

**MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
20th January 2025**

Present: Councillors, Ben Bonos (Chairman), Jan Coupland (Vice Chairman), Chris Bartram, David Payne, Janet O’Keefe, Caroline Barnes, Charlie Marks Nick Usher and Matthew Doggett.
Councillor Alan Gowler (FDC)

Alan Melton Clerk/RFO.

Presentation and Q&A – Stagecoach East (Bus Services). A presentation was made by Mr Darren Roe and Mr David Boden. Councillor Charlie Marks expressed concerns regarding the delay in the awarding of the forthcoming bus contract by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CCPA) and asked about the effect of services to and from Manea. It was explained that the awarding of the contract was due to the restricted time that was allowed for the submission of tenders. It was pointed out that because of the recent national budget, increased costs would be incurred by the tenderers, including an increase in employers National Insurance Payments.

The CCPA will be asking the tenderers to resubmit, in the meantime, the current service will be continued for one further year.

Mr Gary Christy from FACT spoke of the services that they were offering, Mr Christy emphasised that he would be willing to work with Stagecoach and Manea Parish Council to ensure that there was a comprehensive service serving Manea.

Councillor Janet O’Keefe also pointed out the recent launch of Tiger Buses, a community bus service. I was agreed that there would be a meeting between Stagecoach, FACT, Tiger and Manea PC to agree a full-service options for Manea and the surrounding area.

M106/24: Public Forum, Mr Martin Hindry asked about the progress of the Pavilion Project, the Chairman reminded that the council were still seeking grant funding.

Sheila Forster representing the Village Hall gave an update regarding the Manea Toddler Group, she stated that she was disappointed that the relationship between the Village Hall and the Toddlers Group had been discussed as an agenda item by the Parish Council. The Clerk assured Mrs Forster that this was not the case, the matter had been brought to the attention of the Parish Council, and it was discussed informally and that it had been agreed that that it was not a Parish Council matter and that talks would be held informally by all parties concerned.

M107/24: Apologies. None

M108/24: Code of Conduct, Members were reminded of the Code of Conduct.

M109/24: Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests. Councillor Charlie Marks declared a pecuniary interest in item 6 as a member of FDC Planning Committee, Councillor Chris Bartram, Councillor Ben Bonos and Councillor Charlie Marks declared a pecuniary interest in item 8, financial statements and took no part in the debate or voting.

Councillor Chris Bartram declared a pecuniary interest in item 9, Budget Proposals, and left the room.

M110/24: Minutes, the minutes of the meeting 16th December 2024 were received and accepted, the Chairman signed the minutes.

Actions and progress from previous minutes.

- **Community Lake and Orchard Maintenance Proposals:** The Clerk reported that the Safety Management Plan had been received, there were only three issues that needed immediate attention, the Clerk reported that he had commissioned the remedial work.
Nature recovery, Councillor O’Keefe reported that she and the Clerk will be meeting with the Nature Recovery officer on 21st January 2025.

M111/24: Planning Applications:

F/YR24/0996/F	1 dwelling at Land North of 70 Station Road, Manea	Observation: Visibility/Parking
F/YR25/0019/VOC	Variation of Conditions at 36 Westfield Road, Manea.	No Comment: Lack of clarity
F/YR25/0036/PIP	9 Self build dwellings at Land South of Poppyfields, Road, Manea	Object: Poor access On a dangerous bend Rear land development Not conducive to the street scene In Flood zone Sets a precedent No 106 provision

M112/24: Police Report, there was no report

M113/24: Financial matters, The RFO presented the monthly income and expenditure report, also presented were the accounts for payment. Members gave the RFO authority to pay all outstanding accounts.

- It was agreed that the Clerk/RFO be authorised to spend up to £1000 to repair the allotment road.

M114/24: Budget Proposals: The Clerk/RFO presented the budget for the municipal year 2025/2026. Members agreed the budget proposals

- **It was agreed that the precept for 2025/2026 would be set at £94,000**

M/115/24: Tilley – Trust Proposals. The Clerk reported that he would be convening a meeting of all interested parties on Monday 10th February 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

M116/24: Correspondence: The Clerk reported that the Council had been asked if there would be any celebrations to mark VE Day on 8th May 2025. Councillor Mrs Jan Coupland agreed to ask the Royal British Legion.

The Clerk reported that Carl Suckling (CCC Community Co-Ordinator would be visiting Manea on Wednesday 5th February 2025 and would attend the Manea Community Hub.

M117/24: The date of the next meeting would be Monday 17th February 2025 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

