are being made with the same issue but been told that it is awaiting funding. Cllr Booth has raised the issue again as well as logging the dangerous pavement. It was confirmed that if cars are being abandoned, they can be reported.

It was brought to the attention of the parish council that a planning application had been received for Silvers Lane of which has not gone onto the agenda, it was noted that there have been no objections.

126/25. To agree the minutes of the meeting dated 9th April 2025

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The minutes of the meeting dated 9th April 2025 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

127/25. Matters arising from previous minutes not covered on the agenda (for information only)

- Cllr Booth has chased for an update of the issue of fencing and materials on site at Seadyke Bank without planning permission. No response has been received.
- It is expected that white lines on Swan Bridge will be done in the next financial year.
- There are still issues with street lighting. Cllr Booth explained that there is now a new street lighting contract so repairs to streetlights should start to happen.

128/25. To receive the Chairman's Report

The new chairman of street pride wants to be a lot more active and has ideas for the village green. The chairman would like to arrange a picnic for the school children and make them aware of picking up litter. Discussions have also taken place about planting herbs outside the shop.

129/25. To receive the District Councillors Reports

The next full meeting is next week with agenda items being to have a separate flag of the fens plus annual meeting items. Cllr Booth has also attended a corporate governor meeting.

130/25. To receive the County Councillor Report

Cllr Osborn was welcomed to the meeting. Cllr Osborn spoke about a windfarm development and that power lines that were to be underground, some will now be overground. It is unclear how far it will be coming south but Cllr Osborn has agreed to keep the parish council updated.

131/25. Highways Matters

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

Potholes on Silvers Lane have now been circled.

- b) To receive and update on the LHI application and to consider if the application should come from the parish council and be one application

It was felt that the parish council were unable to withdraw their application as all details of the expected reduction of the speed limit had not been confirmed. It was agreed that application 73 will be from the community speed watch.

It was proposed that the parish council contribution be 12% towards the works completed, seconded by Cllr Fowler with the majority in favour – **RESOLVED**.

- c) To consider the purchase of a new pane of glass for the bus shelter

It has been requested that the clerk obtain a quote for two panes of glass and Perspex.

132/25. Planning Applications – Decision Updates: Nil.

133/25. Planning Applications - For comment:

F/YR25/0329/F	Change of use from existing dwelling to care home (C2), involving the removal of external staircase and balcony, and minor alterations to door and window arrangement at Selton House 49 Back Road Murrow Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4JW No comment
F/YR25/0325/F	Erect 3 x dwellings involving the demolition of existing extension to 1 Main Road at Land North Of 1 And 7 Main Road Parson Drove Cambridgeshire Object: Concerns with safeguarding issues with school, plot 3 does not indicate they need access from the bank which will need permission from the PC, highly congested already, does not support local conservation, not in keeping with properties.
F/YR25/0305/VOC	Variation of condition 02 of planning permission F/YR20/0544/F (Erection of a single-storey 1-bed annexe ancillary to the existing dwelling) to enable the use of annexe to be used for holiday let purposes and ancillary use at Land North Of 47 Main Road Parson Drove Cambridgeshire

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	No comment
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133/25. Finance Matters - To agree the outstanding payments of the Council:

Item	Description	Total Amount	Power to Spend	VAT Element
(a)	Clerks April pay	415.20 515.20	LG Act 1972 S112	0.00
(b)	HMRC April	103.00	LG Act 1972 S112	0.00
(c)	Clerks April Expenses – includes working from home allowance	30.00	LG Act 1972 S112	0.00
(d)	RoSPA	288.00		48.00

134/25. Finance Matters – To ratify payments made:

(a)	EE March Telephone Bill (Direct Debit)	24.60	LG Act 1972 S111	4.10
(b)	E-on – The Cage March Energy (Direct Debit)	36.95	Parish Councils Act 1957 S3	1.76

135/25. Finance Matters – Grant Applications

None.

136/25. Finance Matters – Wrydecroft Small Grants Programme

None. Local groups to be invited to apply for grants of up to £1000.

137/25. Finance Matters – Online banking update

Cllr Booth now has access to online banking.

138/25. To consider renewal quotation received from Zurich Insurance

The clerk confirmed that the new assets have been added to the insurance which has not amended the quotation. The renewal quotation was agreed.

139/25. Annual Governance and Accountability Return

Deferred until internal audit is completed.

140/25. To receive an update on purchasing a BT box and defibrillator

Applications for defibrillator grants open in the summer. A request has been put into BT for the purchase of the kiosk.

141/25. To receive and consider RoSPA reports

The following items were noted:

- The swing set will be looked at by councillors when completing an asset inspection.
- The gap in the railings is not the parish council's responsibility but has been noted.

142/25. To consider using Community Payback

To be passed to the street pride.

143/25. To discuss areas of concern in the parish

Concerns were raised by the untidy appearance around the shop and takeaway area. It was agreed that environmental are to be contacted.

144/25. To decide on Phase 2 tree works

Tree branches are hitting the top of cars along the bank. It has been requested that the tree inspector be invited to see what works could be approved.

145/25. To consider if VJ Day (15th August) should be commemorated at the War Memorial

It was agreed that the event be organised by Cllr Rouse. Cllr Booth will organise a wreath.

146/25. To agree areas of responsibilities/committees

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Deferred.

147/25. To consider items for the newsletter

The deadline is the end of May for any articles to be included in the newsletter.

148/25. To receive an update on vacancies on Allotments and Gardens

There are still some vacant gardens available.

149/25. For Councillors to receive an update for the FACT Shuttle Bus Service

There is only one user, and it was felt at this stage that another grant will not be requested. A notice will be put in the newsletter that if uptake does not increase the service will be lost.

150/25. To receive nominations for John Bends Charity and Leverington Feoffeys

Cllr Williams was nominated for Leverington Feoffeys.

Cllr Spriggs, Cllr Rouse and Cllr Reader were nominated for John Hunt Charity.

151/25. The Cage Maintenance

There are a number of damaged bricks, replacements are being sought.

152/25. To receive the Amenities 95 Management Committee Report

The next meeting is due to held in the next couple of weeks.

153/25. To collate agenda items for the next meeting

Signwriter for the cage.

154/25. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 11th June 2025 7:00pm Parson Drove Village Hall, Parson Drove

155/25. Staffing Matters

- (a) To agree to entering into a closed session under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to discuss a Staffing Matter.

It was **RESOLVED** to enter into closed session.

- (b) Clerks review

Probationary period to be extended for a further 2 months.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.51pm.

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