

# MANEA PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

19 MARCH 2012 – 7.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Emery, Chairman; Councillors Archer, Buckton, Cole, Mrs Desborough, Risbridger and Woodard.

**Apologies:** Councillor Mrs Berry.

The minutes of the meeting of 20 February 2012 were confirmed and signed.

### M147/11 Open Forum

#### (1) Healthy Village Project

Mrs B Carson informed the Parish Council that she is seeking to establish walking routes around the village, as part of the Healthy Village Project; she suggested that the initiative be called "Manea Miles".

Mrs Carson explained how the initiative would operate, which included placing markings at various points around the village to show the different routes (of varying distances). She stated that, subject to receiving the Parish Council's endorsement, she would make the necessary arrangements and produce relevant publicity (including an article in the Manea Matters publication).

Members decided that the information provided by Mrs Carson be noted and that the initiative be endorsed by the Parish Council.

#### (2) Manea Pit

Mrs P Smith mentioned that, since the last meeting of the Parish Council, she had been involved in discussion with Councillor Buckton regarding revision of the Standing Orders and Terms of Reference of the Manea Pit Sub-Committee and that she is supportive of what she believes are likely to be the proposed changes.

Mrs Smith referred to minute SC90/11 of 12 March 2012 meeting of the Sub-Committee and informed members that application for an abstraction licence had been submitted to the Environment Agency and emphasised that it is essential for there to be full compliance by the Parish Council with all conditions that the Environment Agency attaches to the abstraction licence.

Mrs Smith sought the Parish Council's agreement to her becoming the single point of contact, instead of Councillor Emery, with the Wildlife Trust for the purpose of producing a new management plan for the pit/woodland area.

Members decided that

(1) the information reported by Mrs Smith be noted;

(2) the Parish Council would ensure full compliance with the conditions that the Environment Agency attaches to the abstraction licence;

- (3) Mrs P Smith should be designated as the single point of contact with the Wildlife Trust in connection with the production of a new management plan for the pit and woodland area; the Clerk would inform the relevant officer at Wildlife Trust accordingly.

#### **M148/11 The Standards Board for England – Members’ Code of Conduct**

Members were reminded of the need to ensure that their Register of Declarable Interests is kept up-to-date.

No members had any amendments to make to their register entries.

#### **M149/11 Suspension of a member of the Parish Council**

The Clerk reported formally the suspension of Councillor Jolley from his position as a Manea Parish Councillor, for a period of four months from 24 February 2012, as a result of the investigation by Fenland District Council’s Standards Committee of a complaint that Councillor Jolley had breached the code of conduct because of failure to declare a personal and prejudicial interest in a matter discussed by the Parish Council at minute M106/10.

As well as reaching a decision in relation to the complaint against Councillor Jolley, the Standards Committee recommends, because of comments made by the Investigating Officer, that the Parish Council should ensure that all members are aware of the code of conduct and that they should familiarise themselves with Part 3 of the Good Councillors’ Guide.

Councillor Archer expressed his concern that, being mindful of the comments made by the Investigating Officer about the need for all members to increase their awareness of the requirements of the code of conduct, Councillor Jolley had, through his breach of the code of conduct, brought the Parish Council into disrepute. No other member shared Councillor Archer’s opinion.

Members decided that

- (1) the suspension of Councillor Jolley be noted;
- (2) the issues relating to conduct of members and procedures for meetings have already been addressed through members’ attendance at training events (organised by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils and by Fenland District Councils) in relation to ethical issues and by way of the changes made to Parish Council meetings procedures and practices at minute M105/11;
- (3) they had all learnt a lesson, as a result of this investigation, in relation to the importance adhering to the code of conduct and that no further member training is required in that regard.

#### **M150/11 Progress on actions from minutes of last meeting**

##### **(1) Various community issues (minute M131/11 (1))**

The Clerk reported on the responses that he had received from Fenland District Council (FDC) in relation to the following issues:

- a) the progress being achieved in securing removal of the TVS sign (minute M89/11 (4) refers)
- b) The apparent temporary nature of the extraction flue at the new Indian restaurant on High Street, Manea.

With regard to item a), FDC states that the relevant Planning Compliance Officer had been absent from work because of illness; however, upon his return to work today, he had written to the owner of the sign informing him that unless there is removal of the sign within 48 hours, FDC would remove the sign and may charge for this (as well as any storage of the sign).

With regard to item b), Fenland District Council has inspected the extraction flue and confirms that its installation complies with the planning permission for the restaurant and accords with the relevant environmental protection legislation.

Members decided that the information reported by the Clerk be noted.

**(2) Youth issues (minute M135/11)**

The Clerk reported on the Partnership Agreement which had been produced by the County Council's Youth Service, detailing what will be delivered by the Youth Service in return for the financial contribution to be made to this service by the Parish Council.

Councillors Buckton and Emery reported briefly on their attendance at a recent young club meeting, at which promotion of the Manea Youth Bus was discussed. Manea Youth Club has been offered a stall free-of-charge at Manea Gala.

Members decided that

(1) the Partnership Agreement between Manea Parish Council and the March and Chatteris Locality Team be approved;

(2) the information reported by Councillors Buckton and Emery be noted.

**M151/11 Public open spaces**

(1) Playing field – the Clerk reported notification that the annual inspection, on behalf of RoSPA, of the play equipment etc at the playing field would be undertaken during the month of April 2012 and that he would present the inspection report to members following its receipt from the assessors.

Members decided that the information reported by the Clerk be noted.

(2) Skateboard Park – the Chairman reported, further to minute M120/11 (1), that the electrical contractor has now commenced installation of the new CCTV system for the skateboard park area. In addition, all of the floodlights in that area are now working and it is, therefore, possible to progress the situation whereby users of the skateboard park could, on payment of a fee (using tokens), have the provision of lighting (to enable use of the facility after the hours of darkness).

Members discussed the operational issues in relation to the provision of lighting for the skateboard park and the financial value that should be set for the tokens.

Members decided that the information reported by the Chairman be noted and that he would discuss the operational issues in relation to floodlighting of the skateboard park area with the local electrical contractor which maintains the lighting system.

## M152/11 Planning applications

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

- (1) Erection of a 1-bed annexe to rear with solar panels and detached double garage with study over existing dwelling at The Bungalow, Fifty Road, Manea – F/YR12/0107/F (applicant: Mrs S Cross).

*That the application be supported.*

- (2) Conversion of existing public house into 2 x two-storey b-bed dwellings at The Ship Inn, Purls Bridge Drove, Manea – F/YR12/0150/F (applicant: Mr W Bishop)

*Object to the application, on the basis that the grant of planning permission would result in the loss of an important community facility/amenity, which the Parish Council believes is capable of being operated on a financially viable basis.*

In addition, the Clerk reported, further to minute M121/11, on the decisions of the Planning Inspectorate regarding the appeals lodged in relation to the refusal, by Fenland District Council (FDC), of planning application F/YR11/0091/F (proposing the change of use of land for residential use, involving the siting of three touring caravans, one mobile home, store and stables (retrospective) at land south of Rosemary Cottage, New Road, Manea) and the associated enforcement notice served by FDC in relation to the stationing of caravans at the application site .

The Planning Inspector dismissed both of the appeals; the decision of the Local Planning Authority to not grant planning permission was supported on the basis that the proposal does not accord with Planning Policy Statement 25 (which relates to Flood Risk); consequently, the appeal against the enforcement notice was also dismissed.

Members decided that the outcome of these planning appeals be noted.

## M153/11 Reports from District and County Councillors for the parish

Although County Councillor Harper was not present at the meeting, he had produced a report on County Council-related issues, which the Clerk read to members. This report informed Manea Parish Council of:

- the factors that were taken into account in setting the County Council's element of the Council Tax for 2012/13 (set to increase by 2.95%), which included listening to the public; as a result there will be: an increase in spending on adult social care; investment in improving roads, transport and Broadband; provision of more school places; plans for boosting business and housing.
- the County Council's three priorities for service delivery and spending; these are: developing Cambridgeshire's economy; helping people live independent and healthy lives; supporting and protecting the vulnerable.

Councillor Archer, the District Councillor for the Manea ward, reported that

- the County Council's Cabinet meeting of 6 March 2012 took place at The Boathouse in Wisbech. The County Council and the District Council have given a commitment to work jointly on infrastructure improvements in Fenland, such as an A605 bypass.
- Fenland District Council will be supporting an apprenticeship scheme involving a local horticultural business.
- a Tourism Committee has been established at Fenland District Council; all Town and Parish Councils will be invited to provide details of tourism facilities and activities within their respective areas. This information will be featured on the, soon to be updated, tourism section of the District Council's website.

- further to minute M122/11, the first stage of the Boundary Commission review has concluded. The Boundary Commission has accepted the case of the District Council that it should continue to have 40 councillors; the next stage is to review the electoral ward boundaries within the district.

Members decided that information reported be noted.

### **M154/11 Manea Pit**

Members received the minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting of 12 March 2012, together with an updated version of the monitoring of actions document which was considered by the Sub-Committee at that meeting (minute SC92/11 refers).

Councillor Archer, as Chairman of the Sub-Committee, provided further detail in relation to some of the matters which were discussed by the Sub-Committee at minute SC90/11, including issues surrounding the operation of the Carp Syndicate and the fact that Mr P Catling had resigned as both Secretary/Treasurer of the Carp Syndicate and as its representative on the Sub-Committee. Members are of the opinion that the issues surrounding operation of the Carp Syndicate are a matter for the syndicate and not for the Parish Council; the syndicate needs to appoint its Secretary/Treasurer as well as its representative on the Sub-Committee.

Councillor Archer also referred to correspondence which had been received from the Woodland Trust regarding the production of a new management plan for the pit/woodland area (minute SC88/11 refers).

With regard to the proposal for abstraction of water in relation to Manea Pit (minute SC90/11 refers), Councillor Emery informed members that the Parish Council would be responsible for both providing diesel for the pump and for meeting the cost of any damage to or theft of the pump. He added that Councillor Jolley, in his capacity as a Board member of the Manea and Welney District Drainage Commissioners (MWDCC), is happy to both obtain confirmation daily from the MWDCC that sufficient water exists in the drain and to take readings from the water meter.

Further to minute M139/11, Councillor Buckton reported that he had produced a draft version of a new Standing Orders and Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee and suggested that members of the Parish Council should meet informally in advance of the next Parish Council meeting to discuss this document and any necessary revisions to the Manea Pit Strategic Management Plan.

Members decided

- (1) that the contents of the Sub-Committee minutes and the monitoring of actions document be noted;
- (2) to approve the recommendation of the Sub-Committee (minute SC90/11 refers) that (given the current economic circumstances and the level of income that is currently generated through these fees) the fees for Carp Syndicate membership and fishing tickets for the 2012/13 fishing season be retained at the 2011/12 level and that the annual fishing ticket year becomes 1 April, instead of 16 June, from this year;
- (3) to endorse the decision of the Sub-Committee (minute SC90/11 refers) that the use of bait boats at Manea Pit be prohibited;
- (4) that, further to minute SC86/11, Councillor Cole would make arrangements for the Parish Council's grounds maintenance contractor to undertake an initial cut of the grass at the woodland area and to provide a quotation for this work on an ongoing basis;
- (5) they would meet during week commencing 2 April 2012 to discuss informally both the production of new Standing Orders and Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee and any necessary revisions to the Manea Pit

Strategic Management Plan, to enable formal consideration and approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

### M155/11 Financial matters

The Clerk reported on the Parish Council's income and expenditure since the last meeting, as follows:

#### Income

Mr E Robinson	Purchase of logs from pit area	£30.00
Landin and Son	Plot purchase - Marshall	£550.00
Landin and Son	Interment fee - Pauley	£140.00
A Clingo	Plot purchase (double fee)	£1,100.00
Abbey Memorials	Memorial - Short	£140.00
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>£1,960.00</b>

#### Expenditure

Graham Dack and Company	Legal fees – open space	£623.00
Mrs A Ryman	Wages and expenses	£94.35
Environment Agency	Application fee for Abstraction Licence	£135.00
Manea Village Hall	Room hire on 20/02/12	£7.50
E.on	Electricity for village green	£19.39
E.on	Electricity for sports area	£23.24
E.on	Electricity for pavilion	£395.77
RPM Design and Print	4 x Keep Dogs on Lead signs	£54.00
H M Revenue and Customs	Clerk's Income Tax (December 2011 and January and February 2012)	£277.06
T Jordan	Salary (less income tax of £106.21), Broadband and other expenses	£515.05
Russell Fowler	Works at Manea Pit	£360.00
Richard Yardy	Floodlight repairs	£180.00
Suffolk ACRE	Pavilion and other structures insurance 2012/13	£243.53
Mrs P Smith	Reimbursement of expenses incurred in relation to orchard/woodland project	£520.88
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>£3,448.77</b>

In addition, the Clerk reported to members on the levels of funding held within the Parish Council's bank accounts as at 29 February 2012 (in the total sum of £46,167.11), together with the month-end figures for each of the preceding six months.

Arising from discussion of the Parish Council's financial position, one member raised the issue of a Section 106 Planning Obligation payment (of £32,000) to Fenland District Council (FDC) in relation to recreation provision associated with the development at Valentine Close, Manea and wondered whether FDC has spending proposals for this money or whether it would be consulting Manea Parish Council for ideas as to how it should be spent.

Members considered the appointment of an Internal Auditor for the audit of the Parish Council's 2011/12 accounts. The Clerk informed members that the person who has undertaken this role for many years, Mr Barry Cundell, no longer wishes to do so. Consequently, the Clerk had sought to identify another suitable person to perform this role; as a result, he recommended that Mr Ivan J Cooper, who is the Responsible Finance Officer at Chatteris Town Council and the Internal Auditor at least one other Parish Council in the district, be appointed.

Councillor Buckton reported to members briefly on the Manea Community Car Scheme, making the point that it would benefit from some working capital; he suggested that the Parish Council may wish to make a donation in that regard.

Members decided

- (1) upon a proposal from Councillor Emery, seconded by Councillor Archer, that the income of £1,960.00 be noted and that the payments totalling £3,448.77 be authorised;
- (2) that the levels of funding held within the Parish Council's bank accounts as at 29 February 2012, together with the month-end figures for each of the preceding six months, be noted;
- (3) that Mr Ivan J Cooper be appointed as the Parish Council's Internal Auditor for the 2011/12 audit of accounts;
- (4) a donation of £100 be made to the Manea Community Car Scheme; the payment to be made at the next meeting;
- (5) the Clerk would seek clarification from Fenland District Council as to the situation regarding the Section 106 Planning Obligation payment to Fenland District Council in relation to the development at Valentine Close, Manea.

### **M156/11 Neighbourhood Forums in Fenland**

Further to minute M142/11, the Clerk reported to members on the latest position regarding Neighbourhood Forums in Fenland, in the form of a proposal from Police Inspector Robin Sissons.

Inspector Sissons now proposes not to proceed with holding forum meetings on the basis reported to members at minute M142/11 but to introduce, subject to the views of local councils, the following:

- Rather than holding separate meetings across Fenland, engagement meetings would be linked to (already scheduled) local council meetings
- The engagement at the meeting would be in two parts; the first part - for a multi-agency dialogue with the public - taking place an hour before the meeting of the local council and then a section at the beginning of the council meeting - for a similar dialogue with elected members. Priorities would be set at the conclusion of the second part.
- Rather than a quarterly programme of separate forum meetings (currently January/April/July/October each year) based upon the former Neighbourhood Policing Team areas, a timetable along the following basis would operate:

January – March Town Council  
Wisbech Town Council.

February – Whittlesey Town Council  
North Rural Parish Councils – Northern group (Parishes of Wisbech St Mary, Leverington, Parson Drove, Tydd St Giles, Newton, Gorefield).

March – Chatteris Town Council.  
North Rural Parish Councils – Southern Group (Elm, Christchurch).

April – Waterlees and Clarkson Forum  
South Rural Parish Councils – Northern Group (Doddington, Wimblington, Benwick).

May – South Rural Parish Councils – Southern Group (Manea)  
Fenland District Council meeting (an unidentified meeting as yet where all District Councillors come together).

There would be no meetings in June but this cycle would be repeated in July, August, September, October and November.

In addition to the meetings, proactive engagement would occur during the morning of the meeting. PCSOs would go out onto the streets with questionnaires asking direct questions. Furthermore, a “Shape Your Place” forum would take place to ascertain the other issues - an experimental exercise that took place in the lead up to the last Chatteris and District Neighbourhood Forum resulted in more than 90 hits on the site).

The Clerk explained to members the rationale behind Inspector Sissons’ proposal (including deficiencies in the current process and how they could be addressed through the changes proposed).

Under this proposal, there would no longer be a stand-alone Chatteris and Manea Neighbourhood Forum, meeting on a quarterly basis but a Manea only event, every six months, “attached” to a scheduled meeting of Manea Parish Council.

Members are concerned that implementation of the arrangements now proposed by Inspector Sissons would be a retrograde step. They value the linking of Chatteris and Manea in terms of community and would like to see this link retained; members consider that this link has worked well in the past and should be retained. Members are also of the view that a meeting being held at six monthly intervals is insufficient in terms of frequency for effective engagement and priority-setting.

Members are concerned that linking the proposed meetings with those of local councils would “eat into” the Parish Council meeting and result in those meetings finishing later in the evening. They are also of the opinion that as the Parish Council does not own the premises in which it meets, there could be operational difficulties.

Manea Parish Council would be prepared, subject to agreement with Chatteris Town Council, to hold jointly with Chatteris Town Council quarterly forum meetings based upon the former Chatteris and District Neighbourhood Forum area, to which the Police and other partner agencies would be invited; this would be similar to the community-led arrangement which takes place in the Waterlees ward in Wisbech.

Members decided that

- (1) Police Inspector Sissons be informed of the views of Manea Parish Council in relation to his proposal for Neighbourhood Forums in the future;
- (2) the views of Chatteris Town Council be sought in relation to the possibility of Manea Parish Council and Chatteris Town Council hosting jointly a community-led forum (to operate on a quarterly basis and being held at Chatteris and Manea on a rota basis).

### **M157/11 Trees in Manea**

Further to minute M143/11, members considered, and supported, the recommendations of Councillor Mrs Desborough regarding trees in the village that she considers are worthy of protection by way of a Tree Preservation Order, on the basis that their removal would have a detrimental impact upon the landscape and street scene of Manea.

Members decided that Fenland District Council be requested to consider placing Tree Preservation Orders upon the following trees:

1. 3 large trees on land at the rear of 22 East Street, adjoining the public footpath
2. 4 large trees at the rear of the bungalows at Bearts Farm
3. 1 large tree in the front garden of 9 High Street
4. 1 large tree to the rear of numbers 30A, B and C, High Street, on waste ground at Williams Way
5. 3 trees in the Churchyard
6. 4 trees at the side of 94 Westfield Road
7. 1 tree on the left, next to Fenview, Fallow Corner Drove
8. 1 tree at Witchem Farm Cottage, Fallow Corner Drove
9. The large trees outside 9 Park Road.

### **M158/11 Footpaths and street lighting in Manea**

Members decided that, in the absence from the meeting of Councillor Mrs Berry, who had requested that this matter be discussed by the Parish Council, consideration of this item of business be deferred to the next meeting.

### **M159/11 Parish Council and community projects and initiatives**

#### **(1) Quality Parish Councils scheme**

Further to minute M144/11 (1), Councillor Buckton reported that he is currently working on production of the Parish Council's first Annual Report.

Members decided that the information reported by Councillor Buckton be noted.

#### **(2) Community-led plan for Manea**

Further to minute M144/11 (2), Councillor Archer reported that the questionnaire had been agreed and that the group proposes to make application to Awards for All for a grant to meet the costs of analysing the data that will result from the survey.

Members decided that the information reported be noted.

#### **(3) Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012**

Further to minute M144/11 (3), Councillor Buckton explained the four days of activities planned for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. He informed members that he had registered with "Have a Field Day" in relation to use of the playing field for certain Jubilee events. In addition, he suggested that the Parish Council should explore the provision of a suitable new playing field sign to include reference to the field's designation (under the Queen Elizabeth Fields Challenge 2012), as a Field in Trust and for the sign to be unveiled during the Jubilee celebrations.

Members agreed to Councillor Buckton's suggestion that the Parish Council allows the siting of a temporary bandstand on the playing field as part of the celebratory activities.

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Fenland District Council informing the Parish Council that the grant of £1,000 would be paid into its bank account no later than 30 March 2012.

With regard to the feasibility of the new village "gateway" signs including "Jubilee" wording, the Local Highway Authority has stated that such signs would bear the wording "Welcome to MANEA" and "Please Drive Carefully"; the regulations relating to traffic signs provide no variables which would allow the addition of "Jubilee" wording.

Members decided that the information reported by Councillor Buckton and the Clerk be noted and that the provision of a new sign for the playing field be explored.

**(4) New pavilion for Manea**

Further to minute M144/11 (4), members are, given the suspension of Councillor Jolley, unaware of the current position regarding the production of a business plan to support the application for grant funding.

Members decided that the offer of the Chairman, to ascertain from Councillor Jolley the current position and to see how the matter could now be progressed, be accepted.

**(5) Manea Youth Bus**

Further to minute M144/11 (5), Councillor Buckton informed members that a number of methods have been tried to promote and publicise the Youth Bus and it is anticipated that the involvement of the Youth Club in this initiative (minute M150/11 (2) refers) will prove successful.

Members decided that the information reported by Councillor Buckton be noted.

**(6) Extending the Winter Maintenance Service 2011/12**

Further to minute M128/11 (6), Councillor Buckton reported that there had been no need for gritting activities since the last Parish Council meeting.

Members decided that the information provided by Councillor Buckton be noted and that, as there is unlikely to be a further need for this activity until the winter of 2012/13, this matter should not feature on agendas as a community initiative for the time being.

**(7) Open space at Station Road/Jolley Close, Manea**

Further to minute M144/11 (7), the Clerk reported on the current situation regarding the transfer of this area of open space to Manea Parish Council.

The Clerk informed members that he had signed, on behalf of the Parish Council, the Transfer Deed in relation to this land and that, subject to receipt by the Parish Council's solicitors of their fees (of £623.00), payment of the legal process would be concluded.

Members decided that the information reported by the Clerk be noted and to consider, following transfer of the land to the ownership of the Parish Council, organising some form of ceremony to mark the occasion.

### M160/11 Management of community assets

Further to minute M141/11, members considered whether the Parish Council needs to put in place arrangements or procedures to ensure the effective use and maintenance of its community assets.

Members consider that the Parish Council generally has in place appropriate arrangements and procedures in place to manage its community assets; this is through: an annual village inspection; the appointment of certain members as "officers" for certain functions; regular agenda items relating to open spaces, Manea Pit etc; a Sub-Committee in relation to Manea Pit and the associated community orchard/woodland; various reports and presentations at the Annual Parish Assembly.

Members decided that this matter be discussed further at the informal Parish Council meeting scheduled to take place during week commencing 2 April 2012 (see minute M154/11).

### M161/11 Annual Assembly 2012 - Agenda items

Members discussed possible agenda items for the Annual Assembly arranged for 16 April 2012.

Members decided that

- (1) the agenda for the 2012 Annual Assembly would contain the following items in addition to the "standard" items which featured in the 2010 and 2011 meetings
  - presentation on the Fire Service
  - presentation by the Community-led planning group
  - report from the Manea Allotment Association
  - presentation, from the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, on Manea Pit and the community orchard woodland project;
- (2) publicity for the event be given via posters in the village and mention in a local newspaper.

### M162/11 Correspondence

- (1) Community ACTION magazine: Spring 2012.

The Clerk reported receipt of the latest edition of this magazine.

Members decided that the document be circulated amongst members of the Parish Council.

- (2) Cambridgeshire Shrievally Trust - request for financial assistance.

Further to minute M129/11, the Clerk read to members a letter of thanks from the Cambridgeshire Shrievally Trust for the Parish Council's donation towards the operation of the Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme.

Members decided that the contents of the letter be noted.

- (3) Drought situation and imminent hosepipe ban.

The Clerk reported a letter from Anglian Water setting out its approach to managing the current drought situation.

The primary water preservation measure will be the imposition of a hosepipe ban for Anglian Water customers with effect from 5 April 2012. Anglian Water (AW) makes the point that this decision has not been taken lightly but is necessary to protect water resources in the East of England. AW will be considering exemptions to the ban where appropriate, to protect jobs and livelihoods as well as vulnerable people; there will also be consultation with those businesses which depend upon a water supply for their day-to-day activities.

The letter also details actions that Anglian Water has taken and initiatives that it is pursuing to tackle the drought situation; this includes: investment in schemes to mitigate its effect; tackling leakages within the water network; launching a high profile campaign called "Drop 20" (this will encourage everyone to reduce their daily water consumption by 20 litres).

Further information is available on Anglian Water's website: [www.anglianwater.co.uk](http://www.anglianwater.co.uk).

Members decided that the content of the letter from Anglian Water be noted.

### **M163/11 Recycling banks in Manea**

A number of members expressed concern regarding a number of recycling banks which have appeared recently on the highway verge at the junction of Wisbech Road and Station Road; firstly that there had been no consultation with the Parish Council in advance of them appearing and, secondly, that they are having a detrimental impact upon the visibility at the junction.

Members decided that the Clerk would ascertain from the Local Highway Authority whether it is

- aware that these recycling banks have been placed upon its land
- happy that there are no associated highway safety implications.

### **M164/11 Next meeting**

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the Parish Council has been scheduled for 16 April 2012, following the Annual Assembly which commences at 7.00 pm, at Manea Village Hall.

**Meeting finished at 9.40 pm**

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

Date:.....