

**MANEA PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINTES OF THE MEETING**

**HELD ON**

**MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021**

The meeting was a virtual meeting using the Zoom electronic system.

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

**M001/21.** The clerk reminded members of the motion at minute M001/20 regarding virtual meetings.

**M002/21: Public Forum.** There were no questions from the public.

**M003/21:** Apologies: Councillor Mark Pratt.

**M004/21:** Members were reminded of the code of conduct.

**M005/21: Declarations of interest:** Councillor Charlie Marks, declared his interest in all planning applications as he is a member of Fenland District Council Planning Committee. Mrs. Eves declared her interest in F/YR21/0326/F.

**M006/21: Progress and actions of previous meetings:**

- **Bus Shelters,** the Clerk reported that he was waiting for the co-ordination between the installers and the ground workers.
- **Notice Boards,** The Chairman reported that work was progressing.
- **Year 6 Play Area use 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021.** Members raised no objection to the use of the park for this event subject to the usual Health and Safety provisions.
- **Skatepark,** Members agreed to take no further action to a suggestion that different ages of children/youths should be separated. Members were reminded that the relevant signage was in place.
- **Parking at the Pit:** Members resolved not to take any further action regarding parking at the pit side entrance. Motorists would have to respect pedestrians and understand that their vehicles were being parked at their own risk and that no liability for theft or damage would fall upon the Parish Council.
- **Telcom Mast.** The Clerk reported that a suitable site had been agreed and that a planning application was imminent.
- **Football Club Grant:** Following a request from the Football Clubs, members agreed to match fund improvement grants from the Football Foundation for ground improvements. The members agreed to match fund the sum of £12,000 over a 6-year period, which would yield a further £24,000 from the Football Foundation, the Clerk reported that the £12,000 would be met from existing budget provisions. Councillor Bonos remarked that the cost to the council would be cost neutral as the current expenditure on the fields exceeded £2,000 per annum.
- **School Crossing,** The Clerk reported that Cambridgeshire County Council have started the consultation and recruitment for the installation of the crossing.

**M007/21: Planning Applications:**

<b>CCC/21/021/VAR</b>	Agricultural Reservoirs	No Objection	
<b>F/YR21/0240/F</b>	Dog Exercise Area	No Objection	
<b>F/YR21/0285/F</b>	Change of use	No Objection	
<b>F/YR21/0289/F</b>	Single storey extension	No Objection	
<b>F/YR21/0326/F</b>	Garage	No Objection	

**M008/21: Police Matters.** Nothing to report.

**M009/21: Reports from District Councillor:** Councillor Marks had circulated a brief report.

**M010/21: Potential right of way:** Councillor Mark Pratt had suggested that there was an opportunity to restore a Right of Way between Bearts Farm and the Old Bedford River. Members agreed to support Councillor Mark's suggestion. (in his absence, presented by Councillor Mrs Eves)

**M011/21: Maurice Short Pavilion:** There were no updates to report.

**M012/21: CAPALC Membership:** Members agreed to re-join CAPALC. Commenting that the benefits of membership would benefit the council.

**M013/21: Financial Matters:** Members agreed to accept the financial report and authorised the RFO to pay the accounts. (*see attached*)

**M014/21: Draft Accounts:** The RFO presented to members the Income, Expenditure and Balancing Account to the Council. Members unanimously agreed to adopt the accounts. The next stage would be the audit of the accounts by the internal auditor. The Chairman thanked the RFO on behalf of the Council for the presentation of the accounts.

**M015/21:** Appointment of Internal Auditor. Members agreed the appointment of Robert Mandley as the Internal Auditor for the 2020/2021 accounting year.

**M016/21: Action Plan:** The Clerk presented a draft Action Plan for the councils' future investment. The Clerk explained that Manea Parish Council is an ambitious council and is prepared to invest in the continuing improvements and facilities in the village, however, the process needs to be managed to ensure that the improvements are deliverable and affordable in the medium to long term. Further match funding opportunities should be sought, and any expenditure should be properly explained to the community. Members agreed to this strategy. The Clerk had circulated his draft thoughts, and asked members to consider their priorities for the Clerk to add or delete as appropriate. The Clerk explained that the ambitions would cover a period more than the term of this council (2 years) and would impact on future councils.

**M017/21: Station Road Consultation:** The Clerk reminded members that they had agreed to seek a Local Highway Improvement (LHI) grant from Cambridgeshire County Council for traffic and speeding control measure in Station Road. The Clerk said that the consultation should be as extensive as possible, He suggested that all residents and businesses in Station Road should be canvassed and ask

their opinion of how the measures should be installed. Councillor Cundell proposed that the consultation should reach as far as Pump Corner, members agreed. Councillor Marks suggested that the Haulage and Agricultural businesses who use the road should also be consulted. Members agreed to the strategy, the Clerk would draft a suitable leaflet.

**M018/21: Staff Matters:** The RFO reported that he would increase the wages of our staff in line with the minimum wage. Members agreed.

The Clerk/RFO also reminded members that as part of his contract, he was expected to undertake CiLCA training after a suitable time. The former Chairman (Councillor Emery) agreed. Members upheld the original decision and contract and agreed to fund the Clerk to obtain his CiLCA qualification. Councillor Emery reminded members that this was necessary to obtain Quality Council Status.

**M019/21: Dates of Meetings** for the municipal year 2021/2022. The Clerk presented the proposed dates, mainly the third Monday of each month. The dates would be published on the council's web site. Members agreed.

**M020/21: Correspondence,** there was no further correspondence.

**M021/21: Station Car Park.** Members had been circulated the draft Heads of Terms from Fenland District Council regarding the future operating of the new Station Car Park.

Members had been asked for the comments, the Clerk commented that he had received replies and comments, which he had collated into a 13-point response to FDC. Members agreed the following recommendations:

1. The Clerk be authorised to forward the comments to Ward Gethin Archer (Solicitors)
2. The Clerk to seek a meeting as soon as possible with the portfolio holders and officers of Fenland District Council.
3. That Councillors Mrs. Coupland and Emery form the negotiating team.
4. All results of the discussion and negotiations be reported back to the full Council.
5. Members reserve the right NOT to enter into an agreement with Fenland District Council regarding the operation of the car park.

*(Councillors Eves and Marks left the meeting for this discussion)*

**M022/F: Date and time of the next meeting: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm. The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Council.**

**M023/F: The meeting ended at 8.45pm.**

**Signed.....Chairman.**

**Date.....**

**MANEA PARISH COUNCIL - FINANCE REPORT - APRIL 2021**

<b><u>Income</u></b>			<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Pit	276.5	Fishing	A. Melton	1820.77	Clerk
FDC	30500	Precept	EoN	130.52	Power
King	99	Memorial	FDC	344.31	Rates
A. Melton	150	Laptop	M. Willmott	614.76	Caretaker
MUGA	110	Hire	SLCC	208	Membership
Fishing	360	Carp	CAPALC	667.7	Membership
Interest	0.72		Ridgeon's	19.18	Repairs
			A. Ryman	81.74	Cleaner
			PWLB	95.39	Loan d/d
			Wave	121.12	Water
	<b>31496.22</b>			<b>4103.49</b>	

<b><u>Balance at the Bank</u></b>	
Current Account	71133.02
Deposit Account	85198.69
Leisure Account	370
<b>Total</b>	<b>156701.7</b>