

MANEA PARISH SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 12th May, 2008.

Apologies were received from Mr Risbridger, Mrs Desborough, Mr Bridgement.

Present Mr Barnes (Chair) Mr Savage, Mr Cole, Mr Emery, Mr Buckton, Mr Jolley, Mr Archer.

Welcome to Fabiola Blum from the Biodiversity Partnership.

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th April were confirmed and signed.

The up-to-date position on the purchase of the pit lease was given – the Solicitors say there is no one at the Environment Agency who would be able to make the Statutory Declaration as to access – there is another option – to take out an Indemnity Insurance which would cover the access against any claims of ownership/right of way. Following short discussion it was agreed to follow this path and to write to George Shelton from the Agency Estate Office to make him aware of the current situation.

Terms of Reference/Delegation - quorum – as there were only 7 members present discussion took place on the number necessary to form a quorum. Mr Emery proposed this be reduced from 8 to 6, seconded by Mr Barnes from the Chair. Mr Savage proposed an amendment it remain at 8, this was seconded by Mr Archer. A vote was taken with the majority in support of the amendment which was carried.

Therefore from the Chair it was agreed to minute that although the meeting was not quorate all agreed business should continue.

Membership - although the Football Club had been sent documentation about this meeting no one was present. It has been suggested asking Mr Cliff Carson to become a member, Mr Barnes, from the Chair proposed that this be done, seconded by Mr Archer. Clerk to write a formal letter to him, but Mr Barnes will approach informally also.

It was agreed to retain the committee at 12 members and to send the Football Club the minutes of this meeting.

Terms of Reference were discussed – it was agreed these should be amended to match the minutes of the 7th April meeting, with a small amendment to item 2/3:-

- To take action concerning any health & safety or emergency issues which arise, not exceeding the £500 limit for each incident.
- To facilitate the work programme based upon that drawn up by the County Biodiversity Officers and fully commit to this being implemented.

Work Programme Fabiola went through the work programme – it was felt this should be increased to cover 3 years. It was agreed to enlist the assistant of an external Ecologist and to take advice from Laura Watson on work to be done to the trees and other green areas in and around the pit and walkway.. Costings were added to the work programme, item by item.

Mr Barnes suggested taking members of the village on guided walks around the pit over the gala weekend. To publicise this possibly in Manea Matters Magazine.

To find out when Laura is available to assist with training on what needs to be done to the area. This needs to be early June – as soon as ownership is confirmed.

The total for the work programme including the cost of purchase was in the region of £85,000, making approximately £25,000 for the items needed as per the works, although some local expertise could be taken into account

- Ø Grant funding was discussed – where this can be applied for – need to fit their criteria
- Ø First job – to work on the perimeter path
- Ø Health & Safety to be brought up to requirements as per the survey
- Ø Some information boards and dog bins

Signed Date

- Ø Longer term – grant money to put in more permanent perimeter path taking account of fishing platforms, disabled use etc
- Ø Ecological survey to tie in with a funding bit

Fabiola gave some information about the types of grants to apply for – she offered to oversee any application – It was agreed Mr Barnes, Mr Buckton, Mr Jolley and Mr Archer would form a work party to put together the bid paperwork and to ask Mr Cliff Carson for his advice.

Fishing – the season begins in mid-June – discussion on the type of tickets and the prices – 7 or 5 day ones – carp fishing – this takes place at night time – at present they are paying £100 per person – this income to council? Higher price for non-village people -

Mr Emery suggested members of the Angling Club should be allowed to fish at the same cost as Manea people even though some of them are not from the village –

Mr Jolley knows of a person who would be willing to undertake the bailiff of the pit for the committee

Mr Buckton said one option was to enlist assistance from the Angling Club and use their expertise to bailiff the site and possibly share some of the income.

Mr Cole agreed he would like to Angling Club to be involved.

Mr Buckton proposed a small steering group, including a representative from the Angling Club look at the options of running the pit – this group would bring recommendations back to this committee.

Playing Field - Mr Jolley spoke about the management of the field – the grass badly needs cutting – discussion on whether the field should be leased to a separate committee – a draft agreement used for another village concerning this to be circulated for all to read. Mr Savage agreed with Mr Jolley.

Both working groups will meet within the next two weeks and this committee will meet again on Monday 9th June.

Signed Dated