

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting – 20th August, 2007.

Apologies were received from Mr Risbridger and Mr Jolley
All other councillors were present at the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July 2007 and the Manea Pit Meeting held on 31st July, 2007 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:

Highways - e-mails from Highway Supervisor saying he will organise repairs at Witcham Farm, ask the Gully Team to clear the blocked drain in East Street. Details of the work to be carried out in Wisbech Road were to hand, also the work on the Sixteen Foot Bank.

Mr Cole reported the hedge in Westfield Road, especially at the rear of the bus stop needs cutting again and there are overhanging briars on the highway along the whole length – clerk to contact Highways.

Playing Field - estimate from Wicksteeds for the new seats and chains – totalling £224.00. Councillors felt that the chains are still strong and would await the inspection report from Mr Oliver before ordering the new ones. The 3 new seats costing £72.00 are needed and will be ordered shortly. Mrs Palmby suggested taking photographs of the chains so that we have evidence of their present condition for future reference.

Safe surfacing – Chairman said he has used two tubes of mastic on the tiles and several more will be needed to complete the work.

Insurance claim for Sports area – has been submitted and confirmation letters authorising repairs received. Mr Yardy will order parts and undertake the work as soon as they arrive. There is a £100 excess on the claim.

Conifer hedge clerk has spoken with contractors and they will cut the hedge as soon as the bird nesting season is at an end.

Sports Area - estimate for repair - £490 to deep clean and moss kill and £2450 for the binder coat and repainting. Mrs Palmby and Mr Barnes will look into obtaining further quotes for this work and it will be discussed again at the next meeting. Clerk will submit an application for a grant from the Community Grant Scheme at Fenland for this work.

Open Space – Jolley Close - e-mail from Emma Grima, Planning Agreements Compliance Officer saying she is contacting the developer to try to move things along.

Footpaths - it was reported a complaint has been received that the footpaths in Westfield Road are not accessible since they are badly overgrown – clerk had contact the Countryside Team at the County Council about this and will do so again.

Mr Emery said he had visited the mobile police station when it came to the village and spoke to the CPSO about the children waiting at the bus stop in Westfield Road saying they were still gathering in the road rather than behind the railings – CPSO will speak to the school again in September.

Cemetery - clerk has written letters to all those with flower beds/vases in the middle of graves asking them if they could be removed so that the graves could be seeded and cut by the mowers to keep costs as low as we could. No objections have been received to date.

Fence – estimates have been received for the fence along the front to the right of the gates – Wayman's of Witchford £600 + VAT, Bakers of Chatteris £760 + VAT and High Street Fencing – a verbal quote since they have been on holiday in the sum of £27/28 per metre . Mr Cole declared an interest in this matter. Mr Barnes proposed

we accept the quote from Wayman's, this was seconded by Mr Archer. When the company is able to erect the fence a working party of councillors will take the old hedge down.

Burials - May Muffitt and Joyce Stacey –

Manea Pit - e-mail from Sports Mead & Leisure asking for further details before they could quote for insurance – however the details they ask for it not the type of insurance the council would need – this would be more geared to an angling club. E-mail from Suffolk Acre saying they would be prepared to offer cover until 1st October if the purchase is completed before then and Zurich will send a quote for cover to clerk.

Pump Corner – it was reported the posts need re-painting – Clerk to ask Mr Maurice Hawes if he would be willing to undertake this work.

Planning - J Fitzsimmons – erection of double garage at 41 Station Road – Mr Emery declared his interest and took no part in discussion. The application was supported.

Notification has been received that the application by N Fox for School Lane has been recommended for refused by planning officers at the meeting on 23rd August because of visibility splay and the design format of the estate.

Mr Archer has enquired about backland development guidelines from Fenland Council. They say these tend to be sites in back gardens where access is between residential properties – this can cause problems –it can have a negative impact on character of area, adjoining residents because of overlooking or disturbance. They are doing advice leaflets for development of people's gardens which will touch on backland. Mr N Brown, Development Office will come to a council meeting to speak about this if needed.

Finance

Receipts

Muffitt Burial -	125.00
Re-cycling credit	<u>136.08</u>
	261.08

Payments

Mason Bros	cemetery	2521.04
Volunteer Centre Fenland	donation	25.00
Moore Stephens	audit fees	246.63
Anglian Water	field	42.04
	Cem	29.85
		71.89
Ridgeons	– nails/staples	33.14
I Cook,	sal/internet/sign	252.61
Cambs CC	pension	73.49
G Disten	– repair seat	42.00
Powergen	sports and pav	<u>124.66</u>
		3490.46

Audit has been completed and the accounts signed off – the external auditor has drawn council's attention to one matter – "The council should conduct a risk assessment prior to acquisition of the land to ensure that adequate steps are taken to mitigate the consequences of risk to acceptable levels" Clerk actually met with the Health & Safety risk assessor on 13th August to discuss the survey he was carrying out that day.

Insurance - Suffolk Acre have passed on the parish council's insurances to the underwriters Zurich Insurance – they have sent several forms which clerk went through with councillors to ensure they were completed in accordance with council's wishes. Mrs Palmby suggested contacting our old insurers Cornhill to ask them to re-quote for our insurance this year.

Half yearly finance review - will be discussed at a separate meeting on 30th August.

Correspondence

E-mail on street parking from Cambs County Council

Peterborough City Council – waste materials plan

FCVS – training information

FDC – re: register of members interests – these have now all been dealt with

FDC – dog fouling – complaint received from resident at Annabelle Avenue – concerning the walkway to School Lane – clerk obtained signs and a letter from dog warden which she took to the resident.

Cambs Peterborough NHS – information about Foundation Trust membership – and e-mail from them asking if they could come to speak with council about this at a meeting – it was agreed to ask them to meeting on 24th September for approx 20 minutes.

Neighbourhood Policing meeting notes

COPE newsletter

Leap Newsletter

CCC – scrutiny information

FDC – e-mail about the bottle bank at Glebe Close saying it was full of general rubbish and bricks so could not be emptied – it has to be removed and sorted separately – this is not the first time this has happened and it only gets half full – they therefore would like to remove it from this site. Discussion followed and it was suggested clerk enquire if it could be re-sited near the Fire Station in Westfield Road rather than taken completely away from the village as there would be no facilities at this end of the village in this case.

Mr Emery mentioned the grass area where the bottle bank is now sited at Glebe Close entrance saying it needed re-seeded following the renovations to the 88 Westfield Road, next to this site where bricks etc were stored. Clerk to contact Mr Ollier.

Letter from Surgery asking if they could use playing field for a kite flying event in October – this was agreed – council to waive any fees on this occasion but a small donation would be gratefully accepted,

Two further quotes were to hand for the drainage at the open space in Williams Way – clerk to send to Mr Ollier with the observation that councillors felt the quote from Lincolnshire Drainage, although the lowest, not sufficient to drain the site adequately, the other was too expensive – they would prefer the quote from Peacocks of Mepal to be accepted as they felt this would be the best option for this site.

At the end of the meeting a short discussion took place on ideas to raise revenue – this will be taken further at the finance meeting on 30th August.

Date of next meeting – Monday 24th September at 7.00 p.m.

Signed Dated

