



PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parson Drove Annual Parish Council Meeting held on
**Wednesday 13th May 2026 at Parson Drove Village Hall,
Main Road, Parson Drove**

Attended by Councillors: G Booth (Chairman), P Unwin (Vice-Chairman), P Spriggs, Y Reader & P Williams

FDC Councillors: G Booth & D Cutler

Members of the Public: 1

Also Present: Sarah Bligh (Parish Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:15pm following the completion of the Parish Assembly.

107/26. Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman

(a) For Council to elect a Chairman for the municipal year 2026-2027.

Cllr Unwin proposed Cllr Booth for Chairman, seconded by Cllr Spriggs. With no further nominations Cllr Booth accepted the position with the proviso that the position was re-evaluated in six months' time. With this said Cllr Booth was duly elected Chairman for the municipal year 2026-2027.

(b) For Council to elect a Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2026-2027

Cllr Reader proposed Cllr Unwin for Vice-Chairman, seconded by Cllr Williams. With no further nominations Cllr Unwin accepted the position and was duly elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2026-27.

(b) To receive elected Chairman & Vice Chairman Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllrs Booth & Unwin both read and signed the Declarations of Acceptance of Office, countersigned by the Proper Officer/Clerk.

108/26. To agree apologies for absence

Apologies of absence were received and accepted from Cllr Fowler and FDC Cllr Humphrey.

109/26. To consider any requests by Councillors for dispensation – None Received

110/26. To receive Members Declarations of Interest

- Cllr Booth declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 131/26 due to being a committee member of the Amenities 95 Management Committee.

111/26. 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.

The Clerk informed the Council that, as Co-Option was not specifically listed as an agenda item for the meeting, no formal decision regarding the appointment could be made at this time. However, the only candidate who had applied was present and was invited to address the Parish Council to introduce herself. The Clerk stated that the official procedure for Co-Option would be carried out at the June meeting.

The candidate, a resident of Murrow who had applied for the casual vacancy on the Parish Council, introduced herself to the members. She explained that she had lived in Murrow for nine years, having previously resided in Wimblington. Her current professional role provides her with experience in both contracts and procurement. Additionally, she highlighted her past involvement in the community, including participation in the local football club, assisting at community events, and raising funds for various local causes.

112/26. To agree the minutes of the meeting dated 8th April 2026.

The Council resolved including any amendments to accept as a true record, the minutes of the meetings. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

113/26. Matters arising from previous minutes not covered on the agenda (for information only)

- The Clerk reported that the mobile phone contract has now ended and a new contract can now be explored which will remove the previous clerks name from the account.
- The Clerk also reported that the Clough Bridge repairs are expected to run from 1st – 12th June 2026, with a 24/7 road closure in place.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

- Cllr Reader expressed concern regarding the closure dates due to the planned collection of produce by transport lorries during the first week of June and requested whether these works could be delayed by a week to minimise disruption to local companies. The Clerk to follow up and make the request to CCC.
- The Clerk further reported that a Highways meeting has been organised for Tuesday 19th May 2026 at the Cage to go over all outstanding issues with the Highways Maintenance Officer.
- The Chairman confirmed that the meeting regarding health and safety was still needed to be organised and recommended a Wednesday evening in June. Cllr Unwin confirmed that June was possible and would let the Clerk know his available dates. The Clerk reported that she had redesigned the risk assessment based on her training and would like to liaise with both councillors before officially putting it before members for adoption.
- The Chairman, in his capacity as Fenland District Council Councillor, has still not received an update from planning enforcement regarding Seadyke Bank and will chase this matter up.
- Cllr Spriggs expressed concern that the issue was not being addressed with appropriate seriousness and questioned whether a Freedom of Information (FOI) request had been submitted to FDC regarding the rates paid by gypsy/traveller residents. The Clerk advised members that she had requested information from FDC; however, her initial FOI submission was considered too vague, and she was asked to provide specific property details. Due to the considerable time required, the matter was deferred, but the Clerk stated she could proceed if provided with the exact addresses. The Clerk agreed to email the information she had compiled to confirm whether these were the properties in question.

114/26. To receive the District Councillors Reports

Cllr Booth reported that the next full council meeting is next Monday 17th May 2026, which will be the annual meeting of the council.

115/26. To receive the County Councillor Report

The Chairman reported that the Parish Councils current elected Councillor on CCC has been suspended under election law for making a false statement about another candidate. The appeal date was set at 6th May 2026 and as no appeal has been lodged within the specified time scale, a by-election has been called for 25th June 2026. Therefore, the Parish Council does not currently have CCC Councillor.

116/26. Highways Matters

(a) To report any new street lighting issues

The Chairman reported that during the FDC Audit & Risk Management meeting, it was noted there had been delays in receiving certificates from the contractor for both electrical and structural inspections of streetlights. The Clerk confirmed these certificates were only recently provided, despite the inspections having taken place over a year ago. Additionally, the Clerk stated that FDC has confirmed completion of all LED replacements, with the sole outstanding item being the installation of a new streetlight on Fen Road. Cllr Spriggs raised the question of whether the Parish Council benefits from reduced energy charges following the transition to LED lighting. The Chairman indicated that an additional £1,000 was included in the concurrent functions grant payment, while Cllr Reader suggested that any savings would be reflected in a reduction of energy costs on the FDC annual invoice. The Clerk will follow up and provide confirmation.

(b) To report any Highways Issues to be raised by Councillors

The Clerk requested that all highway issues be raised for discussion with the Highways Maintenance Officer next Tuesday. The Chairman mentioned the Church End sign was still missing following his report that it had been destroyed many months previous. The Clerk raised that the breaking up of Main Road at Church End was concerning. Cllr Spriggs mentioned that High Side was equally as bad as Church End and reported that there is a large pothole on Murrow Bank as you enter the village at Station Road. The Chairman mentioned that the approach to Clough Bridge on The Bank is also breaking up and is becoming dangerous. Cllr Spriggs reported that a lot of the potholes have been repaired on Long Drove however the road still has significant defects. Cllr Reader expressed relief that Silvers Lane has now been given a repair date of the 1st July 2026 through the capital maintenance programme.

117/26. Planning Applications – Decision Updates: Nil

118/26. Planning Applications – For Comment:

| | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|---|
| (a) | F/YR26/0307/F | Erect a conservatory to the rear of existing dwelling at April Cottage 28 Main Road Parson Drove Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 4JA The Parish Council has no objection to this application and therefore recommends approval. | Applicant: Mr G Shirley Agent: Anglian Home Improvements |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|---|

Cllr Reader brought forward a parishioner’s concern during the planning agenda item regarding a property opposite the school on Main Road that may be converted into a bed & breakfast, with glamping pods planned for the rear garden. The Chairman stated that, unless verifiable evidence is submitted to planning enforcement or a planning application is received for consultation, the Parish Council is unable to take any action at this time.

119/26. Finance Matters

- (a) To receive the Finance & Budget Report for 2026/2027 to date.

The bank reconciliation of 30th April 2026 balanced at £90,585.64 which was between the Santander Current Account of £52,624.58, the Santander Savings Account of £15,318.46 and the Unity Trust Account of £15,318.46 with £9.50 of unrepresented payments and £55.94 unrepresented receipts. The Clerk highlighted the budget details for 2026/2027 and noted that an accounting error in last year's budget resulted in an incorrect figure for the allocated reserve for the maintenance of trees and open spaces. The corrected opening balance for this reserve is £10,052.00, which is notably more favourable than previously indicated. Additionally, the unallocated cash reserve stands at £19,944.34 and may be transferred into various budgets as required during the year. The Clerk further informed members that a cheque for £50,000 has been issued to transfer most of the funds from the Santander Current Account to the Unity Trust Account. The report was agreed to and signed off by Cllr Pam Williams and unanimously agreed by Councillors.

Cllr Reader requested that the £300 received last month from the Friends of The Cage group be allocated to either the maintenance of the Cage budget header, or into the Cage Renovation Fund Reserve. The Clerk confirmed that the £300 has been added to the maintenance of the Cage budget header.

- (b) To receive the Internal Audit Report to 31 March 2026 and reappointment of Internal Auditors

The Chairman informed the Parish Council that the Internal Audit had provided a positive assessment of the Council’s operations, except for item O on the Internal Audit certificate. The exception related to the Council’s website, which lacked an accessibility statement. As a result, the Internal Auditor was unable to offer positive assurance for item O.

The Clerk reported that an accessibility statement has now been drafted. This statement is currently with Tamar IT, who are reviewing the document to confirm that the accessibility measures described are accurate and appropriate before it is published on the Parish Council’s website.

The Clerk noted her disappointment at not being able to discuss the matter with the Internal Auditor prior to the report’s completion, as the situation could have been rectified before the audit findings were finalised. Cllr Reader suggested that the accessibility statement, in its current form, should be uploaded to the website. The Clerk should then communicate this update to the Internal Auditor, request an amendment to the Internal Audit report, and seek a positive assurance for item O on the certificate. The Clerk will follow up on these actions.

The Chairman noted with concern that the Clerk was unable to communicate with the Internal Auditor during the course of the audit. This lack of availability meant that the Clerk was not in a position to respond to queries or provide necessary information to the Internal Auditor.

Considering these issues, the Chairman recommended conducting a tender exercise to appoint alternative Internal Auditors for the accounts of the following year. This process was agreed by members.

- (c) Approval of end of year accounts following the completion of Internal Audit

The Clerk presented a report stating that the Council's accounts remained unchanged following the completion of the audit process. The audit confirmed the accuracy of the accounts as submitted.

Following the confirmation of accuracy, the Chairman formally signed the accounts to signify the Council's approval.

- (d) To complete and approve Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2025/2026

The Annual Governance Statement with a positive assurance for assertion 10 was completed and approved by Councillors.

- (e) To approve the completed Section 2 Accounting Statements for 2025/2026

Section 2 Accounting Statements for 2025/2026 including the restated figures were approved by Councillors.

120/26. Finance Matters - To agree the outstanding payments of the Council:

| Item | Description | Total Amount | Power to Spend | |
|------|---|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| (a) | Clerks April Salary | £952.59 | LG Act 1972 S112 | Agreed |
| (b) | Clerks April Expenses – Working from Home Allowance | £30.00 | LG Act 1972 S112 | Agreed |

| | | | | |
|-----|---|----------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| (c) | HMRC Tax & NI for Month 2 | £84.48 | LG Act 1972 S112 | Agreed |
| (d) | NEST Pensions for Month 2 (D/D) | £62.12 | LG Act 1972 S112 | Agreed |
| (e) | Eon Next –Energy for the Cage (D/D) | £28.86 | Parish Councils Act 1957 S3 | Agreed |
| (f) | Unity Bank April Acc Fee (Standing Order) | £7.00 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Agreed |
| (g) | Santander March Acc Fee (Standing Order) | £4.99 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Agreed |
| (h) | Santander April Acc Fee (Standing Order) | £4.99 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Agreed |
| (i) | WSM Parish Council – Parish Post Contribution | £1000.00 | LG Act 1972 S142 | Agreed |
| (j) | BT Payphones – Kiosk Adoption | £1.00 | Public Health Act 1936 S234 | Agreed |
| (k) | RoSPA Play Safety Ltd – Annual Inspections | £298.80 | Public Health Act 1875 S164 | Agreed |
| (l) | North Level IDB – Drainage Rates 2026/27 | £244.27 | Public Health Act 1936 S260 | Agreed |
| (m) | A&R Grounds Keeping – Bin/Bench Cleaning | £265.00 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Agreed |
| (n) | Zurich Municipal Insurance Renewal | £1272.04 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Agreed |
| (o) | Auditing Solutions Ltd – IA 2025/26 | £450.00 | Accounts & Audit Regulations 1996 | Agreed |
| (p) | North Level IDB – Permissive Walkway | £25.00 | Public Health Act 1875 S164 | Agreed |

121/26. Finance Matters – To ratify payments made:

| | | | | |
|-----|--|--------|--------------------------|----------|
| (a) | Tesco Mobile (Direct Debit) | £9.50 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Approved |
| (b) | Tamar IT – Microsoft 365 (Direct Debit) | £11.38 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Approved |
| (c) | Tamar IT – SentinelOne Laptop Security (D/D) | £4.74 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Approved |
| (d) | Unity Bank March Acc Fee (Standing Order) | £7.00 | LG Act 1972 S111 | Approved |
| (e) | James Pest Control – Moles on Village Green | £65.00 | Open Spaces Act 1906 S15 | Approved |

The Council approved authorisation for expenditure covering the months of April and May. In addition, it formally ratified all payments that had previously been made during this period.

The Chairman advised that payment for the Internal Audit should be withheld until the proposed amendments to the audit report have been completed.

122/26. Finance Matters – Grant Applications

(a) Section 137 Applications - Nil

(b) Wrydecroft Small Grants Programme

I. Murrow Book Café – Upkeep and Running Costs £100.00

Following discussion the grant application was supported and the amount requested awarded.

123/26. Correspondence

(a) To receive an update regarding the clothing bank on the Village Green

The Chairman informed members that the pink clothing bank situated on the village green has now been substituted with a blue coloured bin and thanked Fenland District Council (FDC) for making this change. He expressed the view that the new blue bin is more visually suitable and better aligns with the character of the conservation area.

The Clerk advised the members that FDC was unable to provide funding for any fenced screening to conceal the bin. Additionally, the Amenities '95 committee decided against relocating the bank to the Village Hall following a vote on the matter.

After a brief discussion among the members, it was agreed that the issue regarding the clothing bank is now resolved. The blue bin will remain on the village green, and no further action will be taken.

(b) To consider donation of an Apple Tree for the Community Orchard from Murrow Street Pride

The Chairman raised a query regarding whether Murrow Street Pride would be responsible for planting the tree, should the parish council approve the proposed donation. This point emphasised the need for clarity on who would undertake the planting process.

Cllr Unwin advised that a tree guard should be used to protect the newly planted tree. This recommendation was based on the concern that rabbits and deer could potentially strip the bark off the tree, causing damage and threatening its survival.

FDC Cllr Cutler, acting in her capacity as Chairman of Murrow Street Pride, confirmed that the group would take responsibility for planting the tree. She also agreed to organise the installation of a tree guard to ensure the tree is safeguarded against wildlife. With these agreements in place the Parish Council agreed to the donation.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

- (c) To discuss complaint received regarding excessive green waste burning on allotments.
The Clerk brought to the members' attention a complaint received from a resident. The resident alleged that the allotment holder was importing waste onto the site specifically for burning, rather than burning waste generated from the allotment itself.
The Chairman informed the Council that bonfires are permitted on the allotments, provided they occur infrequently. He emphasised that only when bonfires become a regular occurrence do they present a nuisance to local residents.
Council members agreed that bringing external waste onto the allotment for burning is not acceptable. However, they decided not to escalate the issue formally at this stage. Instead, it was agreed that Cllr Spriggs would approach the allotment tenant directly. He will request that the tenant conducts any burning in a way that is considerate to nearby residents and takes care to be aware of wind direction when lighting bonfires.

124/26. Insurance Risk Assessment & Renewal

For Councillors to consider adequate insurance cover prior to renewal.
The Clerk noted that the Council was adequately covered but raised the issue that the renewal quote for the Council's insurance was significantly higher than the previous year's premium. This increase exceeds the 5% uplift projected in the precept setting accounts.
Following this, the Chairman recommended that payment of the insurance premium should be withheld until the matter is clarified with the insurers.

125/26. For Councillors to receive the RoSPA Play Safety Annual Inspection Reports

- (a) The Pond, Main Road
The Clerk reported that during the inspection of The Pond it was noted that the only concern raised by the report was the absence of a lifebuoy. The Clerk informed the Council that this issue is already being addressed by the Parish Council.
- (b) The Swings, Village Green
The Clerk reported that the inspection recommended two actions: firstly, that dogs should be banned from the area, and secondly, that an ownership sign should be installed on the swings. After consideration, both suggestions were dismissed by the Council as unnecessary.
The inspection also highlighted a maintenance issue, noting that a bolt shackle on the swing chain was loose. Cllr Spriggs volunteered to inspect the swings and tighten the bolt shackle as required.

126/26. For Councillors to review and adopt Model Publication Scheme 2026.

The Council considered the Model Publication Scheme 2026, a document required by the Information Commissioners Office. Cllr Reader emphasised the importance of ensuring the scheme is current, transparent, and accessible to the public via the Parish Council's website. After a brief discussion, the Councillors formally adopted the model publication scheme. The Clerk was instructed to arrange for its publication on the Parish Council's website, ensuring compliance and openness.

127/26. For Councillors to review and the Chairman to countersign 'Agreement for the Sale and Purchase of Telephone Kiosk to a Parish Council'

The Clerk explained that she believed the agreement in question is a standard document used for transferring ownership of a kiosk asset to a Parish Council. The formal adoption of the kiosk requires a payment of £1.00. The Clerk also noted that this process is commonly undertaken by other parish councils and has proceeded smoothly elsewhere.
Cllr Spriggs raised a query regarding the transfer of the electricity supply for the kiosk to the Parish Council. In response, the Clerk agreed to contact Wisbech Electrical for advice and to determine whether they have experience with handling such transfers.
Cllr Reader recommended that the Clerk begin researching the costs associated with renovating the kiosk to serve as a defibrillator hub. This would involve considering the expenses for any necessary electrical upgrades, installation and ongoing maintenance of the defibrillator, maintenance of the kiosk itself, and the purchase of the defibrillator unit. These costings will support the preparation of a grant application.
Following these considerations the Chairman duly signed and dated the agreement, and the Clerk to forward this to BT for their counter signature.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

128/26. For Councillors to discuss contribution amount for **Parish Post Newsletter**.

The Chairman initiated the discussion, prompting a range of opinions from the members. Some councillors strongly advocated for increasing the contribution, emphasising the importance of supporting the newsletter. Conversely, others raised concerns regarding the fairness of the contribution, particularly in relation to the proportion of distribution within the community.

Cllr Spriggs introduced the possibility of establishing a recurring annual grant to Wrydecroft, suggesting this could provide ongoing support for the community publication.

Cllr Unwin referenced the previous contribution of £1,000 for four pages, proposing that, as Parson Drove's content now spans six pages, a fair contribution would be £1,500. However, this proposal did not receive a seconder. Cllr Spriggs suggested that, considering Parson Drove's smaller distribution area, a contribution of £1,250 would be more reasonable; this was seconded by Cllr Reader. Seeking compromise, the Chairman proposed raising the contribution to £1,350, which received a second from Cllr Unwin.

A vote was held between the two proposed amounts. The majority agreed to contribute £1,350 to Wisbech St Mary Parish Council to help address their shortfall. Councillors also expressed their appreciation for the inclusion of Parson Drove community notices in the newsletter.

129/26. **Assets & Maintenance**

- (a) To discuss restoration of the Information Board beside the Cage

Cllr Spriggs provided an update noting that the board has been recently cleaned, and new Perspex has been installed to protect the displayed information. The Council extended its thanks to Cllr Spriggs for undertaking and completing the restoration which ensured the board remains presentable for visitors and residents alike.

- (b) To receive an update on Tree Works

The Clerk reported that the comprehensive tree survey is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 17th June 2026. This survey will assess the condition of the trees and help guide future maintenance activities.

According to the update provided by DM Landscapes, the only remaining task on the Village Green is the thinning of the canopy by 20% on the larger trees along the Bank. However, this particular work has been halted due to the presence of nesting rooks, which prevents further action at this time.

Cllr Reader voiced concerns that several aspects of the intended works have not yet been completed. The trees along the bank were supposed to undergo a reduction in both their spread and weight. Specifically, this was to be achieved by removing any growth within three meters of the edge of the footpath, as marked by the white line on the road. Additionally, the plan called for a crown lift to gutter height (no higher than eight meters and without removing any branch larger than 10 cms in diameter) along with thinning the canopy by 20%. In Cllr Reader's opinion, the reduction in the trees' spread has not been adequately accomplished.

To address these concerns, the Clerk recommended meeting with the contractor during their visit for the tree survey. This meeting would facilitate an evaluation of the works completed to date and help determine any further actions required.

- (c) To receive an update on the Permissive Walkway

The Clerk provided an update regarding the progress on fully opening the Permissive Walkway to the public. She explained that efforts are ongoing to arrange a meeting with a contractor on site in order to assess the remaining works required for completion. Contact has been established with two separate companies. However, neither contractor has been available to undertake a site visit thus far. As a result, there has been no opportunity to evaluate the outstanding work necessary for the walkway's opening. At present, there is no further update on the Permissive Walkway. The Clerk continues to pursue arrangements for a site visit and will report further developments when available.

- (d) To receive an update on the Community Orchard and discuss rabbit control at the Garden Allotments

The Clerk informed the meeting that she had contacted the pest controller who currently manages mole control on the village green, supplying details of the location where rabbit activity is causing concern. At present, a quotation for the necessary works to address the rabbit issue has not yet been received.

- (e) To receive an update on the MVAS purchase

The Clerk provided an update regarding the acquisition of new MVAS/SID machines for the parish. Collaboration with the Parish Clerks of Wisbech St Mary and Sutton St Edmunds has proven fruitful, culminating in a joint purchase of nine machines among the three parish councils. This collective approach enabled Parson Drove Parish Council to procure three machines at a total cost of £6,775 (Exc VAT). Notably, a reduced delivery charge was secured by arranging for all the machines to be delivered to a single address. As the grant received for this project amounted to £6,000, the Clerk recommended transferring an additional £775 from the unallocated cash reserves into the community projects fund to cover the remaining balance.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

The delivery is scheduled to take place at the address of the Wisbech St Mary Parish Clerk. Upon delivery, Cllr Spriggs has kindly volunteered to collect the machines for Parson Drove.

(f) To consider quotes received for three village lifebuoys

The Council proceeded to review the quotations that had been received for the purchase of three lifebuoys to be installed within the village. The Chairman extended his thanks to the Clerk for obtaining the necessary quotes. It was noted that the quotes submitted by different suppliers were all very similar in terms of cost. The Chairman explained that these quotes would be essential for the upcoming grant application to Wrydecroft Windfarm. The intention is for the grant to support the ongoing development of the Permissive Walkway, including covering the costs required to complete the walkway project and formally open it to the public.

(g) To consider quotes received for Clerks laptop replacement

The Council reviewed the three quotes submitted for the replacement of the Clerk's laptop. The Chairman enquired whether all the quotations received were based on the same laptop specification. The Clerk confirmed that each quote was for a Lenovo Thinkbook 16G8, featuring an Intel Ultra 5 processor, 16GB of RAM, and a 256GB SSD.

After examining the quotes, it was agreed that the Clerk should proceed with the purchase from the supplier offering the lowest price. The chosen supplier was Amax, with a quoted cost of £615 (Exc VAT)

130/26. The Cage Maintenance

(a) To receive an update regarding structural investigation

The Clerk provided an update concerning the structural investigation of the Cage. She reported difficulties in locating a suitable structural engineer but has now secured the services of a professional based in Cambridge. The engineer is scheduled to attend on 9th June 2026. The cost for the inspection is £895 (Exc VAT) and does not include travelling expenses. Additionally, the Clerk will unlock the Cage to ensure the inspection is carried out as planned.

The Clerk raised queries regarding the presence of asbestos within the Cage, seeking clarification from Cllr Reader about whether there is any record of asbestos or an asbestos report from previous assessments. This information is required to complete the risk assessment. Cllr Reader advised that she was not aware of any asbestos being found during the Cage renovation in 1998 and subsequently there are no reports on file. The Chairman suggested that the structural engineer, during their inspection, might be able to advise on the presence of asbestos. Should asbestos be identified, a separate inspection would be necessary.

The Clerk also expressed concerns about Legionella, noting that the bacteria is typically caused by stagnant water in pipes. Cllr Unwin addressed this issue, confirming that the risk of Legionella in the Cage is minimal as there is no water storage tank for heating water present.

131/26. To receive the Amenities 95 Management Committee Report

FDC Cllr Cutler, acting as secretary for Amenities '95, presented an update regarding recent committee activities. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was successfully conducted as scheduled. Following the AGM, all previous committee members (except for one) have continued as members. Additionally, the committee has welcomed three new members, further strengthening its capacity. The officer roles remain unchanged, with the same individuals continuing in these posts. The next committee meeting is set for 6th June 2026.

Club bookings and Quiz nights have been progressing well, indicating continued popularity. However, there has been a noticeable decrease in private bookings. This decline has been attributed to the ongoing cost of living crisis, which is impacting demand for such events.

The committee has discussed the possibility of making the Heras fencing a permanent fixture as a security measure. This consideration arises from a request from the football club following recent increases in anti-social behaviour on the field. During the discussion, Cllr Reader inquired whether the decision regarding the permanent fencing would be subject to public consultation. In response, Cllr Booth stated that a more comprehensive plan has been requested from the football club, indicating that further details are needed before seeking broader input.

Cllr Reader also suggested that, in addition to addressing the football club's concerns, the playing field would benefit from the installation of more play equipment and gym equipment in the future. Cllr Booth reported that the football dugouts need to be replaced which are estimated to be about 30 years old.

The Clerk requested a set of keys for the village hall to facilitate preparations ahead of meetings. This would enable her to open the hall, arrange tables, and set up the projector before Councillors arrive. The committee will address this request in due course

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

132/26. To collate agenda items for the next meeting

CLlr Reader asked for the following items be added to future agendas and not necessary the next meeting

- Memorial Railings
- Asset Inspection
- Garden Allotment Inspections
- Outstanding Policies
- Mobile Phone Contract

133/26. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 10th June 2026

7:00pm

Parson Drove Village Hall, Main Road, Parson Drove

The meeting was closed at 9:50pm