

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

9 NOVEMBER 2010 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Archer, Chairman; Councillor Mrs Desborough plus C Carson, Mr I Fost, Mr RK Miller and Mrs P Smith.

Apologies: Councillors Cole and Emery plus Mr P Catling.

The minutes of the meeting of 12 October 2010 were confirmed and signed.

SC36/10 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.

SC37/10 Field adjoining Manea Pit – possible use as community orchard/woodland

Further to minute SC30/10, 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, having incorporated the amendments suggested as a result of the consultation with members of the Sub-Committee and included the pieces of financial information by the Clerk, and has obtained "sign-off" by the Chairman of the Parish Council. She stated that the Wildlife Trust has provided a letter of support for the project but the letter promised by the Doctor's Surgery is still awaited.

The Sub-Committee is of the view that the application should be submitted as a matter of priority and that this should happen within the next few days even if the final letter of support has not been received; it is felt by Sub-Committee that the letters received to date should provide a sufficient level of support for this project.

The Sub-Committee discussed generally some of the operational aspects of this project, including the appropriate time of the year for various planting activities. Mrs P Smith mentioned a request from a local resident regarding the planting of certain species of trees as part of this project.

Councillor Archer reported that the Parish Council, at its last meeting, had asked him to pursue with the Woodland Trust its offer to provide some trees for this project. The Parish Council had also agreed that the site be ploughed in the meantime.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the current situation regarding the application for monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund be noted;
- (2) the application be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund on 12 November 2010;
- (3) subject to a successful outcome of the application, a plan for delivery of the community orchard/woodland project be developed at the January 2011 meeting of the Sub-Committee;

- (4) the request from the local resident regarding the planting of certain species of trees as part of this project be considered during the project planning process;
- (5) Councillor Mrs Desborough would investigate the possibility of obtaining some hedging from Cambridgeshire County Council.

SC38/10 Management Plan - improvement/development works and projects

The Chairman reported that the work party arranged for 30 October 2010 had not taken place. He has, however, made arrangements for the Community Payback Team to undertake works at Manea Pit on most weekends.

Mr R K Miller informed the Sub-Committee of works that need to be undertaken by a work party, including the construction of a small bridge across the two pools. The necessary materials – 25 x 3.0 metres lengths of decking - will need to be purchased

Mrs P Smith informed the Sub-Committee of the outcome of her investigations into introducing suitable species of plant life at Manea Pit. She stated that it may be possible to have plants that are removed by the Internal Drainage Board when dredging the Ouse Washes. However, Mr C Carson commented that the types of plant that tend to be found in the Ouse Washes may not be suitable species for introducing into Manea Pit and, additionally, such action could introduce alien cultures into the pit.

Mrs Smith informed the Sub-Committee that the Wildlife Trust has agreed to research its records to provide information as to what plants were found in Manea Pit at the time if it being awarded County Wildlife Site (CWS) status; in addition, Mrs Smith is currently compiling photographs and descriptions of all of the plants that support the designation of an area as a CWS.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) a further work party be arranged, on a date to be agreed between the participants, for undertaking the netting works agreed at minute SC24/10 and other minor maintenance and improvement works;
- (2) the materials required for construction of the bridge across the two pools be purchased;
- (3) the outcome of Mrs P Smith's investigations, to date, into introducing suitable species of plant life at Manea Pit be noted and that this matter be kept under review by the Sub-Committee;
- (4) Mrs P Smith would begin work on developing a new Management Plan for Manea Pit.

SC39/10 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 SC32/10, the Clerk reported that two life jackets had been ordered and delivery is expected shortly.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) there are no new health and safety issues at this time;
- (2) the situation regarding the provision of life jackets be noted.

SC40/10 Fishing issues

Further to minutes SC24/10 and SC33/10, Mr Fost reported that 500 new fish (250 Tench and 250 Crucians), provided by the Environment Agency, were added to the pools at Manea Pit today.

The Clerk reported that, to enable the fish to be added to the pools, it was necessary to register the pools with Cefas.

A small financial provision will need to be made by the Parish Council for the purchase of feed for the new fish.

The Sub-Committee decided that the current situation be noted and that the Parish Council's attention be drawn to the need to fund the purchase feed for the new fish.

SC41/10 Next meeting

Members decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on 26 January 2011, commencing at 7.30 pm, at the British Legion Club, East Street, Manea.

Meeting finished at 8.00 pm.

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

Date:.....