

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting: 24th November, 2003.

Apologies were received from Mr.Cole and Mr.Smart. All other councillors were present together with Mr.P.Jolley, Fenland District Councillor.

In view of the inclement weather the visitors from Energywatch did not attend.

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th October were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:

Village Plan - Mr.Smart, had sent a report that this has been printed and is in his possession. A draft of a letter to accompany the report was available. It was decided to leave the distribution until after Christmas and the new year and to arrange the open meeting for Wednesday 4th February in the school hall at 7.00 p.m.

Trees - since our tree officer was not present this matter was left until the next meeting.

Letter from Cambs CC saying that unfortunately because of financial constraints this would be the last year of the tree grant scheme.

Highways - letter from Divisional Traffic Engineer concerning speeding in East Street – expressing his surprise East Street suffered from speeding. It is subject to 30 mph but signs cannot be deployed in built up areas. He is hopeful that in 2004/05 some £10,000 will be available for speed reduction methods in Manea.

Letter from Highway Surveyor saying he has arranged repairs to Purls Bridge Road and is asking the tree officer to look at the trees on Wisbech Road corner, subject to Preservation Order to give advice. He is inspecting trees at 14 Westfield Road and if required will write to Mr Phillips.

Letter from Wayside & Wildlife concerning verge cutting and apologising for poor start to cutting season – he hopes to quote again for the work next year.

Vandalism - all councillors were written to by Chair concerning action needed to replace the CCTV monitor at a cost of £69.00. Two of the showers in the pavilion were also in urgent need of replacement at a cost of £275.00 It was proposed by Mrs.Desborough, seconded by Mrs.Cole that the action taken out of meeting to effect these repairs be confirmed.

Mr.Emery reported the monitor is however not in stock at the moment, but Mr.Scott will check the cameras as soon as the monitor is replaced.

Playing Field cricket square damage – letter from County Insurers saying we can proceed with the replacement and they will cover the costs.

The mole problem is being monitored.

Mrs.Cole asked if the Church could hold a Prom concert in the playing field next summer. Mr.Emery reported the Gala Committee were considering holding a concert on the field next year – it was suggested that possibly the two organisation could amalgamate the event.

Website councillors were given a draft of the content of what will be put on the site – this was approved. It was suggested future links from the site for “What’s on” or a Calendar of Events – and other organisations in the village.

Warden Scheme - update by Mrs.Desborough from the meeting she had attended was given. The name is to be changed to Friendship Scheme – a letter has been sent out and they have received 8 responses from other villages – another meeting is to be held in December to which Mrs.Desborough will attend. Funding is needed to operate the scheme – it was agreed to see what happens in the other villages in the first instance and to look at this again next year.

Police Report – Clerk has obtained a copy of the letter Doddington Parish Council has been sending to the parents of young offenders in their village. Mr,Emery

reported that PC Baines, our beat officer has said the structure of the community beat officer has changed – he will no longer attend our meetings or liaise with the council. Mr.Jolley offered to meet with Inspector Mike Winters and our County Councillor, Mr.Harper and if possible the Chairs of other village parish councils – since it was felt this was a backward step and the liaison was an important part of policing in the villages.

Mr.Emery gave a report of a car which had run into the electricity pole near the cemetery causing damage to our street light bracket and the pole. The police had attended, the pole has been replaced but not the light bracket as yet. To monitor the situation.

Memorial Gladys Jennings

Street Lighting – letter concerning damage to the light in Festival Close which is the responsibility of Fenland District Council.

Pit Negotiations – The Chairman has not been able to speak with Mr.Heading yet. Clerk to obtain information pack concerning grants available for nature areas. Nothing has been heard from the Environment Agency.

Planning

P.Chastney – erection of 4 terraced cottages at 2a Park Road – supported

Manea Methodist Chapel – single storey front extension – supported

G.Perry – extension at Toll Farm, New Road – supported

K.Jordan erection of 2 x 5 bed det.houses with garages at Lavender Mill,Fallow Corner Drove – supported

J. & B,Woods – erection of 2 x 4 bed det.houses on land NE of 36b High Street - concern was expressed that if approved the narrow access will have to serve 5 dwellings – also this was backland development and goes against council policy to support.

P.Gumbley – resubmission of application for 8 dwellings at 96 Westfield Road – the site has been changed and it would now appear to be in the development line, as such council felt they could support it.

N.Goude – application at Dairy Yards – refused by FDC

R.Haldane – application at 45 Westfield Road – approved by FDC

Finance

Precept - Councillors were reminded of the finance information given at the half yearly review last August. It was agreed to take out the spraying of the playing field at a cost of £400. Mr.Hawkins proposed we set the precept at £11487. for 2004/05, this was seconded by Mrs.Desborough.

Concurrent Functions Grant – Fenland Council recommend 2.50% inflation rise – thus this to be submitted for:

Cemetery £1640

War Memorial £54

Public Conveniences £200

Play Equipment £215

Car Park £125

Special Item bid for a new street light to be submitted.

Mrs Cole made the proposal, seconded by Mr.Barnes.

Receipts

Rent £251.30.

Payments

EDF Energy – service to new light 498.20

Ridgeons – lock for token cage 9.62

M Oliver pl field & gate work etc	639.77
R.Yardy – 2 showers and repairs CCTV	895.03
Powergen – pav and sports area	110.16
J.Waters Nov/Dec sal/war mem/extra work	289.02
Kall Kwick – print parish plans	633.33
M.Short – new areas and lock	78.07
J.Boardman cleaning	96.12
I.Cook Nov/Dec sal/postage	368.22
Inland Revenue tax due	147.63
Wayside – verge cutting	375.00
R.Brit Leg poppy wreath	19.00
Fenweb – setting up site	<u>306.68</u>
	£4465.85

Proposed:Mr.Emery
 Seconded: Mr.Hawkins.

Correspondence

- Chatteris Safety Task group notice of meeting
- CALC – legal topic note 57 re gravestones
- FDC stakeholder database
- Gravity- skateboard park information
- Postwatch information
- Drug Working Party meeting
- Parish Path Partnership letter
- Beds/Cambs Rural Support Group information & leaflets
- Gateway (FDC Arts) newsletter
- FDC housing strategy booklet
- CCC Corporate plan summary
- Mr.G.Harper – monthly bulletin
- Post Office – notice of changes to our post-boxes to improve service
- Cambs ACRE rural housing enabler – invite to March meeting.

Mr.Emery reported Mrs.Field has donated another Christmas tree for the pump corner. Mr.Smart will continue to power the lights and Mr.Savage has agreed to help put the tree up.

Date of next meeting – Monday 19th January, 2004.

Signed Dated
