

**MANEA PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
HELD ON  
MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**

The Meeting was virtual meeting using the Zoom electronic system.

**Present:** Councillors: Mrs. Eves (Chairman), Mrs. Coupland (Vice-Chairman), Bonos, Cundell, Cole, Emery, Marks, Pratt and Short.  
Alan Melton (Clerk/RFO)  
John Gowing (CCC)

**M151/21:** The Clerk reminded members of the motion at minute M001/21 regarding virtual meetings.

**M152/21: Public Forum:** Mr. Matin Hindry raised the condition of the public footpaths. Councillor Mark Pratt stated that the survey was not yet complete, however members agreed to discuss the issue at the next meeting.

Mr. Scott McNeil asked if the Year 6 pupils could use the play area in the park on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021.

Members agreed to discuss at the next meeting, subject to Government Regulations.

Mrs. Clare Powell asked if the Council could consider demarcation between older children and young children on the skatepark. Members agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

**M152/21:** Members were reminded of the Code of Conduct.

**M153/21:** Declarations of Interest: Councillor Marks declared his interest in all Planning Applications due to his membership of Fenland District Council Planning Committee.

**M154/21: Progress and actions from previous meetings:**

- Bus Shelters. The Clerk reported that the bus shelters would be installed w/b 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- Notice Boards: The Chairman (Mrs. Eves) asked for members decisions regarding the following:
- Dogs around the Pit: Members agreed to try to educate members of the public who walk dogs around the pit. Members acknowledged that it would be difficult to ask all persons to keep their dogs on leads. The new notices would incorporate the guidance particularly regarding the breeding season.
- Dog's swimming in the pit: Members voted to ban all dogs swimming in the pit.
- Persons Swimming: Members agreed that no swimming should be allowed in the pit.
- Fishermen and Parking: Members agreed to discuss this at the next meeting, after the Clerk had assessed the Councils' insurance obligations.
- Net Dipping: Members agreed that nets should be dipped before and after fishing.
- Boats: Members agreed that no boats other than maintenance and emergency rescue boats should not be allowed on the pit.
- Flooding: The Clerk reported that he is awaiting advice from our insurers regarding the safety of persons who volunteer during an emergency.

**M155/21: Planning Applications:**

<b>F/YR21/0157/F</b>	Erection of 2 x 2 storey dwellings Land East of 60 Station Road, Manea	Object: Backland development. Restricted Access Further development of this site will make the flooding issues in Station Road a lot worse.
<b>F/YR21/0182/F</b>	2 Storey extension at 52 Station Road, Manea	No Objection
<b>F/YR21/0236/F</b>	Agricultural Building, at Lode Road, Fodder Fen, Manea.	No Objection

**M156/21: Police Matters:** The Chairman (Mrs. Eves) reported on her recent meeting with the police, she reported that 27 incidents were dealt with in Manea since the last meeting.

**M157/21: Reports from FDC and CCC Councillors:**

- Councillor John Gowing (CCC) reported that attendance at all schools in Fenland were 97% following the Covid lockdown. He also reported that £100,000 had been allocated for bus services, CCC was reviewing its flooding responses. CCC was also reviewing enforcement for those who fill ditches and do not maintain them. He reported that he had a meeting regarding Manea Station with the Mayor of Cambridgeshire.
- Councillor Marks (FDC) reported the closure of Fifties Road, he also echoed the comments made by Councillor Gowing regarding ditches and gullies.

**M158/21: Maurice Short Pavilion:** The Clerk reported that he was investigating sources of funding and hoped to work with the Football Clubs to secure Football Foundation funding.

**M158/21: Financial Matters:** The RFO submitted the Finance Report and accounts for payment. Members accepted the report and gave authorization for the accounts to be paid. (*see attached*).

**M159/21: Street Lights:** The RFO was given authority to pay the sum of £7006.08 to FDC for street light repairs.

The RFO reported that he and Councillor Marks had had a meeting with FDC regarding the lights, unfortunately due to lack of investment by CCC and FDC in the past, many of our streetlights are at the end of their useful life. The gearing and posts are beginning to fail and, in many cases, require two to three visits from engineers to get the lights working. The RFO supported by Councillor Marks. Suggested that the Council adopt an action plan with timescales to replace all defective lamp posts and lights. The RFO said it was an expensive exercise which would require significant capital investment. The RFO would draw up a costed action plan to phase the work over several years, starting with the most urgent first. By phasing the work there would be minimal yearly impact upon the Parish Precept. Members fully endorsed this strategy.

**M159/21: Annual Return:** The RFO reported to members the timetable for the Audit of the Council.

- The financial year ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
- The Annual Governance Statemen and Annual Accounting Statements (AGAR) to be agreed by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- The 10-day Public Inspection period would start on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021.
- Receive the audited report at the September meeting.
- Receive the Auditors report by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**M160/21:** Manea Community Land Trust: The Clerk reported that he was continuing to pursue this project.

**M161/21: Manea Station Car Park:** The Clerk reported that he had received a further draft heads of terms for the transfer of the car park. The Clerk will report to the next meeting.

**M162/21: Cemetery:** The Clerk reported that the legislation for the running of cemeteries by Parish Councils is changing. One of the changes will be the digitization of the cemetery and graves. The paper trail and recording are also changing. The Clerk will also be regarded as the Cemetery Officer and will have to undertake necessary training He will also be responsible, on behalf of the Parish Council for cemetery maintenance and Health and Safety.

**M163/21: Manea Pit: Future for the Pit Fence.**

- Following many years of debate regarding the installation of the fence around the pit, members received an updated report from the RFO regarding the safety of the Pit and the risk of injury and drowning, particularly as the pit is near the park play area.
- The Clerk reported that our insurers were concerned about the safety and the liability of the Council if a tragic accident occurred.
- The insurers recommended that a fence should be retained to ensure the safety of persons particularly children especially as the edges of the pit have a boundary of weeds and aquatic plants that cause an additional danger.
- The insurers also reminded the council that the fence should be inspected regularly and that an annual risk assessment should be produced.
- There should be safe access and egress gates for emergency services.
- Relevant signage should be in place.
- Members were reminded of their corporate responsibility and personnel responsibility.
- Following a debate by all members, followed by a vote, it was agreed that the fence be retained and that the necessary actions be taken to satisfy the safety requirements.

**M164/21: Annual Council and Parish Assembly:** Members were advised an Annual Parish Council must take place for the next municipal year; however, Annual Parish Assemblies need not take place due to the Covid legislation.

**M165/21: Correspondence:** The council received a letter from the Farm Environmental Adviser, requesting the council to recommend a suitable site for wildlife, including amphibians and newts etc. Members suggested Bedlam Ponds. The Clerk would inform the agency.

**M166/21: The date of time of the next meeting: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7pm.**

**M167/21:** The meeting ended at 9.43pm

Signed.....Chairman.

Date.....

**MANEA PARISH COUNCIL - FINANCE REPORTS - MARCH 2021**

<u><b>Income</b></u>			<u><b>Expenditure</b></u>		
Rolf	930	Burial	A. Melton	1482.08	Clerk
Turner	712	Burial	Zoom	143.88	Zoom
Lloyds	0.65	Interest	FJS	40.92	Repair
			E. Mason	648	Grounds
			MAGPAS	750	Donation
			Fenland DC	7006.87	Lights
			EoN	100.07	Power
			A. Ryman	70	Cleaner
			M. Willmott	411.25	Caretaker
			Microsoft	79.99	IT
			HMRC	1018.4	PAYE
			Agrovista	163.1	Seed
			ENTC	756	MUGA
			Manea S&G	564	Plants
	<b>1642.65</b>			<b>13234.56</b>	

<b>Balance at the bank:</b>	
Current Account	40633.02
Deposit Account	85197.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>125831</b>