

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting: Monday 9th February, 2004.

Apologies were received from Mr.Barnes. All other councillors, together with Mr.Jolley, Fenland District Councillor and 2 parishioners were present.

Welcome - Mr.Emery welcomed our new councillor, Mr.Ken Risbridger to the meeting. Mr.Risbridger signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and acceptance of the Code of Conduct.

Minutes of the meeting held on 19th January, 2004 – Mr.Hawkins said concerning Pit Negotiations – he had asked that the matter should be reviewed – the minutes indicated that the general consensus of councillors agreed the matter should be reviewed as a matter of urgency, rather than naming Mr.Hawkins. Mr.Cole said the matter was on the agenda for discussion and review. Apart from this the minutes were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Village Plan Meeting - notes of the meeting were circulated. In liaison with Chairman – Clerk has arranged an inaugural meeting of the parishioners putting their names forward to form a committee to take the issues raised in the plan forward. This will be on 18th February in British Legion Club. Mr.Hawkins felt the meeting could have been better organised – the chairs being too small. Mention was made that it was raised at the meeting that a P.R. person be employed to represent the council – however there would be a cost to this. This could be a matter for discussion by the committee. Councillors were pleased to see so many people present, however there had been a few complaints that people did not receive a copy of the plan despite the fact that 700 had been distributed.

Trees - Mr.Smart has met with Mrs.Harrison, County Council Rural Officer and she has advised not to put trees on the school field but to infill around the wood boundary with 5 different species. These are now ready for collection and a working party will arrange to plant them when they are to hand.

Highways - Review newsletter received

Letter from Mr.M.Davies, Divisional Traffic Engineer concerning the new lengths of footpath in Park Road, saying he has a small budget for such schemes and would be happy to add this to the work programme. He would like to meet with councillors to discuss the exact details.

Trees – Wisbech Road/Station Road corner – it was reported that these have been inspected and will be cut back so as not to obstruct the street light shortly.

Cemetery - the overhanging trees will be inspected before our next meeting.

Damage to street light near cemetery – letter from Cambs C.C. Street Light Dept saying they would like permission from parish to replace the bracket, this would cost £395.00. They have spoken with the person responsible and he has verbally agreed to pay for the damage. However in the unlikely circumstances the costs are not recuperated the parish would be held responsible for them. Clerk to reply that in this case the person responsible should be taken to court by them to recover the costs. The damaged toilet sign done in the same incident has been removed and hopefully will be replaced soon.

Footpaths - the sign that needs moving will be replaced with new shortly. The Bearts farm footpath had lying water but most of this has now been drained away.

Street Lights – Mr.Smith has reported those which need repair. Concerning the new light in Wisbech Road, Chairman has marked the site and this should be erected shortly.

Police- various recent incidents with youngsters and motor cycles were discussed – the police are aware and should be visiting the village on a more regular basis to try

to apprehend the culprits. They have been proving a nuisance to residents at all hours and over several weeks past. All incidents concerning these young people need to be reported to Huntingdon Police every time they happen. Community Beat Officer and Fenland Housing Officer to visit the parents of one young person living in council accommodation. Council have received copy of letter from Mr.Stevens of Glebe Close which he has sent to Mr.Wilson,Fenland Housing Officer concerning this problem. Clerk has also written to Mr.Wilson and the Inspector expressing council's concern also.

Letter from Colin Hill – Fens Intelligence Unit offering services in field of crime reduction and community safety – Clerk to send him copies of above letters.
Parking outside school – officer attended but since this was after 3.00 p.m.most parents had left. Mr.Hawkins suggested contacting Mr.Davies,Divisional Traffic Engineer to see if he could help.

Pit Negotiations - Chairman has spoken with Mr.Sheldon,Environment Agency and he has sent Clerk an e-mail apologising for delay saying their valuation is out of date and he is seeking a review. He hopes this is merely a formality and he will seek approval from Land Drainage Committee for the proposal and then place formal recommendations before Directors. Chairman said he had informed Mr.Sheldon that the council had letters agreeing to the purchase at the original valuation and it was the fault of the Environment Agency that the matter had not been completed sooner.

Planning - Site meetings had been held concerning the two applications before council. Mr. Risbridger had attended these as an observer.

J.Deighton – change of use to B1 and B2 business on yard south of 61 Station Road – an amended description had been received.

Application for extension on 5 East Street – approved by Fenland.

D.Pressland – erection of dwelling on land south of 5 East Street – councillors who attended the site meeting expressed concern over the width of the access, despite the proposed demolition of part of shop. Council has a street light here which if demolition proceeds would need to be moved at expense of applicant. Even if demolition took place councillors doubted if 2 cars could pass side by side as suggested in planning correspondence. Mrs.Desborough, Mr.Smith, Mr.Risbridger declared a personal interest, all living in East Street. Concern was also expressed that the site is near the junction of four roads, East Street, High Street, Orchard Way and Station Road. The application is also backland development and contrary to parish council's policy to support. Mr.Hawkins put forward his abstension.

B.Linney – residential development (max 4 dwellings) on land north east of 20 Station Road. The planning development line passes through the site, two dwellings being inside and two outside this line. In line with council policy the application could not be supported because it is outside the building line and has no stipulated business links. It is also back-land development.

Chairman explained the majority of councillors had agreed this policy was the best way of dealing with applications outside building boundaries since council was then seen to deal with each application on the same basis.

Application for 5 chalet bungalows in Wisbech Road – has been approved by Fenland.

Finance

Clerk asked for approval to open a “Staples” Business account for purchase stationery and printing items at reduced prices – Mr.Hawkins proposed this, seconded by Mrs.Desborough.

Clerk said council needs a new receipts & payments book – this will cost £44.50 from Shaws – Mrs.Cole proposed we purchase one, seconded by Mr.Hawkins.

Receipts

Verge cutting	881. 72
Upchurch burial	45. 00
Tweed – inspt	<u>35.00</u>

961.72.

Payments

Air ambulance donation	25.00	
Citizens Advice “	25.00	
Victim Support “	25.00	
CPRE planning workshop fees	50.00	
CALC internal auditors		
Seminar fee	45.00	Proposed Mrs Cole
I.Cook sal,post & voucher		Seconded Mr.Hawkins
(Mrs.Field £20.00)	219.01	
J.Boardman cleaning	42.72	
J.Waters cemetery	110.00	
M.Short new areas and half		
Year caretaking	<u>362.72</u>	
	904.45.	

Correspondence

- Card of thanks from Mrs.Field for voucher – Working party will look into thinning out the Christmas trees shortly.
- Cambs Fire & Rescue – details of precept
- Police – budget consultation meeting at Huntingdon – cancelled due to weather
- CALC – update of policies – Clerk will circulate
- FDC – Sports Development newsletter
- HDRA master composer programme –
- Crime & Disorder Group – minutes and notice of next meeting. Mr.Hawkins said this group were compiling a diary of incidents – so could he have a note of any occurring.
- CCC – Camlearn –
- Air Ambulance Newsletter
- FDC – housing needs meeting – Mr.Hawkins will represent council.

Chairman reported at a recent village hall meeting they decided to apply for grants for a new village hall – he would keep council updated on progress.

A Mrs.Mills has offered to come and take notes of meeting for a press report – Clerk to check this is in order with CALC.

Mr.Jolley said that arising from the Open Meeting he has arranged a public meeting with the police and health representatives and our County Councillor to be held at the end of March.

Date of Parish Assembly – Monday 22nd March at 7.00 P.M. – Visitor – Cambs
 ACRE – affordable housing.

Signed Dated

