

Committed Future Expenditure and Planned Projects

The Parish Council will continue to press the County Council for schemes to tackle speeding traffic and the provision of footpaths to improve pedestrian safety. An application was made again this year under the Minor Highways Improvements scheme for the extension of the public footpath along Fen Road but unfortunately our application for funding from the County Council was not successful

Members of the Council are currently working with the Payne School and Cambridgeshire County Council on a Safer Routes to School Scheme.

The outside of the Cage will be repainted during the coming year and a new street light will be provided in the parish.

The Parish Council considers that these are worthy projects, which will benefit all Parishioners for many years to come.

ANNUAL REPORT

2008/2009



PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

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WELCOME to the Annual Report on the activities of the Parish Council.

Inside you will find details of the Council's activities during the year. Also details of how the Council spent its money and where it came from.

I hope that you will find this report informative however if you require any further information please contact the Clerk, me or any Parish Councillor.

Cyril Bellamy

We have continued to provide 17.75 acres of allotments and 24 garden allotments.

The village green, playing field and roadside grass verges have been cut regularly and flower beds maintained.

The Cage was open for visitors from April to September on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons and is available for small exhibitions and group meetings. During the last year the Cage was the venue for a Pottery Exhibition and an Arts & Crafts Exhibition

Parson Drove Street Pride Group have undertaken projects during the year including litter picks through the village and clearing weeds from the churchyard and laying bark around the gravestones. Their current project is improving the Gateways to the village by replacing the Parson Drove signs and planting shrubs around the signs. We are very grateful to the group and the village volunteers for their efforts to improve and enhance our parish environment.

During the year Councillors have attended meetings representing the Parish Council on the John Bends United Charities, Leverington Feofees, Friends of The Cage, Amenities 95 Management Committee, Section 106 working group and Safer Routes to School Scheme.

The Parish Plan Action Group has up dated the Action Plan with achievements to date and continued to liaise with the Council together with other agencies and service providers to take forward remaining areas highlighted in the action plan.

Summary of the Council's Accounts for year ending
31st March 2009

The main source of income is the precept which is collected through the Council Tax system by Fenland District Council

The Council actively seeks grant funding for its projects and in 2008/2009 we received £1,293 from Cambridgeshire County Council and £5,670 from Fenland District Council.

INCOME

Parish Precept	£10,000
Concurrent Functions Grant from District Council	£ 5,670
Grass cutting grant from County Council	£ 793
Recycling Credits	£ 643
Allotments & Gardens Rent	£ 1,427
Bank Interest	£ 476
Cambridgeshire County Council Grant	£ 500
Miscellaneous	£ 487

The total income for the year excluding VAT was £19,996

A copy of the full accounts is available upon request to the Clerk.

EXPENDITURE

In addition to the general administration costs, professional fees and salary costs of approximately £11,163 expenditure on the following areas has also been incurred:-

Grass cutting and grounds maintenance	£4,063
Street Light Column at Church End	£ 760
Cage maintenance & running costs	£ 681
2 Litter bins	£ 688
Drainage Rates for the Allotments & Gardens	£ 149
Erection of a new bus shelter	£7,020

During the year grants have been given to:-

Parson Drove Street Pride Group	£500
Southea Parochial Church Council	£1,000
Fenland Volunteer Bureau	£50
Quilt & Flower Festival	£100
County Council Vital Communities Project	£500
Youth Club	£150
Cambridgeshire Police Shrievally Trust	£ 50
Fenland Association of Community Transport	£150

The total expenditure for the year was £27,024 excluding VAT

What we did during 2008/2009

During the last year there have been 15 Parish Council Meetings and all Councillors have attended on a regular basis.

Councillors have attended various meetings, events and information sessions on your behalf organised by Cambridgeshire ACRE, Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils, Fenland District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Neighbourhood Policing and Fenland Links.

The Council has made recommendations on 20 planning applications, and responded to various consultation documents on the Fenland Local Development Framework, Wind Turbine Development and Housing Strategy. A successful campaign to secure the retention of the local Post Office was instigated by the Council.

A streetlight has been ordered and will be installed at Church End in the near future.

A litter bin has been provided at Springfield Road and another at Church End opposite the Doctors Surgery.

The old bus shelter has been removed and a new one built. Grant funding of £5,000 was received from Fenland Links at the end of the previous financial year towards this project.

Councillors have held regular open surgeries for Parishioners in the Cage and quarterly newsletters have been produced and delivered to each household.

Who and What is the Parish Council

The Parish Council comprises of 7 voluntary Councillors who normally serve for a term of 4 years and represent the electorate of the Parish of Parson Drove. Councillor Andrew Mills resigned during the year and Gavin Booth was co-opted onto the council to fill the casual vacancy as no election was called by Parishioners.

The Council employs 1 part-time member of staff who is the Clerk and Financial Officer.

Contact details are listed below.

C Bellamy – Chairman

Telephone

700195

A.E. Sanderson – Vice Chairman

700442

G. Bellamy

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G. Booth

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P. Everett

M. Shelley

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700548

Council Clerk & Financial Officer

Mrs Y Reader

700501

Sunrise, Back Road, Murrow,

Wisbech PE13 4JW

Email Theclerk@parsondrove.net

Website www.parsondrove.net

The Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month with additional meetings when necessary. Agendas are displayed in the notice board on the village green and on the village website.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the council meetings and speak for 15 minutes during public participation at the start of the meeting.