

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting 20th April, 2006.

Apologies were received from Mr Cole, Mr Smart and Mr Risbridger, all other councillors were present together with Mr R Sears, Fenland District Council. Mention was made of the sudden death of fellow councillor George Hawkins. He will be sadly missed. Condolences have been sent to his wife Ann.

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

Highways - a meeting was held at Boots Bridge with Wimblington Parish councillors, and Mr Vale from the Highways. Mr Cole was able to attend and he gave the Chairman a report of this meeting. Because of the recent accidents at the bridge Mr Vale will be holding a meeting with the Accident Prevention Officers from the County Council. Mr Rob Marshall was also present at the meeting and it was agreed the road will be re-surfaced in red on either side of the Bridge along the Sixteen Foot Bank. We await any responses and if nothing is heard we will contact Wimblington Parish again. Comment was made by this council that the signs need looking at to make sure they are clearly visible.

Verge Maintenance letter with details of the funding – this will be some £250 short of the actual costs this time. Clerk to enquire when the cutting will begin.

Dog Fouling – letter saying the bin should be in location at Westfield Road within a couple of weeks. Mrs Desborough suggested we need another one the East Street end where people walk dogs around the right of way at the Town Lots. Clerk will enquire.

Playing Field – there are moles in the junior play area – an estimate for removal has been received from D Allen in the sum of £50. It was proposed by Mrs Cole-Palmbly, seconded by Mr Archer we accept this.

Sports Area – there has been incidents recently of lots of broken glass in the sports area, and skid marks where a motor cycle has been in the area. Chairman and Caretaker cleaned it up and the CCTV is being checked to see if the culprits have been recorded. A vigilant eye must be kept and any incidents reported to the police. It was agreed to re-advertise for an assistant caretaker to help Mr Short. To advertise in the local paper – for 4 hours per week at £5.82 per hour.

Car Park needs spraying. Unfortunately Mr Waters has indicated he is finding it difficult to life the heavy pack sprayer now. Arrangements are being made to do this for now but a permanent solution needs to be found.

Planning

P Gibson – vehicular access at 2 Wisbech Road – supported

Cambs County Council – siting of mobile at Manea School – supported

Mr & Mrs Dawson – extension to Witch Elm Lodge – supported

Mr D Russ – letter about the removal of condition 02 planning consent for 6-8

Charlemont Drive – saying he is suffering from stress and worry and hopes the council will consider withdrawing their objection to the removal of the condition. Letter from Mr Nigel Brown, Development Officer – confirming the application has been approved under delegated powers. The removal of the condition refers to a single dwelling and therefore although the parish objected it did not have to be referred to Planning Committee. Mr Brown gave full details of this complicated planning history. Permission was given for a change of use from workplace home to residential only affecting this property on the estate. This meant the dwelling was lost as a workplace home. FDC then incorrectly imposed workplace homes conditions which were not appropriate to a residential property. Mr Russ appealed against this imposition and the Inspector incorrectly viewed this as an attempt to remove restrictions from a

workplace home although he did later acknowledge his mistake but was unable to rectify the error.

Mr Russ then applied for the occupancy condition to be removed and the authority repeated the mistake by considering the property as a workplace home. The conditions were varied to reflect the new occupancy conditions. The recent application was to remove one of the conditions. The remaining condition allows Mr Russ to run a business from his garage provided he lives in the property, something not usually allowed from a residential property but can be done because it adjoins other workplace homes. The approval of the application confirms that Mr Russ can occupy his garage for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of his house. The rest of the properties on the estate remain as workplace homes and FDC will defend the retention of these units.

It was agreed to write to Mr Russ saying FDC's mistake is acknowledged and since he has now got approval the matter is at an end.

Statement of community involvement booklet – to be circulated amongst councillors.

Mr Sears mentioned the felling of trees at 96 Westfield Road. The FDC Tree Officer is involved in this application by Hazelmere Homes. There was discussion on the matter and when the application is received by the parish council it will be considered carefully.

Footpaths Mrs Desborough reported the right of way signs will be put back to their property situations.

Concerning the "no access" sign at the cross road going down to the river – this is not highway so any signing cannot be done by that authority, It was mentioned that Mr Reeves from the RSPB had agreed originally to put such a sign up at a meeting held on this site some time ago – Clerk to write to remind him of this.

Burial George Hawkins

Finance

Concurrent Functions Grant	
Cemetery	1960
War Memorial	65
Public Conveniences	239
Play Equipment	256
Playing field	149

Street light	721.
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Notice of Audit has been received. The accounts have been done and will be passed to the internal auditor.

Receipts

Grant – pav roof and bins	1997.00
Vat	<u>2825.71</u>
	4822.71

Payments

Bank of Eng loan	95.40
Ringway – st light column	407.73
FDC cem rates	135.77
Viking ink	43.43
J Waters sal	120.20
M Short new areas	46.56

I Cook sal and phone	275.46
Cambs CC pension	69.13
S Emery notice board repair	15.00proposed Mrs Cole-Palmby
J Boardman cleaning	23.28seconded Mr Emery
Shaw & Sons – new burial book	<u>99.93</u>
	1331.89

We need a replacement signature for cheques to replace Mr Hawkins – Mrs Desborough offered to be this signatory.
Insurance renewal – Clerk has received a quote from Suffolk ACRE – this will be compared for like for like before bringing to council.

Manea Pit

Letter from Environment Agency with formal offer of 999 year lease for £58,500.

Covenants were:

To allow informal public recreation

Fishing

Nature Conservation

Heritage

Mr Shelton says a 999 year lease is as good as freehold and has to be done to ensure the covenants are effective and this cannot be varied.

Clerk has obtained the most recent report from the Wildlife Trust on the pit and this was given out.

It was decided to invite all agencies, and those who may be able to give grant advice to a meeting before formally proceeding with the purchase. When we have this information a business plan can be formulated and an open meeting held to put the purchase to parishioners. A date of week beginning 19th June was suggested. Clerk to arrange.

Correspondence

Cambridge Park and Ride Survey

DEFRA information on cleaner neighbourhoods – to send for guide

FDC Standards Committee meeting notification

FACT letter of thanks for donation

L Fox and L Wayman – letter asking for help for nomination for Housing Assoc property in Glebe Close – Clerk to respond, explaining position, unfortunately not our turn to suggest this time. Suggest they contact Cambridge Housing Society for application form.

Mrs Desborough brought in a letter sent by a Downham Market resident about trains stopping at Manea Station. Clerk to respond informing her of our actions, the petition we sent to all rail organisations etc. Mr Archer expressed his interest in this matter also. The situation will continue to be monitored.

Date of Annual General Meeting – Monday 22nd May 2006 at 7.00 p.m.

Signed Dated

