

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting 18th August, 2008.

Apologies were received from Mr Jolley and Mr Barnes. All other councillors were present together with CPSO, Angie Wilson.

Minutes of the meeting held on 28th July, 2008 and the Finance Review meeting of 13th August, 2008 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:-

Acorn Lane - Mr Archer said he was expecting an update on progress from Fenland Council on 19th August – Clerk was informed another site visit would be taking place.

Castle Care Homes - Mr Emery declared his interest and left the room. Vice-Chair, Mrs Palmby took the meeting – Letter from OFSTED saying property is currently not registered by Ofsted as independent school – they say an application has been submitted – council's letter will be forwarded to the relevant team for consideration.

Letter from Cambs County Council Social Services saying they have not placed children at these Homes so have little influence – they suggest writing to OFSTED and holding meetings with Castle Care and residents.

It was agreed to ask at the next meeting between the residents, FDC Caseworker and Castle Care who exactly regulates these residential care homes.

Highways - Mr Risbridger has produced a discussion document showing the allocation of streets amongst councillors so they can make a report to clerk of anything that needed doing.

Letter from Cambs CC giving notice an application will be made for a "Stopping-up Order" in respect of part of the highway at Jolley Close/Station Road. Clerk has met with Mr Vale, from Highways and he has explained that there is a bay window at 3 Jolley Close that overhangs onto the highway and they have agreed with Hazlemere Homes and the resident a short length of highway of some half a metre wide would be attached to the deeds of this property. A court order will follow to legalise this act.

Open Spaces - e-mail from Hazlemere saying they would look into possibility of replacing our Christmas tree.

Rutland Way – Mr Archer presented a plan showing the proposals for the fencing off of this open space – these have been funded by Roddens Housing Association – when complete dog and litter bins will be needed on the area. It was hoped it will make things better for the residents of Rutland Way, especially the owner of number 15.

Williams Way – Mr Cole enquired about progress with the drainage – Mr Archer said the company given the contract have been contacted at very regular intervals and have made many excuses as to why the work has not been done – The matter will be raised at the next meeting for an update on progress.

Vacancy - Mr Buckton said 5 applicants had been invited for interview over two consecutive Thursdays at the Royal British Legion Club Manager's office.

Police Report - CPSO Angie Wilson was welcome to the meeting – a speed check took place in the village in early August. Mr Emery reported a car parked completely on the pavement in Station Road – he will take the licence number if this is observed again.

Street Lighting

E-mail from FDC Engineers concerning condition of FPC6 in High Street – Chairman investigated and reported light was working – On enquiring further Clerk ascertained the report was a mistake – the light is in fact an "obsolete lit" light meaning it has a crack in its neck but remains lit – it should be considered for replacement when funding allows.

New light Westfield Road – quotation from MHB Services for provision of new column between 39d and 41 Westfield Road in the sum of £520.80 + Vat. Quotation from EDF Energy for the service works

in the sum of £889.00 +VAT. It was proposed by Mr Archer we accept these quotations, seconded by Mr Risbridger.

Allotments - a letter has been received from Mr Richard Angood, a farmer who has land close to the proposed site for the new garden allotments. He expresses concern about various problems he foresees if the garden allotment project proceeds at The Twenties. There was a discussion on the points he raises, particularly concerning potato blight. It was agreed to send a copy of his letter to the Chair of the Allotment Association, asking if potential tenants could be made aware of the possible problems with potato blight and its consequences for neighbouring farmers. As Mr Barnes, council's allotment officer was not present at this meeting and councillors were unaware of any discussion he may have had with neighbouring farmers, the matter will be put on the agenda for the next meeting. To reply to Mr Angood in the meantime.

A formal letter requesting garden allotments, together with their rules and a plan was presented to the meeting.

Playing Field

Trees - to write a formal letter to Mr Savage asking him if he could trim the trees near the gravel path, take out the three conifers at the front of the field and trim the branch which overhangs the shed. To also ask when he will be able to put up the "no golf sign he took several sub-committee meetings ago.

Concerning the large horse chestnut – confirmation that the Tree Surgeon will take out the two large branches – Mrs Desborough would like to be present when this work is carried out.

Conifer hedge – quotation from Peterborough Trees in sum of £1230 for cutting back – proposed Mrs Desborough, seconded Mrs Palmby this be accepted.

Charging Framework - with the addition of the charge for Youth Football Matches at £10 per game these were approved. All charges are at the discretion of the parish council.

To write to both football clubs asking for a list of their fixtures a month in advance and sending them a copy of the Charging Framework.

Play Equipment - Mrs Desborough will enquire when Mr Disten will be able to do the repairs to the rocking horse as requested. The protruding bolts have been filed down. The bearing in the small turn-style needs greasing – Mr Cole will look at this.

Cleanliness - e-mailed complaint from Mr Crompton of High Street – it was agreed the safety tiling is slippery and needs looking at – particularly in the small children's play area. Mr Cole will look to see if there is some substance to treat the safety tiling – to put on agenda for next meeting.

Litter – quotation for two new bins in sum of £337.00 plus fitting at cost. It was agreed this be accepted and one bin be sited in the small play area with a second at the start of the gravel path. To also ask Mr Oliver if he could repair the bin near the pavilion.

To reply to Mr Crompton.

Burials - Mr C Short; Mr A Young.

Manea Pit

Mr Buckton will get some Day Fishing Tickets printed.

Letter from Dack & Co with formal registration of Manea Pit in Parish Council's name. The registered address for Council will need amending when new Clerk takes up post.

Planning

Leigh Property Investments – 6 houses on land south of 21 and 27 School Lane – application supported but observation to be made that some councillors feel the site is overdeveloped.

Finance

Receipts

Miller memorial	125.00
Sec 106 Thanet Rest	31000.00
Short family burial plots	<u>1500.00</u>
	32625.00

Payments

M Short – petrol for field	11.00	
Anglian Water field 87.92		
Cem <u>26.15</u>	114.07	proposed Mr Emery
A Ryman cleaning	60.00	seconded Mrs Desborough
I Cook sal,internet,post	330.60	
Cambs Cc pension	85.77	
E Mason & Son cemetery etc	2185.81	
Dack & Co car park legal fee <u>deposit</u>	150.00	(paid out of meeting)
	£2937.25	

Mr Cole will keep an eye on the cemetery expenses.

Correspondence

COPE information

Volunteer Centre – asking for donation – to retain until February 09 for consideration before end of financial year, together with any other requests

Older Peoples Reference Group questionnaire – to be forwarded to Over Sixties Club

Other Business

Mrs Palmby said the hire of the Church Room for meetings from October will be £20 per month – agreed.

Mr Cole had received a complaint about the hedge in front of the former old peoples home at Catherine Wheel. He also mentioned the hedge in Westfield Road near the bus stop and in front of Maurice Crouch Growers land – and the hedge near the old Police House in High Street is also overhanging the footpath – Clerk will contact the Highway Supervisor about these matters.

Mr Archer made an enquiry about the village computer which used to be in the Church Room – Mrs Palmby will look into its current location.

Date of next meeting - Monday 22nd September at 7.00 pm, in Manea School.

Dated Signed