

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting 23rd October, 2006.

Apologies were received from Mrs Palmby. Mr Smart was absent. All other councillors were present.

Visitor - Mr Tim Mills, Head of Housing and our Fenland Liaison Officer. There followed a discussion on planning. Mr Mills said he hoped the parish council would get better feedback from planning officers reasons for making their decisions, especially when these were in conflict with the parish's observations.

There was a short discussion on 5 Glebe Close and the historic verbal agreement that these properties only be let to people with local links. Mr Mills said if this could be proved by documentary evidence he would establish a local letting policy to ensure this was applied in future.

Mr Mills stayed for the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th September were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:

Highways - letter from Highway Surveyor concerning the overgrown trees etc. He was dealt with all matter raised.

Letter from Mr Vale, Divisional Traffic Engineer saying there were now no funds available for minor ad-hoc traffic management measures. Any requests would have to be held over until the next financial year.

Mr Cole mentioned the weeds in the footpaths need spraying – Clerk to write. There are also leaves on the roadside – if cleaner does not come shortly – to order a visit.

Open Spaces - nothing has been heard from Mr Sears but Mr Mills will look into this and contact Clerk.

Cemetery – the 3 month trial period ends on 31st October. There followed discussion on the condition of the cemetery and council is not happy with the work carried out by Mr Deaves. There have been numerous complaints from within the village about the condition of the cemetery and Mr Emery and Mr Cole have spoken with Mr Deaves about this. He has made some improvement but work now needs to be done again before the winter and this is not helped by the continual rain. Mr Archer proposed we do not extend his trial period, this was seconded by Mrs Desborough. However following further discussion Mr Risbridger felt we should extend his trial for a further 2 months, to the end of December as it has proved extremely difficult to employ someone in the cemetery. It was agreed to do this, and everyone was in agreement that he be asked to work 2 hours a week in November and December and the matter will be reviewed again. Clerk to write informing him that council were not happy with the condition of the cemetery, but were extending his trial period in the hope he could get it in a reasonable condition before the winter. If he wished to discuss things Mr Cole would be happy to do so.

Skate-Park following the petition from youngsters – e-mail from Nicky Cox saying she would take this to the next Community Safety Task Group meeting and will be in touch regarding development of the link with the parish council and the young people.

Playing Field - Mr Emery reported 2 flood lights are out – Clerk to contact Mr Yardy. The container has a large hole in the roof. Mr Oliver has been asked to weld a patch on it. It was proposed by Mr Cole, seconded by Mrs Desborough the action taken out of meeting be approved.

Burial - Faith Chambers – infant 2 days old.

Parish Plan Mr Barnes had looked into what has been completed arising from the plan. He said many of the points had been dealt with including transport, but this is an on-going problem. Concerning safety – the parish council cannot do much to get a greater police presence in the village. Lighting on the playing field has been improved and every year a new street light is erected in Manea.

The village has doubled in size in the past 15 or so years.

It was agreed to put up a display at the open pit meeting to show the village what has been accomplished from the parish plan. The matter will also be put on the agenda for the November meeting.

Manea Pit - arising from the meeting with Mr Shelton – an open meeting has been arranged for 8th November when Mr Shelton has agreed to come. Mr Reeves from the RSPB will also be present. Notices will be put all around the village and an advert in the Fenland Citizen for that day Mr Cole questioned whether it was necessary to consult the village. Mr Emery said that if the feedback is positive it will give the council a mandate to proceed with the purchase and plans can be made for the future, both short term and in the long term. It was suggested a steering group be formed with members of the council, members of the fishing club and other interested bodies to oversee the development of the pit and any grant funding applications.

Memorial Gerald and Rose Dickerson

Planning

Notice of appeal against refusal for the oak and willow tree felling in Westfield Road M Pool – rear extension to workplace home 75 Charlemont Drive – supported but councillors were not really aware of any conditions that might affect workplace homes.

Patrick Tenant Ltd – 4-bed chalet bungalow with integral garage on land NE of 36 High Street – supported

KMR Developments – erection of 2 bed bungalow with parking on land west of 2a Park Road – discussion followed on this very small site and it was noted the siting of the bungalow has been moved forward away from the boundary. Council do not support this application because of the lack of turning space, especially now the siting has been moved.

Mr & Mrs Thompson – conservatory to 2 Nightingale Walk – supported

War Memorial Mr Waters used to tidy this in readiness for Remembrance Sunday – Mr Emery offered to do this for this year.

Finance

Mr Deaves asked for a donation for the Strawberry Patch Pre-School because funds had been lost owing to a recent incident – however it was decided not to support this as it is a business, not a charitable institution.

Receipts

FDC 2 nd half precept	6500.00
Ashes plot Cross	<u>125.00</u>
	6625.00

Payments

Mill Hill petrol	18.42
Ridgeons – new watering cans cemetery	43.01
Bank of England loan	95.40
P Clarke playing field hours	101.85
Fenland Citizens Advice donation	25.00
I Cook salary and telephone	276.31 proposed Mr Emery
P Deaves – cemetery	280.00 seconded
J Boardman cleaning	34.92 Mrs Desborough
CCC – pension	69.13
D Allen mole clearing	25.00
Suffolk Acre – extra premium for fidelity guar	<u>84.00</u>
	£1053.04

Correspondence

Leap Newsletter

Street Pride information

Fens Food and Flower grant information

Fenland Community Newsletter

CCC – waste initiative

Standards Committee Agenda for October meeting
CCC compact information
CCC new concessionary bus fares
Community Planning Evenings information
CCC countryside access team report
Police – letter from new Section Inspector
Fenland Voluntary Service letter
FDC – declaration of interests – circulated to all
CCC – waste information
FDC – e-mail about website consultation
COPE older people's enterprise information

Footpaths Mrs Desborough will speak with the CCC footpaths officer concerning the condition of some of the public footpaths, especially the one in Westfield Road beside no 33.

Mr Risbridger mentioned the leaves in the garden of 15 High Street – the resident has asked for assistance clearing the leaves since she is now disabled. Unfortunately this is a private residence and council cannot assist.

It was agreed to hold a brief meeting on 1st November to compile an agenda and format for the open meeting about the pit on the 8th November.

Date of next meeting - Monday 27th November at 7.00 p.m.

Signed Dated