

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

4 NOVEMBER 2008 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Barnes, Chairman; Councillors Archer, Cole and Emery plus Mr P Bridgement, Mr P Catling, Mr M Hawes and Mr J Short.

Apologies: Councillor Buckton.

The minutes of the meeting of 29 September 2008 were confirmed and signed.

SC6/08 Matters arising from minutes of last meeting

All matters arising from the last meeting were covered by items on the agenda for this meeting.

SC7/08 Management Plan

(1) Fishing - income received

Further to minute SC2/08 (1), no further income has been received in respect of season ticket and day fishing ticket sales since that time. The income of £48, reported at minute SC2/08 (1), had been passed to the Clerk by Councillor Archer at the Parish Council meeting held on 27 October 2008.

Members discussed the need for additional volunteer Bailiffs to collect fees from anglers at the Pit. Members felt that Mr T Boswell would be willing to take on such a role. In addition, Mr Catling volunteered to collect fishing fees.

All agreed that it will be necessary for all Bailiffs to possess receipt books, to enable the Parish Council to account for the income collected.

Sub-Committee members decided that

(1) the current situation be noted;

(2) Mr P Bridgement would contact Mr T Boswell to establish whether or not he would be prepared to collect fees from anglers at the Pit;

(3) all Bailiffs be provided with receipt books.

(2) Carp Syndicate membership

Further to minute SC2/08 (1), Mr Catling reported that number of members of the Carp Syndicate remains at 13. There is, however, current interest from one other person.

Sub-Committee members were reminded by Mr Catling of the target for 2008 of 15 members and the total membership figure of 20 members once the improvement/development works have been completed.

The Sub-Committee agreed to note the current situation.

(3) Improvement/development works

Sub-Committee members discussed in detail the improvements/developments works required to Manea Pit, as identified within the Management Plan.

Sub-Committee members are keen to commence these works but are mindful of the need to undertake them on a logical and phased project basis and to design them in such a way as to minimise both the initial costs and ongoing maintenance costs.

Members are mindful also of the need to have full regard for all health and safety issues relevant to the proposed works. Furthermore, it is necessary to ensure that the proposed developments/improvements result in a community facility which attracts and accommodates the needs of young people and those with a disability; this is also considered likely to increase the success of applications for grant funding.

Members' discussions included the actions, timescales, materials, equipment and level of labour required to deliver the programme of necessary works. Discussion took place also on the potential to enlarge and link the three ponds on the site.

Sub-Committee members concluded that the works would consist of three or four separate projects, with delivery of the first project by the end of 2008, in the manner suggested by the Chairman.

It is considered that the first project should be to provide a footpath from the site access around the eastern side of the site, to be undertaken during December 2008. As the works to the swims are subject to an application for grant aid (minute SC9/08 refers), this element of the works would constitute the second project, for undertaking in early 2009. The final project(s) would be the provision of vehicular and pedestrian access to the western side of the site and incorporation of the piece of adjoining land (plus filling of the dyke) which has been offered to the Parish Council by the land owner; this land is currently in agricultural use and will not be available until next Autumn.

Sub-Committee members decided that

- (1) the development/improvement works be undertaken on the basis of three/four projects, in the order suggested by the Chairman and indicated above;
- (2) the first project be undertaken on 29 and 30 December 2008 and that Sub-Committee members arrange to borrow the necessary equipment, obtain the necessary surfacing materials and seek an appropriate number of volunteers to assist in providing the required amount of labour;
- (3) Mr P Catling will produce, for consideration at the next meeting, a sketch scheme design for extending and linking the ponds and creating associated walkways;
- (4) consideration be given at a future meeting to an devising an appropriate campaign of publicity/promotion for the Pit once the projects have been completed;
- (5) the Parish Council be recommended to undertake the necessary processes for acquisition of the land offered.

SC8/08 Project updates

Further to minute SC3/08, Sub-Committee members discussed again, briefly, the weeds situation at the Pit.

Following the discussion, Sub-Committee members still consider there is no need for additional action at this time and that the situation will need to be reviewed next Spring.

Councillor Cole reported that no formal written response (ie a schedule of works and cost estimates) had been received from the representative of Olympic Plant Hire regarding the works that he had suggested during his recent inspection of the Pit. All members agreed that this should be pursued.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the current situation be noted;
- (2) Councillor Archer would make the necessary contact with Olympic Plant Hire, to obtain the information that had been promised by the company's representative.

SC9/08 Costings for grant bid

Further to minute SC4/08, the Chairman reported, in the absence of Councillor Buckton, on the current position regarding the application for grant aid under the Awards for All scheme.

The Chairman informed Sub-Committee members that Councillor Buckton is now in possession of estimates of the costs of the materials required, which he has incorporated within the application for grant aid; the bid will relate only to the identified improvements to the swims (ie it will not include an estimated cost of the legal fees in connection with the possible acquisition of an area of adjoining land, as discussed at minute SC4/08). The work on the application to date does not include the estimated costs of machinery and labour.

The Chairman reported that Councillor Buckton and he will be meeting during the forthcoming weekend to finalise the funding application.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the current progress situation be noted;
- (2) a further update be presented to the next meeting.

SC10/08 Next meeting

Members decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on 9 December 2008, commencing at 7.00 pm, at the British Legion Club, Manea.

Meeting finished at 8.30 pm.

Signature:.....(Sub-Committee Chairman).

Date:.....