

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

19 FEBRUARY 2018 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Emery, Chairman; Councillors Cole, Mrs Desborough, Mrs Eves, Ms Hookway and Risbridger.

Apologies: Councillors Mrs Berry, Drinkwater and Fielding.

In attendance: District Councillor Buckton and County Councillor Gowing.

The minutes of the meeting of 15 January 2018 were confirmed and signed.

M125/17 Open Forum

(1) Manea Pit

A parishioner, who stated that he possesses ecological experience and qualifications, expressed his concern as to whether Manea Parish Council had taken into account all of the relevant pieces of legislation (which he listed) and obtained all of the permissions necessary to install an "otter proof" fence around Manea Pit. In addition, he suggested that the council should undertake, prior to the installation of any fencing, an assessment of the impact upon existing trees which could be affected by the installation of the proposed fencing.

Another parishioner enquired as whether the £8,000 which had been paid by the council to the contractor for the purchase of materials for the "otter proof" fence had been re-paid to the council by the deadline, agreed at the last meeting of the council, of 31 January 2018 (minute M121/17 refers) and, if not, what action had been taken.

Members decided that the comments of both parishioners be noted and taken into account as part of the Manea Pit and Community Orchard/Woodland item on the agenda for this meeting (minute M132/17 refers).

(2) Community Orchard/Woodland

A representative of the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group (which comprises of volunteers), who outlined briefly the work of the group (in summary, to record the presence and activity of the County's wild mammals) requested the council's permission to undertake a survey at the community/orchard/woodland. In addition, the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group would be able to assist with some of the activities/work of the Community Orchard/Woodland Group.

Members decided that the comments of the representative of the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group be noted and taken into account as part of the Manea Pit and Community Orchard/Woodland item on the agenda for this meeting (minute M132/17 refers).

(3) Possible children's home at East Street, Manea

A number of residents of East Street Manea attended the meeting to express to the Parish Council their concerns regarding a rumour which is circulating in the village that the purchaser of 9A East Street proposes to use the property as a children's home.

The residents enquired as to whether the Parish Council possesses any knowledge of such a proposal and whether it had received any communications or consultations in that regard.

Both the Chairman and the Clerk stated that the Parish Council had received no communications or consultations with regard to any proposal for the use of 9A East Street, Manea as a children's home. The Clerk commented that if such a proposal were to materialise and if there were a consequent requirement for planning permission for a change of use of the property, Manea Parish Council would be consulted by Fenland District Council, as the Local Planning Authority, on the planning application.

Members decided that

- (1) the comments of the residents be noted;
- (2) if there were a proposal for 9A East Street, Manea upon which the Parish Council would have a right of comment or express an opinion, the matter would be placed on the agenda, at the appropriate time, for a meeting of Manea Parish Council;
- (3) the offer of District Councillor Buckton, to make enquiries of the Planning Service at Fenland District Council, be accepted.

M126/17 Members' Code of Conduct

The Clerk reminded members of the need to inform the Monitoring Officer at Fenland District Council, via the Parish Clerk, of any changes to the content of their Register of Member Interests forms.

Members decided the information reported by the Clerk be noted and acted upon.

M127/17 Progress on actions from minutes of last meeting

(1) Community resilience (minute M116/17 (1))

Councillor Mrs Eves informed members that she had done all that she can at this time in terms of producing an emergency plan for Manea, for activation in the event of small-scale emergencies in the village. She mentioned that she had arranged to meet later this week with Mr D Vincent, the Health, Safety and Emergency Planning Manager at Fenland District Council, to discuss with him the types of risk/issue likely to be experienced at Manea. She suggested that there be three persons appointed as Emergency Plan Co-ordinators, who would activate the plan when circumstances so dictated.

Members decided that the current situation be noted and that the matter be considered further at the next meeting, following Councillor Mrs Eves' meeting with Mr Vincent.

(2) Possible Sensory Room (minute M116/17 (2))

Some members mentioned that they had still not seen the brochures which are being circulated around the members of the council.

Councillor Mrs Desborough suggested that members of the Parish Council should meet to examine jointly all of the issues involved in this matter and then discuss at the next meeting of Manea Parish Council how to proceed as a council. She mentioned that a person who is employed at a sensory room based at the Highfields Academy at Ely had offered to meet with councillors to provide an insight into the manner in which sensory rooms are operated.

Councillor Ms Hookway repeated comments that she had made at the last meeting of the council, that the council should establish the need and demand for the provision of such a facility before considering any other issues; she asked how the council would obtain such evidence.

Members decided that

- (1) the current situation be noted;
- (2) the members of the Parish Council would meet, in advance of the next meeting of the council, to examine jointly all of the issues involved in this matter; the person who is employed at a sensory room based at the Highfields Academy at Ely be invited to attend that meeting to provide an insight into the manner in which sensory rooms are operated;
- (3) the Clerk would make contact with the Clerks of the Town and Parish Councils in Fenland, as one means of seeking to ascertain the need and demand for a sensory room in the area;
- (4) the council would decide at its next meeting, in the light of the outcomes of (2) and (3) above and any other relevant factors, whether to consider any further the possible provision of a sensory room at Manea.

(3) Provision of defibrillators in Manea (minute M116/17 (3))

The Chairman informed members that he had discussed with the Headteacher the possibility of an external wall at Manea Community Primary School being the possible location for a defibrillator and that she had indicated her support in principle for the location of a defibrillator at the school but had made the point that the front wall would not be suitable as it would not be accessible (because of locked gates) outside of school opening hours.

Councillor Mrs Eves mentioned that Mr J Doherty, a local Community First Responder, is organising fundraising, including an application to Tesco for monies from its "carrier bags scheme", for the purchase of defibrillators. She added that Mr Doherty would be happy to organise training for community volunteers on the use of defibrillators.

Members decided that

- (1) the current situation be noted;
- (2) the council would consider this matter further at its next meeting.

M128/17 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) Erection of a first-floor rear extension and insertion of first-floor side window to existing dwelling at 46 High Street, Manea - F/YR17/1086/F (applicant: Mr Justin Read) = revised proposal; revision is re-location of bedroom window and introducing rooflight.

That the application be supported.

- (2) Change of use from church to single-storey 3-bed dwelling; erection of a 2.15 metre high (max.) wall and gates and formation of a vehicular access to site at Manea Methodist Church, Station Road, Manea - F/YR18/0010/F (applicant: Mr David Cole).

That the application be supported.

(Councillor Cole declared his pecuniary interest in this planning application, by virtue of being the applicant for the proposal, and retired from the meeting for the duration of the discussion and voting thereon)

- (3) Erection of a two-storey 2-bed dwelling on land south of 41 High Street, accessing Acorn Lane, Manea - F/YR18/0113/F (applicant: Mr G Tricker).

That the application be supported.

- (4) Erection of a two-storey 3-bed dwelling, involving demolition of existing dwelling, erection of 4.691 metres (maximum height) hay store/horsebox garage and stable, and renovation and raising the roof height of existing garage block at Mulberry Farm, Horseway, Chatteris - F/YR18/0119/F (applicants: J Stannard and M Northfield).

That the application be supported.

- (5) Erection of a dwelling (outline application with matters committed in respect of access and scale) on land north-west of Cedar Lodge, The Old Dairy Yards Westfield Road, Manea - F/YR18/0132/O (applicants: Mr and Mrs Savage).

That the application be supported.

- (6) Erection of a single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 25 Westfield Road, Manea - F/YR18/0136/F (applicants: Mr and Mrs Walker).

That the application be supported.

- (7) Erection of single-storey extensions to front and rear of existing dwelling at 48E Station Road, Manea - F/YR18/0148/F (applicant: Mr R Gibbons).

That the application be supported.

In addition, members considered a proposal, submitted by the Harlequin Group on behalf of Telefonica UK Limited and Vodafone Limited jointly, for the installation of a mobile phones network base station at City 1st Tyres Ltd, 27A Westfield Road, Manea as part of the two companies' continued network improvement programme to provide new 4G coverage in the area. The Clerk had forwarded to members, in advance of the meeting, the correspondence that he had received from the Harlequin Group; the correspondence gives details of the potential sites that it had examined and explained its rationale for selecting the site at Westfield Road, Manea.

Members decided that the proposal for installation of a mobile phones network base station at City 1st Tyres Ltd, 27A Westfield Road, Manea be supported.

Also, members considered pre-application consultations in respect of the following development proposals:

- (1) Possible new development at The Old Weighbridge, Fallow Corner Drove, Manea.

With the agreement of the Chairman, the land owner's planning agent, Mr I Gowler, explained to members a possible scheme for the residential development of the site. He mentioned that the site had benefitted from planning permission in the past, so the likelihood of achieving permission for the residential development of the site is strong. He informed the council that the current indicative proposal is for three (4-bed size) houses; he circulated a drawing of how the houses might look and commented that this form of development is preferred by the land owner as it is currently the most financially viable option.

Mr Gowler commented that he wishes to obtain the views of Manea Parish Council prior to the submission of an application to the Local Planning Authority.

Councillor Mrs Eves commented that most of the recent residential development in Manea is for larger properties and that the local demand is for smaller, less costly dwellings; she asked Mr Gowler to consider re-design of the proposal so that it provides four houses.

Councillor Ms Hookway asked Mr Gowler to consider re-design of the proposal so that it provides two 3-bed bungalows.

In response to the requests of Councillors Mrs Eves and Ms Hookway, Mr Gowler undertook to examine the financial viability of their respective suggestions.

Members decided that the residential development of this site be supported but requested the land owner's planning agent to examine the feasibility of other options for dwelling types and numbers for the site.

(2) Proposed residential development at the rear of 16a - 22 High Street, Manea.

The Clerk had circulated to members, in advance of the meeting, the correspondence (including an indicative layout plan showing seven two-storey (chalet style) 3 - 4-bed dwellings) that he had received from the land owner.

Members decided that the residential development of this site by the erection seven dwelling, along the lines indicated on the plans submitted by land owner, be supported in principle but they have concerns regarding the adequacy of the access to the site to serve the level of additional vehicular use likely to be generated by the residential use of the land (which is used currently as a horticultural training centre).

M129/17 Police matters

Although no representative of the Neighbourhood Policing Team was present at the meeting, PCSO Carol Holloway had provided a report detailing recent incidents of crime and disorder which had been reported to the Constabulary, as well as updating the Parish Council on other relevant matters, since the last meeting of the Parish Council. PCSO Holloway's report mentioned that

- there had been no reports of anti-social behaviour in the village
- with regard to the crimes which had been reported to the Constabulary since the last meeting of the council, there had been one report of hare coursing on farmland near Fifties Road and one dwelling burglary at a property on High Street
- two Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued to motorists who had parked their vehicles inconsiderately in front on Manea Community Primary School
- community engagement events continue to be held at the Meat and Eat premises, to enable parishioners to be able to engage regularly on a face-to-face basis with a representative of the Constabulary; the most recent event had taken place on 11 February 2018 (between 10.00 am and 11.00 am).

Members decided that the information reported by the Clerk, on behalf of PCSO Holloway, be noted.

M130/17 Reports from District and County Councillors for the parish

District Councillor Buckton informed members that Fenland District Council would be agreeing its business plan and setting its Council Tax for the financial year 2018/19 on Thursday of this week. He commented that all of the other

precepting authorities, such as the County Council and the Fire Authority, had already set their respective element of the Council Tax; Fenland District Council is the last authority to do so.

District Councillor Buckton that, on the same day, Fenland District Council (FDC) would be electing a new Leader of the Council, in place of Councillor John Clark (who had resigned recently from that position); the councillor nominated for the position is Chris Seaton (a current Cabinet member); the new Leader would subsequently appoint a new Cabinet and Councillor Buckton expects to become the Cabinet member with responsibilities for Young People.

Members were also informed by District Councillor Buckton that the process introduced by FDC of charging an annual fee for the collection of Garden Waste (brown bins) is coming to the end of its first year of operation and that 40% of households in Fenland are participating in the scheme. He commented that the concerns which had been expressed by some people that the introduction of a fee for this service would result in an increase in the amount of fly-tipping had not materialised; also, the recycling centres in Fenland are having no difficulty in dealing with the additional green waste which is being taken there.

County Councillor Gowing informed members that had reported to officers at the County Council an issue which had been brought to his attention regarding the poor condition of a public footpath in the village. He mentioned that a new committee had been established by the County Council, entitled "Transport Strategy, Fenland", of which he is a member and would seek to ensure that the transport issues affecting his electoral division are discussed.

Members were informed by County Councillor Gowing that the "dragon" pot hole repairing machine is currently active in Fenland.

In response to a comment from the Chairman that the road gullies throughout Manea still need clearing, County Councillor Gowing undertook to pursue the matter with the relevant officer at the County Council.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

M131/17 Public open spaces

- (1) Bench - further to minute M120/17, the Chairman informed members that the bench installation works had been undertaken.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

- (2) Allotments – the Chairman reported that he had received a request from the Secretary of the Manea Allotment Association for the council to provide a supply of hardcore to enable tenants to undertake works to repair the surface of the access road to the site.

Members decided that the request be approved and that Councillor Cole would arrange the procurement of the necessary materials.

- (3) Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) – The Chairman informed members that he had received income of £60.00 from footballers and £25.00 from a netball team for use of the MUGA.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

- (4) Playing field - the Clerk read to members a letter of request from the Chairman of the Manea United Strikers Football Club for permission to locate a 40ft storage container at the playing field to enable all the football equipment to be stored in one place. The Chairman of the Manea United Strikers Football Club states that a lot of equipment is stored in people's garages and yards; also the container, if permitted, could accommodate the

goals which are stored currently in the container adjacent to the MUGA; re-location of the goals would free-up space in that container for use by the Parish Council. Subject to the council's approval of this request, the football club would be seeking grant funding from Mick George Ltd for the cost of purchasing a container.

Members decided that the request from Manea United Strikers Youth Football club to site a storage container at the Park Road playing field be approved; the exact location of the container to be agreed by Councillors Cole and Emery. Also the container would need to be painted green so that it would not be out of keeping with its surroundings.

- (5) Tidy Fenland: Dog Campaign - the Chairman mentioned this campaign, being operated currently by Fenland District Council (as part of its Tidy Fenland Environmental campaign), the focus of which over the last couple of months had been tackling irresponsible dog ownership. This has included making a list of known areas within the district which are affected by problems such as dog fouling and officers patrolling those areas to undertake enforcement activity.

Fenland District Council (FDC) is now asking Town and Parish Councils to inform FDC of any other issues relating to dogs that they may have. Currently, FDC's Public Space Protection Orders list 4 "offences" for which FDC is able to issue fixed penalty notices; these are:

- failing to pick-up dog faeces on land open to the air and public district-wide
- failing to put a dog on a lead when asked by an Authorised Officer
- allowing a dog (on or off a lead) to be in an area which they are not permitted
- allowing a dog (off a lead) to be in an area which they are not permitted.

The Chairman invited members to identify areas of land in Manea which they consider would benefit from enforcement patrols.

Members decided that the situation be noted and that members would inform the Clerk, for his forwarding to the relevant officer at Fenland District Council, of areas of land in Manea which they consider would benefit from enforcement patrols.

- (6) CCTV - further to minute M79/17 (2), the Chairman informed members that the new CCTV system had been installed and is operating effectively.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

- (7) Pavilion - the Chairman mentioned damage which had been caused by users of the pavilion to one of the heaters and the alarm system and that the necessary electrical works required to remedy the damage had been undertaken.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

M132/17 Manea Pit and Community Orchard/Woodland

Councillor Mrs Eves informed members that there is little to report at this time in relation to the community orchard/woodland, except for the fact that a work party had taken place at the weekend; the work party had undertaken routine maintenance of trees and hedgerows. She commented that the Community Orchard/Woodland Group is still seeking to attract additional volunteers. In addition, Councillor Mrs Eves requested the council to approve the request (made at minute M125/17 (2)) of the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group to undertake survey work at the site.

The Chairman mentioned that a Willow tree had fallen recently in the Manea Pit area and that it had been cut-up and removed from site. He mentioned also a tree, located to the rear of the pavilion, which is leaning badly and, consequently, posing a potential risk to health and safety; he proposed that this tree be felled.

The Chairman updated members on the situation with regard to installation of the "otter proof" fence; he mentioned that since the last meeting of the council he had communicated with the contractor, who had stated that installation work would commence, subject to delivery of the necessary materials, on either 26 February or (more likely) 5 March 2018. In addition, both Councillor Cole and he had met, on-site, with the contractor on 14 February 2018 to walk the route of the proposed fencing and discuss installation details.

The Chairman informed members that, given that installation work would commence in the very near future, he had not pursued re-payment to the council of the money which had been paid to the contractor for the purchase of materials. With regard to the comments that had been made by the parishioner at minute M125/17 (1), the Chairman stated that he is in no doubt that the council had followed all of the correct "legal" processes and had obtained all of the necessary permissions in respect of the installation of an "otter proof" fence around Manea Pit.

Councillor Mrs Eves expressed her concern that the Chairman had not followed the decision of the council, at minute M121/17, to take appropriate action to recover the money which had been paid to the contractor (for the purchase of materials) in the event of it not being re-paid to the council by 31 January 2018. She expressed the opinion that the majority of parishioners oppose the installation of an "otter proof" fence and suggested that no further action should be taken to install such a structure until a public vote could be undertaken and for the council to re-consider this matter in the light of the result of such a vote. In response to the comments of Councillor Mrs Eves, the Chairman made the point that the council had made a decision many months ago that an "otter proof" fence be installed around Manea Pit, that the works would soon commence and that he does not propose "re-opening" of the whole debate around this issue.

Members decided that

- (1) the update provided by Councillor Mrs Eves on behalf of the Manea Community Orchard/Woodland Group be noted;
- (2) the tree located to the rear of the pavilion, as mentioned by the Chairman, be felled; the Clerk would arrange for the contractor which undertakes tree works on behalf of Manea Parish Council to fell the tree as a matter of priority;
- (3) the current situation regarding the work to install the "otter proof" fence be noted;
- (4) the request of the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group for permission to undertake survey work at the community orchard/woodland be granted.

(Councillor Mrs Eves requested it be recorded that she does not support, and never had supported, the installation of an "otter proof" fence around Manea Pit)

M133/17 Financial matters

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

Income

Various (via I Fost)	Sale of fishing tickets	£80.00
Manea UFC	Hire of football pitch (3 matches)	£120.00
Co-op Funerals	Interment fee	£170.00
Total Income		£370.00

Expenditure

Manea Village Hall	Room hire on 15 January 2018	£10.00
T Jordan	Salary (less income tax of £152.40 and NI of £10.80), other expenses and allowances	£735.94
E.on	Electricity for village green (includes VAT of £0.81)	£17.07
E.on	Electricity for sports area (includes VAT of £0.79)	£16.66
E.on	Electricity for pavilion (includes VAT of £6.31)	£132.55
A Ryman	Pavilion cleaning	£98.76
M Willmottt	Caretaking duties and expenses	£182.91
Anglian Water	Water for cemetery	£20.74
Anglian Water	Water for playing field	£40.96
S Emery	Reimbursement of the cost of purchasing materials for installing bench	£13.16
Richard Yardy (2002) Ltd	Supply and install new CCTV system (includes VAT of £360.00)	£2,160.00
Ridgeons	Toilet seat and hinges (includes VAT of £2.40)	£14.39
Total Expenditure		£3,443.14

In addition, the Clerk reported to members on the levels of funding held within the Parish Council's bank accounts as at 31 January 2018 (in the total sum of £239,217.11), together with the month-end figures for each of the preceding six months and as at 31 January 2017.

Members considered the appointment of an Internal Auditor for the audit of the Parish Council's 2017/18 accounts. The Clerk informed members that the person who had undertaken this role in respect of the council's accounts for the last six financial years, Mr Ivan J Cooper, is willing to do likewise for the 2017/18 accounts.

Further to minute M123/17 (6), members considered possible schemes for use of the £25,000 highways infrastructure (including bus shelters) provision within the 2017/18 budget. Councillor Mrs Eves expressed the opinion that part of this funding could be utilised to purchase and install a number of bus shelters in the village, particularly at the bus pick-up points for pupils who travel between Manea and the Cromwell Community College, Chatteris.

Members decided

- (1) upon a proposal from Councillor Mrs Desborough, seconded by Councillor Risbridger, that the income of £370.00 be noted and that the payments totalling £3,443.14 be authorised;
- (2) that the levels of funding held within the Parish Council's bank accounts as at 31 January 2018, together with the month-end figures for each of the preceding six months and as at 31 January 2017, be noted;
- (3) that Mr Ivan J Cooper be appointed as the Parish Council's Internal Auditor for the 2017/18 audit of accounts;
- (4) that the Chairman and Councillors Cole and Mrs Eves would seek to identify suitable locations for the installation of bus shelters in Manea, the cost of which would be met from the highways and infrastructure budget of £25,000, and report back to the next meeting on their conclusions.

M134/17 Councillor training

Members considered a request from Councillor Mrs Eves to attend a Finance training session which is being delivered by CAPALC on 7 July 2018 (at a cost of £150 per delegate).

The Chairman and Councillor Mrs Desborough both enquired of Councillor Mrs Eves her need for this training, bearing in mind her attendance at other recent similar training which had also been delivered by CAPALC. In response, Councillor Mrs Eves offered to report to the next meeting in more detail of this latest training and to explain what she feels would be beneficial to the council as a result of her attending 7 July 2018 session. Members accepted this offer.

Members decided that this matter be considered again at the next meeting, in the light of provision by Councillor Mrs Eves of additional information.

M135/17 Annual risk assessments

Members considered, in accordance with the advice of the Council's Auditors that local councils should assess and take mitigating actions, the risks to the Parish Council.

Members are of the view that all of the risks faced by the Council are covered by the necessary measures, including:

- insurance policies in respect all assets and public liability
- regular inspections by the council's caretaking contractor of all of its community assets

- an annual inspection by the Parish Council of all of its community assets
- an annual ROSPA inspection of all play equipment
- monthly reporting by the Clerk of all items of income and expenditure and monies held in bank accounts
- all expenditure is approved at Parish Council meetings and cheques require three signatures
- the Clerk reports to members twice annually on the Parish Council's overall financial position
- Annual Accounts are approved by the Parish Council
- all activities are governed by Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
- the Parish Council possesses a prudent level of financial reserves to be able to fund any unforeseen eventualities.

Members decided that appropriate risk management measures are in place currently but the situation be kept under constant review and considered formally by the Parish Council at its February meeting each year.

M136/17 Parish street lighting

Further to minute M109/17, the Clerk read to members the information which had been provided by the Head of Assets and Projects at Fenland District Council (FDC) in relation to parish street lighting.

The information provided by FDC reminds the Parish Council that tender documents are being prepared for a street lighting repairs and maintenance contract. The contract is being drafted based on the current lighting stock and proposed replacement lights and equipment. The tender document for future street lighting repairs and maintenance (R&M) has now been completed and is now out to tender.

FDC has adopted a new specification for all new lighting units and equipment, including LED luminaires, which is being used for the current contract to replace the remaining Category 1 lights and is included within the new R&M document. This new standard is intended to maximise reliability, life expectancy, time and cost-effectiveness of repair, and energy efficiency whilst reducing ongoing R&M and energy costs.

Proposed key tender dates are:

- Closing date for receipt of tenders: 19 March 2018
- Contract award: 29 March 2018
- Contract commencement: 14 May 2018.

FDC makes the point that the award and commencement dates are provisional at this point and will depend upon tenders received and the successful contractor's required mobilisation time.

In parallel with the tender and contract award process, service costs applicable to Parish Councils would be established by FDC and shared with each council to enable it to make a final decision in respect of future R&M arrangements.

FDC's provisional timetable for engagement with Parish Councils and consideration by FDC Cabinet is:

- R&M and energy costs together with proposed service details shared with Parish Councils by 27 April 2018
- Response required from Parish Councils by 18 May 2018
- Provisional date for FDC Cabinet to consider and agree proposal – 14 June 2018.

The Head of Assets and Projects at FDC states his acknowledgement that timelines had moved-on since this proposal was first shared and makes the point that FDC would continue to fulfil its obligations to manage and maintain Parish street lights under current arrangements until the costed proposals are considered by Parish Councils and FDC Cabinet, after which the new arrangements would commence.

Councillor Mrs Eves mentioned that, as a result of the installation of the new street lighting on behalf of the County Council a couple of years ago at Orchard Way, the number of lamp columns on that estate had been reduced by two. She commented that residents of that estate had complained to her that the reduction in the number of street lamps had resulted in under-lit areas. She enquired as to whether any action could be taken to address the situation.

Members decided that

- (1) the situation with regard to Fenland District Council's street lighting contracts be noted;
- (2) the offer of County Councillor Gowing, to raise with officers of the County Council's Street Lighting Team the situation at Orchard Way, be accepted;
- (3) Manea Parish Council would consider more widely the street lighting provision across the village following the introduction of Fenland District Council's new street lighting contracts.

M137/17 Diversion of footpath number 1, adjacent to Williams Way, Manea

Members considered the proposed diversion of footpath number 1, adjacent to Williams Way, Manea by a company which is developing land in the village. The footpath runs alongside the development site and on to the playing field.

The developers state, in their letter of request, that, in reality, the footpath would stay exactly where it is; however, as the definitive footpaths map shows the footpath to be on part of the developer's land, it is necessary for the company to apply for a formal diversion so that the map can be updated.

Members decided that the proposed diversion of footpath number 1 be supported.

M138/17 Correspondence

Mr M Short

The Clerk read to members a letter from Mr M Short, the former caretaker of the council's community assets, expressing his thanks for the retirement gifts which had been purchased for him by the members of the Parish Council.

Members decided that the content of the letter be noted.

M139/17 Next meeting

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the Parish Council had been scheduled for 19 March 2018, to commence at 7.00 pm, at the Village Hall, School Lane, Manea.

Meeting finished at 9.20 pm

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

Date:.....