

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

12 OCTOBER 2010 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Archer, Chairman; Councillors Cole, Mrs Desborough and Emery plus Mr P Catling (from 7.30 pm), Mr I Fost, Mr RK Miller and Mrs P Smith.

Apologies: None.

The minutes of the meeting of 8 September 2010 were confirmed and signed.

SC27/10 Appointment of Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year

Councillor Archer was appointed as Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2010/11, following Councillor Buckton's decision, at the last meeting of Manea Parish Council (minute M60/10 refers), to resign this position.

SC28/10 Appointment of Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year

Councillor Emery was appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2010/11, following the appointment of Councillor Archer (who was the Vice-Chairman) as Chairman of the Sub-Committee (minute SC27/10 above refers).

SC29/10 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

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

SC30/10 Field adjoining Manea Pit – possible use as community orchard/woodland

Further to minute SC21/10, Mrs Smith reported on the current situation regarding the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Mrs Smith informed the Sub-Committee that she has now completed the application and reminded members that it had been agreed, at minute SC21/10, that the application would be "signed-off" by the then Chairman of the Sub-Committee (Councillor Buckton). She stated that the HLF requires submission of the application in electronic form and in hard copy.

Mrs Smith informed the Sub-Committee that the details within the application are based upon project commencement in January 2010. On that basis and given the fact that the HLF has stated that it needs a period of ten weeks for consideration of the application, submission of the application is required in the very near future. She added that letters of support, for submission with the application, are still anticipated from the Wildlife Trust and the Doctor's Surgery.

The Sub-Committee discussed generally some of the operational aspects of this project, including the appropriate time of the year for tree planting (i.e. next autumn). In this regard, Councillor Archer reported briefly on a letter that he had received from the Woodland Trust, offering trees for this project.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the current situation regarding the application for monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund be noted;
- (2) prior to submission, the application be circulated electronically, where possible, to the members of the Sub-Committee (the Chairman of the Sub-Committee undertook to ensure that those members without e-mail facilities would have the opportunity to view the document);
- (3) any comments from Sub-Committee members on the application be submitted to Mrs Smith no later than 22 October 2010;
- (4) the letter from the Woodland Trust be referred to the next meeting of Manea Parish Council.

SC31/10 Management Plan - improvement/development works and projects

Councillor Archer informed members that Manea Pit had been designated as the Best Ecological Project in the recent Anglia in Bloom awards.

The Sub-Committee discussed possible activities for the work party arranged for 16 October 2010 and concluded that it should focus upon undertaking preparation works for the netting proposal agreed at minute SC24/10. Councillor Archer undertook to achieve the participation of some of the Community Payback Team in this work. The actual netting works would then be undertaken on a future date.

The Sub-Committee also discussed briefly the possibility of introducing plant life at Manea Pit and agreed that investigation into suitable species be undertaken.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) it wished to place on record its appreciation of the work undertaken by all of those who had been involved in the development and improvement of Manea Pit, without whom the Anglia in Bloom award would not have been possible;
- (2) a further work party be arranged for 30 October 2010 for undertaking the netting works agreed at minute SC24/10;
- (3) Mrs P Smith would undertake investigations into suitable plants for Manea Pit.

SC32/10 Manea Pit – Health and Safety

The Sub-Committee considered whether there are currently any health and safety issues relating to Manea Pit.

Further to minute SC23/10, the Clerk reported that Mrs Smith had recently identified suitable life jackets and associated suppliers and that, although he had not since had the opportunity, he would be placing an order with one of the two suggested suppliers later this week.

The Sub-Committee had a discussion as to whether further works should be undertaken to ensure that a certain number of the fishing platforms could be designated as being fully compliant in terms of providing safe fishing facilities for disabled anglers.

Further to minutes SC38/09 and SC51/09, the Sub-Committee considered, again, the content of the notice board at Manea Pit and reiterated its previous comments that the board's content needs to be relevant, informative and up-to-

date; details of the post code of the pit still needs to be added to the content. In addition, Councillor Emery stated that he is still awaiting a quotation for the cost of increasing the size of the current board.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the current situation in relation to the purchase of life jackets, as reported by the Clerk, be noted;
- (2) the necessary works be undertaken to make three of the fishing platforms fully compliant with the British Disabled Angling Association's Access Guidelines for Fisheries;
- (3) the content of the notice board at Manea Pit be reviewed, by Mr Fost, to ensure that it is relevant, informative and up-to-date; details of the post code of the pit will be provided to Mr Fost by Mrs Smith;
- (4) Councillor Emery would pursue the quotation for increasing the size of the current board.

SC33/10 Fishing issues

Further to minute SC24/10, Mr Fost reported that the pond clearance works will be undertaken on 13 October 2010, in readiness for provision of fish by the Environment Agency.

In addition, Mr Fost presented the Clerk with a payment of £76.50 in respect of an additional member of the Carp Syndicate.

The Sub-Committee considered what action to take to address the fact that some anglers are parking their vehicles on the access roadway to Manea Pit, causing obstruction on occasions, instead of parking in the car park. Members are aware that the Fishing Rules require anglers to park their vehicles in the car park.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the additional income from Carp Syndicate membership be noted;
- (2) Councillor Emery would contact the Environment Agency to make arrangements for provision of the fish for the ponds;
- (3) a notice, reminding anglers of the requirement to park their vehicles in the car park, be produced (by Mr Fost) and displayed in the notice board.

SC34/10 Communications/correspondence with the Wildlife Trust

Further to minute SC25/10, the Clerk reported that the Parish Council had considered a draft letter of response to the Wildlife Trust (WT), produced by Mrs P Smith, together with a report that she had written in relation to addressing the concerns of the WT. The Clerk informed the Sub-Committee that, subject to amendment to make reference to the fact that Carp were present in Manea Pit many years before it achieved County Wildlife Site status, the letter to the Wildlife Trust had been approved by the Parish Council.

The Chairman reported that he had extended an invitation to the Wildlife Trust to send a representative to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee; the relevant officer had, however, not been able to attend today's meeting due to another existing commitment.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the information reported by the Clerk be noted;

(2) Mrs P Smith be thanked for the work that she had put in to drafting the letter to the Wildlife Trust and in recommending to the Parish Council an approach to address the issues raised by the Wildlife Trust.

SC35/10 Next meeting

Members decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on 9 November 2010, commencing at 7.00 pm, at the British Legion Club, East Street, Manea.

Meeting finished at 8.05 pm.

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

Date:.....