

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2008.

Present: Mr S Emery, Mr M Archer, Mr K Risbridger, Mr P Jolley, Mrs A Desborough, Mrs W Palmby, Mr D Cole, Mr M Buckton – with Mr M Compton, parishioner

Apologies were received from Mr C Barnes

Public Forum – Mr Compton spoke about the concerns of High Street residents who have heard that 2 residences in Acorn Lane, High Street are to be used as care homes for young adults. Mr Emery said the only knowledge he had of this was that Castle Care Homes were understood to have purchased the two houses but the Parish Council have no official notification of any change of use for the properties. Concern was also expressed about the volume of traffic and the condition of the roadway – Acorn Lane. Clerk to write to FDC about this and also to the company concerned to ask for information about their intentions in Manea.

Elections:

Chair – Mr Jolley proposed Mr Archer, seconded by Mr Buckton. Mrs Desborough proposed Mr Emery, seconded by Mr Cole. Mrs Palmby Vice-Chair took a vote – results were Mr Emery 4; Mr Archer 2 – therefore Mr Emery was elected .

Vice-Chair – from the Chair Mr Emery proposed Mrs Palmby, seconded by Mr Archer – all in agreement

Cemetery Officer – Mr Jolley proposed Mr Cole, seconded by Mr Risbridger – all in agreement

Re-cycling Officer – Mrs Palmby proposed Mr Risbridger – seconded by Mr Archer – all in agreement

Allotment Officer – in his absence Mr Archer proposed Mr Barnes, seconded by Mrs Desborough – approved providing Mr Barnes is willing to accept the office.

Footpath/Tree Officer – Mr Archer proposed Mrs Desborough, seconded by Mrs Palmby, all in agreement.

Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2008 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:

Reports – A report from the Manea Educational Foundation was received – Mrs Palmby said they had held their May meeting and grants have been awarded. She understood the committee needed another Parish Council representative – Mr Jolley proposed Mr Buckton, seconded by Mr Emery. A report from the Village Hall Committee was read to the meeting. Mr Jolley said the committee was proceeding with a Premise Licence so they could hold more functions.

*Highways* – confirmation Mr Harper will be coming to the June meeting.

Details of the 2008 surface dressing programme were given

Letter from Traffic Engineer concerning waiting restrictions in School Lane in response to Clerk's letter – he suggests "no waiting at any time" on the north side of School Lane up to no 8 which would allow some parking on the road whilst allowing clear flow of traffic. However there are no funds for this at present – estimated costs in region of £1000 but Parish Council could fund these measures themselves.

Letter from Area Traffic Engineer – Jointly funded minor highways improvements – bidding round – it was agreed to apply for the funding as above for the waiting restrictions in School Lane.

Mrs Desborough reported that East Street is still flooded when it rains – clerk to write.

Mr Cole said Fallow Corner Drove has been repaired but the white lines have not been replaced – clerk to write

Mr Emery reported the surface length along the council houses in Westfield Road – the hedge side is breaking down – clerk to write.

Details of the funding for the 08/09 verge cutting season from Cambs Highways were available.

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Letter from Mr Paul Clarke offering to undertake grass cutting work for the council – to reply unfortunately his price is too high.

*Open Spaces* – 25 Station Road – when this has been taken over by the Parish Council – Mr Emery proposed from the Chair Mason Bros be asked for a quotation to maintain it, seconded by Mr Archer – Mr Cole will see Mr Mason. When the site has been signed off by Mr Ollier, from FDC – it was decided to hold some form of short public ceremony with the developers, Mrs Hawes, FDC and councillors.

Open space at Rutland Way – Mr Archer enquired whether council had any written notes about the meeting held by former FDC councillor Mr R Sears when it had been agreed to fence this off near Mrs E Lawrence's property – unfortunately nothing had been recorded by parish council as the meeting was with Mr Sears, FDC and representatives. Now Roddens have taken over the council housing they cannot erect the fencing unless confirmation of the agreement in writing is provided. Mr Emery will contact Mr Sears to see if he has this information in writing.

*Litter bins/site for seat* - A site for the new seat has been agreed in High Street near the Rose & Crown public house.

FDC have agreed to provide 5 new litter bins at various locations in the village – one is needed near the bottle banks in Wisbech Road and if parish council can find the funds for this FDC will provide and erect – at a cost of approximately £500.00

*Rights of Way* - Mr Emery reported the town lots gate – the Bearts Farm end has now been re-locked with this being provided by Anglian Water. The school field end gate has been straightened and a new lock put on by Mr Barnes and his brother – to whom thanks were expressed. Mr Oliver has been asked to put a new post in which should stop the gate being damaged in future.

Mrs Palmby enquired about the sign which Mr Short wanted indicating the car park next to the playing field – the problem here being the car park seems to be locked when there is a football match on the field – Mr Emery will ask the caretaker to ensure that the car park gate is unlocked in future when there are any events taking place on the playing field.

Cemetery - Mr Cole reported flowers have been removed from 2 graves as requested – if these have not been removed from the others the caretakers will remove them and the graves will be seeded in accordance with the letters sent.

Letter from Mr S Wilson concerning some trimming that the caretakers have done to the walnut tree at the bottom of the old cemetery planted in commemoration of Tania Wilson. Mr Wilson was upset that this had been done without consultation with him. Mr Cole explained it had been done for health & safety reasons since the caretaker could not cut the grass underneath without getting hit by the hanging branches. To write to Mr Wilson apologising saying it had been done for these reasons to avoid potential injury- in future the contractors will liaise with Cemetery Officer before taking any actions – to apologise for any distress caused to Mr Wilson and his family by these actions.

Car Park - the Statutory Declarations are being drawn up.

Allotments all rents have been paid. Councillors will look at the site for proposed garden allotments at the inspection in June.

Sub – Committee minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June were circulated, together with revised Terms of Reference. Mr Jolley indicated he wished to resign from this committee. He felt there should be more representatives from the village, in addition to the gala committee and football club and less parish councillors with more frequent meetings – Mr Buckton agreed but said the working parties set up will meet more frequently and report back to the sub-committee.

The date of June 10<sup>th</sup> has been set for Laura Watson to come with a working party to undertake

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work on the perimeter walkway around the pit. Mr Archer will organise flyers and posters and it will be advertised on the websites – 15 volunteers maximum are needed – Laura will provide tools and equipment – for a 1.00 pm start.

E-mail from Mr Cliff Carson indicating he would like to be part of the committee and will offer advice and attend meetings when work permits.

Dyke at bottom of playing field – Mr Griggs happy for parish council to take over total ownership but would expect all legal fees to be covered by council – Mr Jolley said these could be expensive – it was agreed this is not imperative it be done at present – to look to a date in the future – to advise Mr Griggs of this.

E-mail from Mr & Mrs Elliott of 10 Cathedral View concerning a gap at the bottom of the playing field where youngsters go through onto private land where there is rubble which they throw at their fence. – it was believed this gap is on land belonging to Mr Barnes – clerk to forward the e-mail to him for his consideration.

#### Planning

D Milton – erection of conservatory 1 Charlemont Drive – approved

Cole Properties(Manea) Ltd – amendment to permission – 2 x 3 bed semi-detached houses 20-22 Valentine Close – Mr Cole declared his interest and left the room. Mr Emery declared his interest. – the application was supported.

Residential development 10/12 School Lane – revised proposals – Mr Emery declared his interest and left the room. Mr Jolley declared his interest. It was agreed to repeat the comments made on the original application F/YR08/0340/F since these do not seem to have been addressed by these revised proposals.

FDC – letter of information that the Core Strategy proposals have been put back to 2009.

FDC councillor's report - Mr Archer said changes have taken place to the requirements for Standards Board complaints

A Fenland District Councillor can now question any decisions made by the Council on behalf of his representatives.

Planters could be put around the village – sponsored by village organisations – he has entered Manea for “village inbloom”.

Mr Emery mentioned the pump corner garden and it was agreed letter of thanks be sent to Mrs Larham for looking after and planting this.

#### Finance

End of Year Audit submission and accounts – these have been approved by internal audit – Mrs Palmby proposed these be signed off, seconded by Mr Jolley.

Remuneration for the internal auditor was discussed – Mr Emery proposed £225.00 be given to Mr Cundell for undertaking this work, this was seconded by Mrs Palmby.

Letter from FDC saying they had reviewed the invoice sent for election costs for 2007 – and it has been reduced by some £400 – which will be re-credited to parish – it was agreed this could be used to fund the additional litter bin at Wisbech Road corner, proposal made by Mr Jolley, seconded by Mrs Palmby.

Gala Committee cannot fund the BBQ this year for Street Pride when they tidy the field prior to the gala -since they have already donated £750 to council funds – council will fund this instead.

#### Cheques

##### Receipts

FDC – grant	1000.00
Vat refund	1758.47
Rents	<u>875.00</u>
	2733.47

##### Payments

Mason bros cemetery	658.94
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A Ryman pavilion	60.00	Signed .....
I Cook sal and internet	276.40	
Cambs CC pension	80.32	
B Cundell internal audit	225.00	
S Emery – notice board/keys	49.50	Proposed: Mrs Palmby
Playsafe – ROSPA inspt	91.65	Seconded: Mr Emery
Frontier AG – grass seed	34.00	
Mr Fix it sign for playing field	51.30	
R Yardy – PAT test	<u>55.00</u>	
	1582.11	

#### Correspondence

Master Plan for Ely – left on table

Green Villages – energy saving – Mr Jolley suggested writing to British Gas to see if they have any plans to bring gas to Manea.

Young Lives – information – Mr Archer will take this to the Young Cafe held in the village hall

Learning Disability newsletter – to be included in Manea Matters Magazine

‘Cope’ items for information

Letter from Gala Committee concerning the “Tilley” old fire pump – needs a new home as it has been deemed a health & safety hazard at the fire station – Mr Jolley offered to house this – clerk to write but to enquire whether the Cambs Fire Service would still be responsible for its insurance. They have purchased new PA equipment which will be permanently fixed to poles near pavilion – this was agreed but to ensure they take out insurance cover for this equipment for the whole year and not just for the gala time.

Great Fenland Challenge – free seeds were given by FDC – Mrs Desborough offered to sow these in the Manea Wood.

Welches Dam Project – information to be circulated – back to clerk with comments for submission by due date.

Amendment to Standing Orders for consideration - Mr Archer proposed an amendment that the Chair/Vice Chair only remain in office for a period of 2 consecutive years – he felt this would be more democratic and re-invigorate the council – Mrs Desborough did not agree – Mrs Palmby felt councillors needed more time to consider this amendment – Mr Jolley supported the motion – following short discussion it was agreed to put this item back on the agenda for the July meeting.

Date of annual inspection – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June as agreed – to meet at Wisbech Road corner at 6.00 pm. Mrs Desborough, Mr Cole, Mrs Palmby, Mr Risbridger and Mr Buckton will be on holiday.

Date of next meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – visitor – Mr G Harper and short presentation by young people in support of the Skate Park.

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

