

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

15th OCTOBER 2018

Present: Councillors, Emery, Mrs Desborough, Mrs Hookaway, Mrs Eves, Cole, Risbridger, Mrs berry.

Apologies: Councillor Drinkwater.

Public Forum: Mr Martin Hindry - commented on the imminent cutting of the hedges, he asked that the contractors take care when cutting around roses and to try to protect the berries. He also stated that he was concerned that the benches around the pit area were still not reinstalled, another month had gone by. The Chairman agreed and gave an undertaking that the work would be carried out, hopefully before the next meeting. Mr Hindry also made the point that the 30mph signs at the entrances to the villages were filthy and unreadable, the Chairman said that he would raise the matter with Cambridgeshire Highways who were responsible for the cleaning. The parish Council were not insured or authorised to carry out maintenance work to CCC equipment.

M079/18. Apologies were received from Councillor Drinkwater.

M080/18. Members were reminded of the code of conduct

M081/18. Declarations of interest. There were none.

M082/18. The minutes of the meeting 12th September were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman.

M083/18. Progress and actions from the meeting 12th September.

The Clerk reported that he was awaiting a final quotation for the inspection of the street lights. The Clerk reported that he was advised by Sue Reynolds of Cambridgeshire County Council to get the lights inspected before the Parish Council formally adopts the lights.

Open Spaces: The Chairman reported that the trampoline in the park had been repaired but had broken again, he reported that he had informed Fenland Leisure products

The Chairman reported that an unauthorised person had placed notices around the pit stating that "dogs were banned". This is totally untrue, the Council were the only body authorised to place notices around the pit and that any unauthorised sign would be removed immediately. The Chairman also reported that someone had put locks on the gates to prevent access to the footpaths. Again this was unauthorised and the locks had been removed. Members couldn't understand why someone would waste money on such behaviour!

It was reported that the Multisport area was now being used 3 nights a week.

It was reported that the Netball Team had gone for training at the indoor facilities at Neale Wade College, March, for the winter, but would return in the spring.

The Council resolved not to charge the under 16's for the use of the MUGA.

It was reported that the Rounder's Group were using the field in front of the pavilion. As the players were over 18, it was agreed to charge the Rounder's team £10 per session, to cover the cost of the lighting throughout the winter months.

M084/18. Planning Applications: The Council considered the following applications;

- Full application **F/YR18/0899/F** - Erection of 2 x 2 3-bed dwellings and 1 x 2 storey 4-bed dwelling involving demolition of existing building at site of former DRP Vehicle Services, Fallow Corner Drove, Manea. Members resolved to support the application.
- **F/YR18/0908/F**. Erection of a Anaerobic Digestion plant, associated infrastructure, lagoon and feedstock clamps at Land South West of Crane Farm, Fifty Road, Manea. The Council resolved to support the application.
- F/02014/10/CM, F/2013/16/CM, F/2008/18/CM. Urgent request to use Delegated Powers: Planning Application **F/2008/18/CM**, Lyons Farm Reservoirs, Wimblington Road, Manea. PE15 0JZ. The application is for an extension of time to complete the work until 31st October 2019. Whilst not objecting to the proposal in principle, members are concerned at the omission of the S106 agreement to maintain Byall Fen Road. The road is well used by travellers to and from Manea. It is the major route to the A142 to the south of the county and to Chatteris, the route is used twice daily by school buses. The road is already starting to deteriorate, the proposed extension of time will only exasperate the situation. The council formally asked that funds are available to maintain the road in the short and long term.

M085/18. Police Matters: The Clerk reported that he had received a Police Report but there was nothing concerning Manea!

M086/18. Report from Councillor John Gowing CCC.

Councillor Gowing reported that the Cambridgeshire LHI Panel will meet in November. The Grit Bin for Westfield Road is ready for delivery. He had attended a meeting on 12th October when Highways explained the winter gritting procedures.

M087/18. Financial Matters: The Responsible Financial Officer reported that he had contacted Lloyds Bank and had moved £61,393 to the deposit account, ensuring that the new balance of £85,000 was protected under the government guarantee. The RFO said that he was looking to invest up to a further £85,000 in an alternative account and would report back to members.

The RFO said that he would look into the interest paid on the loan to the Public Works Board. He reported that there was a balance outstanding of £2309.15, the interest rate is 5.75% which is well above current Bank of England base rate 0.75%. The members agreed that the RFO should investigate the current contract with a view to either paying off the loan or re-finance.

The financial report was received and it was unanimously agreed to receive and to pay all invoices. (see Appendix).

M088/18. Street Naming: The Council had received from Fenland District Council a request from the developers of the development at land South and West of Keswick, Station Road, Manea.

The developers had suggested "LEYZAN GARDENS and LEYZAN CLOSE". Members objected to this proposal as the proposed names were not in keeping with the preferred policy of using names connected to Manea particularly as members had resolved to propose names of WW1 war heroes connected to Manea. The Clerk was asked to write to Fenland District Council to raise these concerns,

M089/18. Outdoor Gym Equipment. The Council decided not to purchase any further equipment at this stage. It was agreed to have a meeting with sports users and young people users of the Skate Park to ascertain the usage of further equipment and to hold a discussion regarding the state of the Skate Park to discuss a long term solution addressing the constant need for repair of the wooden surface.

M090/18. Sensory Room. The Vice- Chairman reported that it was going to be difficult to install a Sensory Room at the School because of Health and Safety concerns and the need for public access. Members resolved not to take any further action for the time being.

M091/18. Defibrillators - Governance Issues. Councillor Mrs Eves reported that 4 of the defibrillators were now installed and that a site was currently being sought at the station end of the village.

The defibrillators were registered with the Ambulance Service.

It was agreed that Manea Parish Council would formally take ownership of the defibrillators and would be entered on to the asset register. The community responders would take on the would take on the day to day maintenance of the defibrillators.

The Chairman agreed to talk to the Station regarding an installation of a defibrillator at the station.

M092/18. Tree at Annabelle Close/School Lane: It was agreed to ask Haine Tree Services to trim the tree to make it safe.

M093/18. Report of Round Table Meeting with Steve Barclay MP.

The Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting on 21st September. The meeting which was chaired by **Steve Barclay** was also attended by: **Mayor of Cambridgeshire James Palmer, Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council, Steve Count, Leader of Fenland District Council Chris Seaton, Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite.** Clerks and Chairmen of Town and Parish Councils of Fenland.

The Clerk outlined the agenda of the meeting, items had been submitted by Town and Parish Councils, Manea had submitted: Mobile Telephone Cover, extension and use of Manea Station. We were assured that the MP and Leaders were doing everything they could to secure a better mobile coverage for Manea and surrounding areas, it was recognised that this and poor broadband was hindering economic development. The Mayor reported that discussions about investment in Manea Railway Station were continuing and that it was hoped that an announcement would be made shortly. The Clerk complained at the cost of consultants to review the station use. The Mayor agreed and said that there was growing concerns about consultant fees within the Combined Authority. Other issues discussed were: Affordable Housing, Public Transport, Conditions of Roads, Planning Policy Consistency, Police Presence, contact and response times.

There was also a discussion about the trolling of local councillors on social media, the Police Commissioner reported that the police and the Home Office and DCLG were taking this seriously and that greater powers will be given to make prosecution of these trolls easier, everyone was aware that this is making people reluctant to take part in public life or to stand for election. The Clerk said that he was aware that Manea members had been subjected to this kind of abuse and that he would not hesitate in calling the police if this continued, he

described those who troll "cowards" and they were unaware of the damage this can cause to communities such as Manea.

M094/18: Cemetery, The Clerk reported that the designated gravelled area for ashes internment was running out of space. Members gave the Clerk the authority to seek an extension to the area. The Clerk would liaise with the Chairman and Councillor Cole.

M095/18: Station: As at M093/18, the Clerk reported that meetings were continuing about the use and extension to the platform and car parking.

M096/18: Correspondence, Members received a letter from East Anglia Children's Hospice, outlining their work and asking if the Council would be prepared to donate to the fund. The Clerk reminded the council that in 2017 they had donated £500. The Council unanimously agreed to donate £500 for 2018. The Clerk was asked to raise the cheque at the conclusion of the meeting.

A letter was received from Cambridgeshire County Highways about the closure of Bedlam Bridge from 5th November to 30th November 2018.

M097/18: Urgent Item, The cessation of the Number 56 bus service from and to Manea caused by the closure of Boot's Bridge. Members were very concerned that the cessation of the bus service would cause hardship to those people who rely on the service to go into March for work and shopping. The Clerk was asked to contact Stage Coach and ascertain what is happening and what action (if any) was being taken to provide an alternate service. The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Stage Coach already, and at this time were unable to give any further information. The Clerk and the Chairman were to pursue the matter.

M098/18: Date and time of next meeting: Monday 12th November 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed:.....Chairman

Date:.....