

# MANEA PARISH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF MEETING

20 JANUARY 2009 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Barnes, Chairman; Councillors Buckton and Emery plus Mr C Carson, Mr P Catling and Mr J Short.

Apologies: Councillors Archer and Cole plus M Hawes.

The minutes of the meeting of 9 December 2008 were confirmed and signed.

### SC16/08 Matters arising from minutes of last meeting

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

### SC17/08 Management Plan

#### (1) Fishing - income

Further to minute SC12/08 (1), the Chairman informed members that the Parish Council, at its meeting on 19 January 2009, had enquired as to the level of income received from the sale of fishing tickets and membership fees for the Carp Syndicate. The Clerk will be reporting on the matter at the next Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman made the point that it will be necessary for the Parish Council to account for this income when its finances are subject to the annual audit process and suggested that, to facilitate this, the holders of receipt books should be requested to send them to the Parish Clerk, together with any monies still in their possession, so that he can verify that the value of the receipts issued accords with the monies collected.

The Sub-Committee decided that the Clerk should write (when the Chairman provides the necessary contact address details) to the holders of the receipt books (i.e. M Archer, T Boswell, P Bridgement and P Catling) requesting that they be submitted (with any monies still held) for validation purposes.

#### (2) Carp Syndicate membership

Further to minute SC12/08 (2), Mr Catling presented a cheque in the sum of £60 to the Chairman in respect of two junior membership fees. The Chairman handed the cheque to the Clerk for banking purposes.

The Sub-Committee decided that the situation be noted.

#### (3) Improvement/development works

Further to minute SC12/08 (3), the Chairman reported on the works undertaken on 29 and 30 December 2008. He informed Sub-Committee members that the works were undertaken by a work party consisting of some members of the Parish Council, a number of members of the Sub-Committee and other local volunteers.

The Chairman reported that the pathway was surfaced using bark chippings but it was not felt necessary to lay a protective membrane beneath that surfacing.

Not only did the work party achieve its objective of laying the footpath within the time scale proposed but the exercise generated a strong sense of community spirit and, consequently, it is felt that there will be no shortage of volunteers to assist with future works.

The Chairman reminded Sub-Committee members that the next phase of the improvement/development works will be dependent upon the success of the application for grant aid (minute SC19/08 refers).

The Chairman reported receipt of an e-mail from an anonymous source regarding the apparent use of the new footpath by horse riders. The Sub-Committee considers that, because of the associated health and safety issues, this practice should not be allowed to continue. In addition, it was felt that motor cyclists may be tempted to use the footpath.

The Clerk reported the receipt of an e-mail from a local resident, expressing his thanks to those who had donated their time and energies to undertake these works for the benefit of the local community.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the current situation be noted;
- (2) a letter of thanks be sent to Mr T Savage for the loan of his digger;
- (3) two signs, displaying the wording "This footpath is for pedestrian use only" be purchased and erected at each end of the footpath

#### SC18/08 Projects update

Further to minute SC13/08, Mr Carson reported on the results of his investigations/enquiries regarding the use of herbicides to control weed growth in the pit, whilst protecting certain plants. He informed Sub-Committee members that there are currently four products on the market to control this type of weed growth, although one of those products (Casaron), which is toxic to fish, is being withdrawn from sale in March 2009.

Mr Carson stated that he had been unable to make the necessary contact with the relevant officer of the Environment Agency.

Mr Catling circulated details of a company (Stillwater Management) which delivers a range of services that could be pertinent to Manea Pit, including silt reduction, weed control and fishery management.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) Mr P Catling would make contact with Stillwater Management to, firstly, see if the company would send a representative (during week commencing 13 April 2009) to inspect the pit and give advice on potential works and, secondly, to obtain details of the company's consultancy fees;
- (2) Mr C Carson would ascertain whether or not the Middle Level Commissioners could provide a service in respect of weed control.

SC19/08 Costings for grant bid

Further to minute SC14/08, Councillor Buckton reported that the application for grant aid, under the Awards for All scheme, has now been submitted.

Councillor Buckton stated that the amount of funding sought is approximately £9,000 and that a decision on the application is anticipated within eight weeks of submission.

The Sub-Committee decided that the current situation be noted.

SC20/08 Next meeting

Members decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on 3 March 2009, commencing at 7.00 pm, at the British Legion Club, Manea.

Meeting finished at 8.25 pm.

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

Date:.....