

MINUTES OF PARSON DROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 10th FEBRUARY 2010 IN ST MARKS CHURCH, MAIN ROAD PARSON DROVE.

Attended by Councillors :- G. Booth (Chairman), A. Sanderson (Vice Chairman), C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, P. Everett, & P. Spriggs.
R. Scrimshaw (F.D.C.), P.C. Julie Coales & 2 Parishioners.

10/17. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor M. Shelley & Julie Randall (Neighbourhood Management Services).

10/18. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.

Councillor Booth declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 10/25. Reason - member of the section 106 working group.

Councillor Booth declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Number 10/31. Reason - Garden Allotment tenant.

Councillor Everett declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Number 10/25. Reason - member of the section 106 working group.

10/19. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.

A member of the public expressed concern over a log cabin sited on land adjoining The White Bungalow, Elbow Lane without planning permission. Councillors agreed to discuss this matter under Agenda item 10/27 Planning Matters & Applications.

A member of the public expressed concern over the appearance of the cottage and forge adjoining the Swan Inn and the access tracks over the village green. The Chairman stated that a planning application had been received requesting permission to demolish the forge and cottage. Discussions would also be taking place with Elgood & Sons in the near future regarding the access tracks and car park area.

10/20. Community Police Officer's Report.

P.C. Coales advised that there had been some day time dwelling burglaries in the parish. The whole of the Wisbech area had also seen a recent increase in dwelling burglaries as well as theft from vehicles. The next Community Fair will be held in Wisbech St Mary on the 24th April and a meeting on the 11th March was being held for land owners, small holders and farmers in Gorefield Village Hall at 6.30pm. Concern was expressed by Councillors over vehicles parking on the footpath outside the development next to Jubilee Cottage and P.C. Coales advised that she was aware of the situation.

10/21. Presentation by Anne Marie Waterston, on the Murrow & District Children's Centre.

Anne Marie Waterston was unable to attend the meeting due to ill health. Councillors resolved to invite her to attend the March meeting.

10/22. To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2010.

The minutes were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

10/23. Matters Arising from the Minutes. (For information only).

The Clerk was requested to arrange a public meeting on the 7th April at 7.30pm in St Marks Church regarding Fenland District Councils Green Communities Project.

The Clerk had received a copy of the new Standing Orders issued by NALC and although the Council had reviewed their Standing Orders at their last meeting these would have to be reviewed again at the next meeting in view of the issue of the new up to date model.

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council had replied confirming that they wished to join with Parson Drove in the Future Jobs scheme organised by CPALC.

10/24. To receive report from Neighbourhood Management Services.

Julie Randal was unable to attend the meeting but had provided the Clerk with information on activities arranged for the Half Term holiday.

10/25. To receive report from the Section 106 Working Group.

The Chairman informed Councillors that representatives from the working group would be attending the Amenities 95 Committee Meeting on the 1st March to give an update report and present the 3 quotations received to date for the multi use games area. The quotations had been obtained from suppliers recommended by Bob Ollier at Fenland District Council and prices ranged from £99,740 to £175,345. The Planning Department at Fenland District Council had advised that planning permission was not required but they were still waiting for this to be confirmed in writing. Members of the Parish Council were requested to attend the Amenities 95 meeting on the 1st March.

10/26. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.

Councillor Scrimshaw reported on forthcoming visits by the CrimeBuster bus in the ward, changes to local bus services, the Vital Communities events during February & March, improvements to Wisbech Library and facilities at the Boathouse in Wisbech.

10/27. Planning Matters & Applications.

a) J Baines, Planning Application No. F/YR10/0004/F, Agent R Gooding, for the erection of a 2 storey side & first floor side extensions incorporating balconies to front & rear & integral garage to existing dwelling involving demolition of existing garage (part retrospective) at Rose Villa, Common Road, Throckenholt.

Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application.

b) Elgood & Sons Ltd., Planning Application No. F/YR10/0018/CA, No Agent for the demolition of Swan Cottage & Forge at Swan Cottage, Station Road, Parson Drove. Councillors resolved to raise no objections to the application but to add a comment regarding any future building proposed to the effect that they would like to see a similar design and materials to be in keeping with the character of the area.

Councillors resolved to write to the Enforcement Officer at Fenland District Council requesting enforcement action be taken regarding the log cabin sited at Elbow Lane as raised by a parishioner during public participation.

10/28. Accounts & Finance.

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following Invoices for payment:-

D Rowell, posts installed on village green £1,600. Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 & 10.

Konica Minolta Business Solutions, Photocopier quarter rental & copies, £70.69.

LGA 1972 s.111.

The Office Key, administration supplies, £47.80.LGA 1972 LGA 1972 s111

Open Spaces Society, membership renewal fee, £40. LGA 1972 s 143.

b) To consider request from Fenland Association for Community transport for a grant/donation.

Councillors resolved to give a grant/donation of £100. Transport Act 1985 s. 106a.

c) To receive and approve a Receipts & Payments/Bank Reconciliation report & a Budget update report.

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented and the Clerk advised that the Internal Audit had been arranged for the 21st April 2010.

In view of the predicated under spend under the Concurrent Functions Grant for maintenance of the village green and playing field Councillors resolved to approve improvements to the side boundary of the playing field to include the removal of bushes and tree stumps, levelling of the area and reseeded at an estimated cost of £800+VAT. An extra cut of the playing field and village green may also be required before the end of March and if so this would utilise the remaining under spend in this budget.

The Clerk was asked to look into obtaining some free hedging as the boundary hedging needed replacing at the back of the village hall near to the car park area.

The Clerk was requested to enquire with North Level Drainage Board if they would agree to the Parish Council maintaining the small piece of land near to the footbridge at Swan Bridge as this was always overgrown.

d) To consider quotation received and authorise order of new street light.

Councillors resolved to accept the quotation of £737.52 for the supply and erection of a new street light. The Clerk advised that she was still waiting for the quotations from EDF for the electricity supply at the two locations being considered.

10/29. To consider, debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received from:-

a) Email from Fenland District Council advising of future costs for uncontested by-elections. Information noted, no further action required.

b) Email from Cambridgeshire County Council confirming receipt of the Parish Councils comments on the County Advisory Freight Map consultation. Noted, no further action required.

c) Email from Gorefield Parish Council enquiring if Councillors were interested in joining with them to participate in any outreach training being offered by CPALC. Some Councillors were interested in attending session 1 and 3 providing they were held in the evenings. Clerk to notify Gorefield Parish Council of our interest.

- d) Letter from Fenland District Council advising that Tim Mills is our Liaison Officer but he is unable to attend our March meeting. Response noted by Councillors.
- e) Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council providing information on the consultation of Cambridgeshire's Third Local Transport Plan. Consultation document to be circulated and read by Councillors and discussed at the next meeting.
- f) Training information from FCVS & Neighbourhood Management Services on 'How your area works for you' to be held on March 27th from 10am to 1pm at the Oasis Centre, Wisbech. Information noted, no Councillor wishing to attend.
- g) Information from Cambridgeshire County Council on changes to Bus Services in Cambridgeshire. Information noted, no further action required.
- h) Copies of correspondence from a parishioner regarding land adjoining the drain at Swan Bridge. Information noted, Councillors resolved by a majority vote to take no action.
- i) Letter from Vital Communities Project Manager advising of events planned up to the 31st March 2010 and notification that in view of lack of funding the Vital Communities Project will end on the 31st March 2010. Information noted by Councillors, no further action required.
- j) Newsletter from CPRE, FVCS, COPE & SLCC and magazines from Clerks & Council Direct & The Clerk. Noted by Councillors, no further action required.
- k) Email from the Probation Service offering to undertake some work in the Parish by the Community Pay Back groups. Councillors resolved for the Clerk to write to the tenant of the riverbank from Parson Drove to Murrow to enquire if he would like some assistance in clearing this area for a permissive walk way as previously suggested but not progressed.
- l) Consultation from Cambridgeshire ACRE on Cambridgeshire Rural Strategy this document was to be studied by Councillors and discussed at the next meeting.

10/30. Street Lighting & Highway Matters.

The Clerk advised that statistics had now been received from the Police and Ambulance Service regarding recorded accidents at Swan Bridge. Councillors resolved to forward this information together with the petition to the Fenland Area Joint Highways Committee ready for their April meeting. The Chairman would also be attending the meeting as he is a committee member and will speak in support of the petition on behalf of the Parish Council.

An email had been received from Cambridgeshire County Council advising of the roads that would continue to be salted during the bad weather. Councillors resolved to request that Fen Road and Long Drove be included as this was the main link to the A47 to Peterborough.

The Clerk was requested to report the following matters.

- a) The faulty street lights at Church End and Fen Road.
- b) Report to Anglian Water the broken sewerage column at Long Drove & Fen Road junction.
- c) The dangerous metal base plates left at the footbridge at Swan Bridge as the damaged metal railings had been replaced with wood railings.
- d) Pot holes along The Bank and Main Road.
- e) Footpath flooding outside The Laurels, The Bank.
- f) Road flooding along The Bank outside Number 4.

10/31. Gardens & Allotments - To allocate vacant Allotment Gardens.

The tenant of Garden Number 14 had vacated the allotment garden resulting in Garden Numbers 14 and 15 to be re-let. As there were 3 applicants on the waiting list for Allotment Gardens Councillors resolved to offer a half garden to the three applicants on the waiting list and advertise the one vacancy for half a garden. The Chairman and Councillor Spriggs agreed to measure and stake out the new boundaries.

10/32. To receive an Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.

No report was given as Councillor Shelley was not at the meeting.

10/33. Risk Assessment – To receive progress report on works required to the trees on the village green and around the pond.

The first phase of the work on the trees on the village green was due to take place on the 16th February by EDF.

The Chairman and Clerk had met on site with East Anglia Tree Care to assess the work necessary on the trees around the pond. From this initial meeting there were at least 2 trees at the back of the pond and 1 on the road side requiring attention. The Clerk was still waiting for a full report.

10/34. Progress report on proposed improvements to the Bus Shelter.

The Clerk and Chairman were to meet with the Conservation Officer on Monday 15th February at 4.00pm for an inspection of the bollards around the village green and to discuss possible improvements to the Bus Shelter. Enquiries were being made regarding costs and recommended materials.

10/35. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.

No questions were asked by members.

10/36. Matters for future consideration.

Councillors requested the following items be included in the Agenda for the next meeting.

Improvements to the Bottle Banks on the village green in view of broken glass on the ground around them.

Low branches on the Oak Tree near the Cage obstructing the footpath and motorists vision at the Swan Bridge junction.

Car parking arrangements at the Swan Inn and the condition of the footpath.

To arrange a date for a Human Resources Committee meeting.

10/37. Any other business (information items only).

Complaints had been made about the arrangement for the storage of the Wheelie Bins for some of the properties in John Bends Way and that they were overflowing.

Some residents had raised concerns regarding the Exception Site for Affordable Housing at Sealeys Lane in relation to street lighting, footpaths and width of the road.

10/38. Dates of next meeting(s)

The dates of the next meetings were confirmed as Wednesday 10th March at 7.00 in St Marks and Wednesday the 14th April at 7.00pm in The Cage.

Meeting closed 10.00pm.