

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

5 AUGUST 2010 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Emery, Chairman; Councillors Archer, Cole, Mrs Desborough, Jolley, Lockett (from 7.30 pm) and Risbridger.

Apologies: Councillors Buckton and Mrs Palmby.

M41/10 Manea Parish Plan

Further to minute M17/10 (4), members considered the Parish Council's approach to the development of a new community-led plan for the village.

To assist their deliberations, members had regard for the Community-led Planning (Parish Plans) Nine Step Process document produced by Fenland District Council. In addition, the Clerk reminded members of the purpose, according to Cambridgeshire ACRE, of a community-led plan, i.e. "a vision for how the community wants to develop and an identification of the actions that will be needed to achieve this".

Members are of the opinion that the Parish Council is currently at step two of the nine step process, i.e. at the point of seeking to engage with key stakeholders and the community in general via a public meeting, prior to establishing a steering group to develop a plan.

The Clerk brought to the meeting, for the purpose of assisting members' deliberations, copies of the current Manea Village Plan as well as copies of community-led plans produced by some other communities/parishes within the County.

Members decided that they would, between this meeting and the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council (on 23 August 2010), identify the key stakeholders in this process (such as the Doctor's Surgery, Football Club, the Community Primary School, Women's Institute, Village Hall Committee), with a view to arranging a public meeting.

M42/10 Finance Review

Further to minute M21/10, members considered the Parish Council's current financial position, having regard for

- the level of financial resources currently held by the Parish Council;
- expenditure in the current financial year to date;
- estimated spending commitments for the remainder of 2010/11;
- estimated income for the remainder of 2010/11;
- the need to ensure that the Parish Council is in a position to operate on a sound financial basis for the remainder of 2010/11 and beyond.

It is clear that, although the council will not experience any difficulties in meeting its financial obligations for the remainder of the current financial year, the Parish Council's financial reserves will, because of its significant level of committed expenditure (to deliver improvements to facilities and services within the village), be at a much reduced level at the end of 2010/11 and that the Parish Council will not be able to sustain the current level of improvement and development work in the village in future years without making additional financial provision.

As part of their considerations, members examined the fees and charges that the Parish Council levies currently, to ensure that they remain relevant in terms of cost recovery and are comparable with the levels levied by similar bodies.

Members decided that

- (1) the Parish Council's current financial position and its financial commitments and likely income for the remainder of 2010/11 be noted;
- (2) all burial fees be increased by 10% with effect from 1 November 2010;
- (3) the rents for agricultural allotments be increased from £90 to £100 per acre with effect from October 2011 and that the rent paid by the Manea Allotment Association continues to be set at 200% of the level paid for agricultural allotments;
- (4) no increase be made at this time for fees associated with use of the playing fields.

M43/10 Planning applications

Members considered the following planning applications and decided to submit to the Local Planning Authority the comments set out (in italics) below:

- (1) Removal of condition 2 of planning permission F/97/0428/F relating to agricultural occupancy at Poppyfields, Wimblington Road, Manea – F/YR10/0510/F (applicant: Mr P Jolley).

That the application be supported.

(Councillor Jolley declared his personal and prejudicial interest in this application, by virtue of being the owner of the application site, and retired from the meeting for the discussion and voting thereon).

- (2) Erection of a conservatory to front of existing dwelling at Rutland Cottage, Wimblington Road, Manea – F/YR10/0511/F (applicant: Mr Judd).

That the application be supported.

M44/10 Burials issues

The Clerk reported two requests from Kent Memorials for consent for cremated remains memorial stones on the plots of Mrs P Allen and Mr A Cundell in Manea Cemetery.

Members were informed of the size, design and material of the proposed memorials and of the wording of both inscriptions.

The Clerk reported also a request from J H Landin and Son, Funeral Directors, on behalf of the family of the deceased, for consent to scatter some of the ashes of the late Mr B Young on the playing fields at Manea. The remaining ashes would be buried in Manea Cemetery on 25 September 2010.

Members decided that

- (1) the requests from Kent Memorials be approved;

- (2) in the interests of expediency, authority for the approval of future requests for cemetery memorials and additional inscriptions on existing memorials be delegated to the Clerk to the Council, subject to the proposals according with the policy of the Parish Council;
- (3) the request for the scattering of some of the late Mr Young's ashes on the playing fields at Manea be approved.

(The Chairman agreed to this item of business being discussed as a matter of urgency to enable the requests to be determined at the earliest opportunity)

Meeting finished at 8.10 pm

Signature:.....(Council Chairman).

Date:.....