

**MANEA PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2008.**

**Present:** Mr Emery (Chair) Mr Archer, Mr Cole, Mr Barnes, Mr Jolley, Mr Risbridger, Mr Buckton, Mrs Desborough and Mrs Palmby.

**Minutes** of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February were confirmed and signed.

**Matters Arising:**

*Highways* - Wisbech Road – white lining – letter from Highways saying white lines will be considered if budget allows. Letter from Area Maintenance Engineer saying Wisbech Road will be surface dressed on last year's retread scheme and also the remaining length of the road through the village as part of their programme of surface dressing. This will be done in May/June with the road closed for 2 days.

It was reported Mr Risely has cutback trees along Byall Fen Road and left the scrub on the grass – Mr Marshall (Highway Engineer) will clear it away if it is on the highway and see Mr Risely about this.

Mr Emery reported a gully raised in East Street with water lying behind it – clerk to write.

*Playing Field* - update on work - the 3 swing seats have been fitted, thanks to Mr Archer. Clerk is awaiting estimates from 3 three surgeon firms and has spoken with the FDC Tree Officer about the work needed to the big horse chestnut. Mr Jolley said the big conifers could be taken down "in-house" rather than a cost to the council.

Application for hire of playing field from Mr & Mrs Ryman for dog ability training – for 3 hours one evening per week. They assured council no mess would be left on the field – discussed on where this should be held – suggest from pavilion to bottom of field near gala trailer – and this use would be monitored – a fee was discussed – Proposed by Mr Jolley, seconded by Mr Cole this be set at £20 per night – and all agreed to the hire.

Electrical faults in the pavilion were reported to clerk who contacted Mr Yardy – he has investigated and reported both extractor fans need replacing at a cost of £75 each +fitting – proposed by Mr Barnes this work be done, seconded by Mr Archer. Mr Yardy also repositioned one of the flood lights and cameras on the sports area.

**Open Spaces** - Clerk has received communication from Tim Reeve of Matthew Homes about use of the Sec 106 money. He confirms they have no objection to this being used for match funding for skate park and balance towards pit purchase as the money would be spent for benefit of inhabitants of Manea and furtherance of their leisure pursuits, especially as residents of Thanet Rest do not want the play area that was originally intended. He asked if this contribution could be recognised and a press report. Agreed to erect a plaque at some stage. He would like to come to Manea to see the facilities when all is completed.

Sports Area - £1000 grant awarded, but stipulation is that it must be spent on what was requested in original application. Discussion followed on use of the sports area and future new surfacing. Mr Jolley said Astroturf would mean more use could be made – Mr Barnes said he hoped this could be included in the improvements for the whole area – Mrs Palmby said this surfacing would be welcome but at present there would be difficulty monitoring and overseeing the use of the sports area. Once something is in place new surfacing would make a big improvement to the sports area and hopefully bring in much more use.

Mr Barnes proposed we use as much of the Sec 106 funding as we have access to at present to put towards the pit purchase and retain our own funds – this was seconded by Mr Cole. All were in agreement - Mr Jolley abstained.

**Cemetery** - Mr Cole reported the grass needs cutting, the earth at the front needs spreading and the car park needs spraying for weeds, To contact Mason Bros to begin with these tasks. Mr Cole will also obtain a quote for the second part of the new front fencing.

**Right of Way** - Mrs Desborough reported the dyke alongside the Town Lots roadway has lots of rubbish dumped in it – Mr Emery will have a word with the owner of the adjoining land to see who is responsible for the dyke. If this turns out to be the County Council Mrs Desborough will have a word with their Rights of Way Officers.

It was also reported rubbish has been dumped at “Gypsy Corner” along Byall Fen Road near Bradshaw’s land – clerk to write to Highways.

### **Manea Pit**

Chairman had asked Clerk to contact the Drainage Board about the dyke in front of the pit which has fallen in at the corner and may hold up the water. Mr Heading has replied saying the commissioners did clean out the dyke to assist the residents of Manea and he has monitored the situation ever since and was disturbed to see that there is a minor slip but notes that branches of trees and other rubbish has been thrown in the ditch. The commissioners are not directly responsible for the maintenance of any of these ditches but did the work in conjunction with two parish councillors. He is prepared to continue to maintain them but had hoped residents would keep them clear of rubbish. He will carry out such work as is necessary as part of Autumn programme but hopes council can encourage residents to keep it in good order.

The Engrossment of the Lease was to hand. The plan on this does not show ownership of the dykes – Clerk to query this as a plan was available showing these details – which clerk to send to Solicitors and ask for clarification about the one on the Lease itself. Also the two entrances are not clearly marked on this plan.

Subject to satisfactory response to this – the engrossment was sealed and signed by the council as was the Contract for the purchase of the Lease.

An authority to transfer the funds for payment of the £58,500 was also signed at this meeting. The completion will not take place until council are satisfied with all documentation. When the council does take ownership it was agreed to erect notice saying the pit is out of bounds until the health & safety matters are brought up to satisfaction.

First meeting of the Management Committee arranged for 7<sup>th</sup> April – to invite the three representatives from village organisations, along with councillors.

The ownership of the car park was discussed – since this was originally levelled and hard core applied to make the car park from an old village dump by the council some 25 years ago no official deeds are to hand. To ask the Solicitors if council can swear a Declaration of Ownership which can be registered at the Land Registry to make the ownership official.

### **Finance**

Receipts	Mrs E Brady – mem	£80.00
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#### Payments

Wicksteeds – swing seats	98.11
A Ryman cleaning	162.00
I Cook salary etc	279.56
Inland Revenue	218.86
Cambs CC pension	76.87
Manea Stores – cleaning goods	46.62
Suffolk Acre pavilion insurance	204.38
M Short half year playing field	<u>362.00</u>
	£1448.40

Proposed: Mrs Palmby

Seconded Mrs Desborough

Letter from Mr Ryman saying she worked 11 hours more for February than the 3 per week paid for – and needed 5 hours per week for cleaning – however since the football season is

drawing to close – paid for 4 hours per week for March and clerk to write to say from April 2 hours per week would be paid since this was all that has been allocated in the budget for cleaning and she must do what she can in these hours only.  
For the next season the training time the football clubs use the field will be looked into with a view to making a charge for this time.

**Planning**

Mr & Mrs Thompson – 4 bed detached house with single garage on land south of 90b Station Road – Mr Archer declared an interest. This application falls outside the development boundary but a previous application on this site was given permission as infill.

**Correspondence**

Cambs ACRE – play space conference – Mr Archer will attend.  
E-mail from Public Transport Network Co-ordinator saying resident from Fodder Fen wished to have a meeting about lack of bus and rail services in Manea. To give her contact from Rail Users Group and invite the Co-ordinator to a future meeting of that group.  
Standards Board newsletter  
E-mail from “Trevor” about POW camp in Manea during WW2 – this was located at rear of village Hall in School Lane – Clerk to reply to him.  
FDC – notification of Memorial Inspection Workshop on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at cost of £105. – Mr Archer will look into obtaining the powerpoint presentation notes.

Equal Opportunities – Mrs Palmby had samples of various policies which could be adapted for Manea.

It was reported two street lights are out at 54 Station Road and 88 Westfield Road.

**Date of Parish Assembly** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 7.00 p.m.  
Followed by Business meeting at 7.30 p.m.

Signed ..... Dated .....