

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting 27th June, 2005.

Apologies were received from Mrs Desborough, Mr.Risbridger and Mr.Smart. All other councillors were present, together with Mr.Jolley,FDC.

Inspection – of the playing field, cemetery and car park took place before the meeting – reports as under.

Forum – there were several parishioners present. Mr Lancaster spoke of the vandalism to the fence along the walkway between School Lane and Chestnut Meadows. The County Highway Dept do not adopt fencing, only highway. This part of Annabelle Avenue and the walkway have not yet been adopted, but should be done during the summer. It was suggested the residents find out who owns the walkway. Mr.Jolley spoke of community grant funding which is available for projects, no form filling – just a simple letter to Fenland – have to prove grant has been spent on completion. There was mention of new toilets on the field.

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May, 2005 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:

Highways – letter from Mr.Emmett concerning Westfield Road parking saying he is asking Mr.Wilson, Housing Officer if the back roadway could be made up and the kerbs improved before seeking consultation about yellow lines.

Letter from Mr.Davies about traffic issues in the High Street – a meeting has been arranged for 5th July with councillors to discuss these

Letter asking for bids for minor highway improvements – there was discussion on a second interactive sign in Station Road but it was decided to discuss with Mr.Davies what is the best way to slow traffic.

Letter from Highway Supervisor concerning hedge in Westfield Road saying land owner will cut back by hand worst parts because he belongs to environmental scheme which protects the hedge and it cannot be cut until end of July – Mrs.Cole said it was almost impossible to walk along this part of the footpath – it was agreed Clerk to write back saying this was a safety issue since it needs to be cut back as there is no footpath on the opposite side of Westfield Road and it is impossible to walk along the footpath on this side because of this overgrown hedge.

Mr.Jolley said he would arrange for a dog bin in this vicinity.

Mr.Hawkins reported the hedge opposite Londis shop is also overgrown onto the footpath, and the school hedge needs trimming.

Letter from Mr.Alan White concerning the “build-outs” in High Street saying he was not satisfied with council’s response to his earlier letter. Mr.Hawkins declared a non-pecuniary interest. The letter was read to the meeting and it was felt that since all the speed restriction and traffic management scheme was a County Highway project with the parish council being consulted on the measures they intended to implement, a copy of the letter should be sent to them for reply.

To write as such to Mr.White, saying if he still had concerns to contact the council again.

Train Station – letters from One Railways and Rail Passenger Committee – a survey has been undertaken by council and as suggested by Mr.Clark of the rail passenger committee it will be sent to the Director of Network Division who is the person to lobby for an improved train service.

Mrs.Cole had two e-mails from rail users which clerk will reply to

Mr.D.Cole raised the question of parking outside the school and the possibility of a crossing patrol – This will be taken to the school governors at their next meeting.

Playing Field – inspection report outlying areas of the field are very untidy – and the grass is badly overgrown in the children’s play areas. There is a lot of litter in these areas also. The Chairman will have a word with Mr.Short and it was suggested that possibly we should advertise for an assistant to help him, as he is not getting any younger and there is quite a lot of work in keeping the field clean and tidy.

Mrs Cole has received e-mail complaining about rubbish and untidiness of field – by resident when walking her dog in field – Clerk to reply saying complaints noted but it is forbidden to walk dogs in field where children play – but steps are being taken to remedy problems.

It was agreed to ask Mr.Waters if he could spray the gravel path to the pavilion, and around the sports area and also on both sides of the metal fencing around the play areas.

The ROSPA report indicated the both gates in the metal fencing around the play areas need new closures – Clerk to contact Wicksteeds. – Also to ask for painting to be done under the Wicksteed promise. Some of the safe surface tiles have lifted and need re-gluing - to ask Wicksteeds about these also.

ROSPA report recommends moving the litter bins to some 2/3 metres away from gates and fences, however since this is only a recommendation and they are well used in their present position it was decided to leave them for the time being. It was suggested putting one more litter bin in the youngest children’s play area and another near the sports area picnic table. To ask Mr.Oliver for a quote to make these.

ROSPA report says roundabout needs urgent repair to bearing – work party will look at trying to repair the roundabout this week and if unsuccessful Clerk will contact Mr.Sharman at March who repaired it last time.

ROSPA report says new inserts are needed on the rocking horse – Chairman believes he has some at home – will attend to this.

Mrs.Cole felt we should have a sign saying “Do not jump over the fence – use the gate” – also to mention the age limit for children using the play items.

To ask Mr.Oliver to check over the big swing chains

Pavilion - there has been a leak in roof – damage to ceiling inside also – Chairman will look at trying to repair this.

The Electrical Report was to hand – only 3 items need looking at – to send a copy to Mr.Yardy and ask him to effect repairs.

Thanks were expressed to Gala Committee who have painted the inside and also the floor they do ask if Parish Council would pay for the floor paint - £26.81 per tin – two used. Mrs Cole proposed we do this, seconded by Mr.Barnes.

A new seat is needed in one outside toilet and also a new manhole cover – Mr.Emery will attend to this.

Mr.Barnes mentioned that there has been several incidents when the cricket square has been burnt. Mr.Jolley has some of the artificial surfacing which could be used for repair.

Mr Barnes will check to see if the field needs spraying for weeds.

Front Fence - Mr Phillips of Hazelmere Homes has agreed to contribute towards new fencing. He wants to meet with council to see if there are any items his company can help the community of Manea with. Mr, Emery said he had heard they had offered to build a new village hall at cost. Agreed to ask him to our meeting on 25th July.

Suggestions for the naming of the new estate road were Poplar Close, to await official letter from Fenland Council.

Cemetery Report – it was agreed the cemetery was in its usual excellent condition. The earth from grave digging needs to be moved, to ask Mr.Savage if he could do this for us.

Car Park - there is a partly dead tree at the rear – to ask Mr.Savage if he could trim off the dead branches leaving the two that seem to be still alive. There are a couple of trees near the park side which need slight trimming back. The car park needs spraying. Thyme House Nursery has offered to supply plants for the mound at cost, which would be approximately £100/£125 but would need help with planting. This was agreed.

Mrs.Larham has also offered a spruce for Xmas.

Golden Age Fair – Mr.M.Cotterell has been in touch with Clerk and would like to meet with councillors to discuss arrangements – possibly in late October – venue – Village Hall – not a Monday or Friday. Would need ladies to assist with teas/sandwiches – meeting arranged for 14th July – to be held in either Church Room or Hall backroom. Clerk will advise.

PLANNING

Approvals – 2a Park Road – 3 x 3 houses

28a Station Road – conservatory

5 High Street – 4 x bed house

2 x 4 bed at 36b High Street

Refused – 3 bed house at 2a Park Road.

Superfield Developments – 10 houses south of Williams Way – supported

S.Attrill – 3 bed detached house – south of 74a Station Road – comments made – this is a very small site would there be sufficient room for proposal – would there be room for installation of septic tank on this small site.

M Crouch – extension to agricultural shed – supported

Mars Construction – 15 houses rear of 29-33 Westfield Road – supported

Broadway Ltd – substitution of workplace on plot 25 Charlemont Gardens – provided the workplace home continues to be used as such application was supported

EDF Energy – diversion and rebuilding of overhead lines at Fifties Road – supported

B.Smith – first floor extension to 19 High Street – supported. Mr.Barnes declared a non-pecuniary interest.

C & B Larham – residential development land north of 16a-22 High Street – supported

M.Fuller & B Clarke – residential development on land south of 21 and 27 School Lane – concern expressed about condition of School Lane – narrow road, especially at this point – development would mean additional traffic on this narrow road also would the Sewerage Works be able to deal with all the additional building planned for Manea.

G.A.Disten – erection of 3 bed bungalow 7 East Street – this is a re-submission of plans. Mr.Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest, as he lives in East Street. The applicant has changed the siting of the building to that granted permission for in the first place. It now completely overlooks the back way of 5 East Street. It was agreed to comment that had the application been like this in the first place the council would not have supported it and we strongly oppose it now because of the situation on the plot and the overlooking problems.

Finance – draft Clerk’s contract for discussion – it was agreed to hold over until next meeting when all councillors have had chance to read and make comment.

Receipts

Hire of football pitch	80.00
Scotney - tablet	50.00
Verge reimbursement	<u>904.72</u>
	1034.72

Payments

G.Fowler cess pit empty	55.00
Electrical testing -	178.60
SJB groundscare cem	127.73
Field	<u>115.96</u>
	243.69

B.Cundell – internal audit	200.00	
J.Waters Cemetery salary	117.25	
J.Boardman cleaning	22.60	proposed: G.Hawkins
M.Short – new areas	45.20	seconded W.Cole
I.Cook – salary and phone	211.05	
Inland revenue	156.15	
J.Waters car park spraying & hedge cut	45.20	
Electrical Testing appliances	<u>17.63</u>	
	1292.37	

Correspondence

Fens Leap Newsletter
NSPCC thanks for donation
Directions Plus – news release
Shaw & Son – council will soon need new minute book – agreed to purchase new lockable folder type
Networking East newsletter
Post Office – giving details of change of location of Post Office since Mrs.Larham has sold the business. It will be moved to Park Road –
Letter from Mrs.Larham saying when she sold business she intended it should stay in High Street – unfortunately new owners want to move it to their present shop. It is important to safeguard future of Post Office for Manea but there are parking issues in Park Road, especially when there is a function in the Church Room. Parish councillors felt money would have been better spent upgrading present location rather than move to Park Road – Clerk to write.
Letter from Primary School – holding drug awareness evening on 29th June.
Middle Level – notification of improvements at Welches Dam this summer
Task Force meeting information
Vitalise – providing breaks to disabled people – asking for donation – Mrs.Cole proposed £25, seconded by Mr.D.Cole
CALC – expressing disappointment that we do not wish to remain members this year, asking if Mr.Hawkins still wished to remain on Standards Committee – Mr.Hawkins agreed.
E-mail from Mr.& MrsCrompton of High Street complaining about litter in and around the village and asking for additional bins and speed checks around village – Clerk to reply.
Anonymous letter concerning cultivation and removal of trees in Bearts Farm drove – Mr.Risbridger asked if tenant of Bearts Farm had any objection to him tidying up this area – only tree removed was an elder – and this had made an improvement to the site.

Date of next meeting – Monday 25th July at 7.00 p.m.

SignedDated

