**MANEA PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON**

**21st SEPTEMBER 2020**

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

A minute’s silence was held in respect of the young couple who recently died in a car accident.

**Present**: Councillors: Mrs Eves (Chairman), Mrs Coupland (Vice-Chairman), Bonos, Cundell, Marks and Pratt.

Alan Melton (Clerk)

Ellie Buckton (Speaker)

5 members of the public

**M048/20**: The Clerk reminded members of the motion at minute M001/20 regarding virtual meetings.

**M049/20: Public Forum**: Mr Martin Hindry spoke regarding the state of the footpaths, he complained of poor maintenance, verges were being left un-cut, residents are refusing to cut the verges as there was confusion as to ownership. Mr Hindry asked if a map and schedule of all verges and responsibilities could be obtained? Councillor Pratt said that he would pursue the County Council for a copy of any documents.

Mr Hindry also complained about the trees along some of the pavements. The Clerk and Councillor Coupland would contact the County Council to obtain some clarity.

Malcolm Willmott thanked the Council for all the support he had be given over the past few months.

He reported that as the Manea Gala had been cancelled for 2020, plans were already being made for the Gala 2021 and the Lancaster Bomber that had been booked, would make an appearance in 2021.

Mr Willmott also reported that the Christmas Lights would be on display on “Dicks” Green during the festive season, however, due to Covid-19, there would be no switch on evening.

The Council thanked Mr Willmott for all his hard work in keeping the Park safe, clean and Covid secure.

**M050/20: Healthy Fenland**: Mrs Ellie Buckton gave a talk regarding her work with Healthy Fenland.

There were number of points:

* Venues are unlikely to open before October.
* There is a likelihood that with more announcements, this could change.
* There is a pot of money for clubs to utilise to enable restarts.
* There is funding available for new groups.
* Manea Sirens are up and running.
* The close down is causing frustration and mental health issues.
* Volunteers are needed to encourage people to re-engage with the community.
* There are advice available and new ideas are wanted.
* Healthy Fenland will place posters on their website and the Council website.
* It was hoped that the Village Hall would re-open during October.

**M051/20: Apologies** were received from Councillors Cole, Emery, Short.

**M052/20**: Members were reminded of the code of conduct

**M053/20**: **Declarations of Interest**: Councillor Marks, Item 6 Planning Applications, Councillor Marks is a member of Fenland District Council’s Planning Committee. He took no part or voting in the items.

**M054/20: Minutes of the meet**ing 26th August 2020 were received and approved.

**M055/20**: Progress and actions from previous meetings:

* **Bus Shelters**. The Clerk reported that survey work was due to commence w/b 21st September 2020. Once completed the Clerk would inform the contractors and book the completion of the work. The Chairman would write an article for the website and Manea Matters to explain the complexities of the project.
* **LHI Speed Restrictions**. The Clerk informed the Council that he had received a communication from Cambridgeshire County Council inviting bids by 27th September 2020. Following acceptance, a liaison officer would contact the Clerk.
* **Allotment Security**. The Clerk reported that Councillor Emery had met with Richard Davies and agreed the signage for the allotments.
* **Bins**. The Clerk reported that he had ordered and paid for 6 new bins, delivery is expected within the next 4 weeks.
* **Charity Bins**. After a short debate, members resolved to ask the charities to remove their bins from Station Road. The Council agreed to seek alternative sites for the future and publish a list of current charitable bins.
* **Cemetery Drainage**. The Clerk reported that he had received the tender documents and would now invite at least tenders for the work.

**M056/20: Planning Applications**.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **F/YR20/0806/F** | **Change of Use, 16A High Street, Manea** | **No Objection** |
| **F/YR20/0809/F** | **Erect 4 Storey Dwelling, The Anchor, Purls Bridge, Manea** | **No Objection** |
|  |  |  |

**M057/20: Police Matters**: The Police report was circulated to members, there were no issues for Manea. The Police were in the process of setting up a Parish/Town liaison group consisting of Chairmen/Mayors. Councillor Mrs Eves would attend with Mrs Coupland acting as substitute.

**M058/20: Report from District Councillor**: Councillor Marks (FDC) reported the successful Planning Application regarding the Station Car Park. He was concerned that the old Classics restaurant was being used as an MHO without a licence or planning permission. He would talk to officers at FDC.

**M059/20:** The Responsible Finance Officer presented the Financial Reports, there was a small adjustment which was explained as late receipts were not included. With the amendment, members agreed and accepted the accounts and authorised the RFO to pay the accounts.

**M060/20**: Request for petition support for A142 Safety Cameras. Members agreed to support the petition for the installation of cameras along the A142 following a tragic accident along the road.

**M061/20:** Manea Football Club: MFC presented an application form for a grant towards the purchase of a new tractor. After a discussion regarding insurance, storage and safety, the Council resolved to make a grant of up to £2000 towards the cost. Councillor Bonos and the Clerk would enter discussions with the Football Club to satisfy the Council that all conditions for the purchase can be met. The Football Club were congratulated for already obtaining £12,000 of external funding towards the cost of £15,954.

**M062/20**: Signage at Manea Pit. The Chairman (Mrs Eves) brought forward suggestions for new signage and interpretation boards for the Pit and Park. Members agreed to the idea and asked Mrs Eves and the Clerk to bring to members plans and costs. Members agreed that subject to further discussions, an item could be added to the 2021/2022 budget projections.

**M063/20**: Manea Dinners, Members were informed that Manea Dinners had been disbanded due to the Covid-19 emergency. Members thanked all of those who had provided and helped with the dinners in the past.

**M064/20**: YPM Update: Councillor Cundell reported that he had been in discussion with YPM. It was hoped to resume youth work in November subject to current Covid regulations including a booking system, number restrictions, track, and trace, use of sanitizers.

**M065/20: Time Capsule, Members** agreed that a time capsule should be laid in the ground during the construction of the new Station Car Park. Further discussions would take place regarding items for insertion.

**M066/20: Internet Club**: Councillor Mrs Coupland reported that the Internet Club would resume after the current Covid emergency was over.

**M067/20: Agricultural Tenancies**: The Clerk reported that he would be writing to all agricultural tenants reminding them of their obligations regarding the road and entrances to their tenancies.

He also said that he would revue the current tenancy arrangements and agreements.

**M068/20: New Laptop and Licenses**, Members gave the Clerk/RFO the authority to purchase a new laptop and licences for the use of Manea Parish Council business. The Clerk explained that he had spoken to a local specialist, Mr Trevor Eves, who was advising him. The Clerk reported that he had asked Mr Eves to transfer to and update all software in the new laptop. Councillor Marks suggested a service agreement to maintain the new equipment and keep it up to date. Members unanimously agreed to the purchase of a new laptop and the engagement of Mr Eves.

(*It should be noted that Councillor Mrs Eves declared a pecuniary and personnel interest in this item, Mrs Eves left the room and the meeting, this item was chaired by Councillor Mrs Coupland (Vice-Chairman)*.

**M069/20: Date and time of next meeting**, Monday 19th October 2020 commencing at 7.00pm.

**The meeting closed at 8.35pm.**

**Signed:………………………………………………………………………………………………..Chairman**

**Date:…………………………………………………………………………**