

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting – 25th September, 2006.

All councillors were present, together with Mr R Sears, Fenland District Councillor. Dr R Hirson and Mrs B Carson were also present.

Visitor – Mr Philip Eden who spoke about the Parish Plan. Mr Eden said the present Parish Plan was one of the early one produced. It was explained there was a steering group and thanks to the Manea Surgery and Dr Hirson the present plan was produced, printed and circulated in the village.

Mr Eden spoke at length about the process to produce a new plan and gave examples of plans from other villages.

It was agreed to set up a meeting with councillors and Dr Hirson and Mrs Carson to discuss the future, and whether the existing plan could be re-visited or whether a new process should begin.

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st August were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising:

Highways -

Clerk has received e-mails both from Wimblington Parish Council and Geoffrey Harper, County Councillor concerning Boots Bridge, but no further information is forthcoming. Mr Sears said he would take this matter up at Fenland.

Letter from Highway Supervisor saying he has arranged for the trees at Purls Bridge road to be reduced in height. He also explained the street lighting at the development at 7 Westfield Road was the responsibility of the developer and 3 new lights are to be erected and adopted by the County Council.

It was reported the hedge in front of the old police house in High Street overhangs the footpath. Also the willow trees at 96 Westfield Road overhang the path and when wet water falls on passers by, it was also reported the bushes at 26 High Street overhang the footpath here also. Clerk to report to Highways.

Open space – 25 Station Road a meeting was held with Mr Goodyear from Hazelmere Homes. It was agreed to leave the space open, the trees will be trimmed and protective fencing put around them. Some new flowering trees will be planted as well as a border along the rear. Three new “no ball games” signs will be erected and a memorial plaque “Dicks Garden” put on the corner with School Lane. After two years the open space should become the responsibility of Fenland Council. Mr Cole met with Mr Goodyear to discuss a fence in front of the playing field but nothing further has come of this yet.

Discussion followed on the open space at Thanet Rest and Rutland way. Mr Sears hopes to have a meeting with Fenland Officers about this shortly.

Playing Field – conifer hedge – estimates for cutting this were to hand. From Peterborough Tree Services - £900 + VAT. Mr P Clarke and Mr P Deaves offered to cut one side of the hedge by hand, providing council provided a cherry picker, at a cost of £800. Mr Savage had been asked to quote, but this has not been received. It was proposed by Mrs Desborough, seconded by Mr Cole we accept the quote from Peterborough Tree Services.

Mr Cole took the invoice and letter to the parents of the young person who damaged the wiring and sensor. He will check with Mr Yardy that this has been paid.

Mr Emery said he had been asked if someone from the village could use the pavilion on Saturday for a birthday party. This was agreed, providing a donation is made to the council.

Cemetery - the new sign has been erected. New watering cans have been ordered from Ridgeons and the caretaker has tidied up the site around the water tap.

Chatteris & Manea Task Group – Mr Hawkins used to represent the council at these meetings – Mr Archer offered to attend in his place.

5 *Glebe Close* letter from Cambridge Housing Society – saying they were under impression houses had to be offered to people with Manea connection but could find no written record of this. They did find old minutes of 1991 when it was mentioned. As it was not a written agreement they had to follow Fenland’s nomination and offer the house to people with no local connection. Clerk has e-mailed Tim Mills Head of Housing and he says if he could see a copy of these minutes he would look further into the matter. Clerk to also look in old parish minutes to see if anything is minuted there.

Allotments application for the vacant 4 acres at Cranmore from Mr and Mrs C Howell. It was proposed by Mr Emery, seconded by Mr Cole they be offered the tenancy.

Manea Pit - e-mail from Mr Shelton saying he was surprised council had to consult village as this matter had been going on for so long. He asked for dates to consider for meeting council – 11th and 18th October were put forward

Railway update from Mr Archer. He had the results of the recent survey which he has sent to Mr Wilkinson from Fenland Council’s rural transport dept. He is also meeting with a lady from Downham Market who is keen to form a rail users group. Mr Sears is also exploring avenues to see if more trains can stop at Manea.

Memorial - Selwyn Newell

Planning

M & K Pratt – 2 Willow Drive – supported at site meeting

M Sullivan – extension to 9 Station ‘Road – supported at site meeting

Mr & Mrs Lancaster – extension to 1 Swallow Court – supported

Superfield Developments (M Dunkley) 2 x 4 bed houses with garage block on land SE of Williams Way. The background to this development was explained – councillors expressed concern that the road should be up to an adoptable standard. It was noted there was no footpath shown on the plans. They expressed concern for future use by refuse lorries as they may not go down unadopted roads.

Approvals: 2 x 4 bed houses W of Fenlands, Fallow Corner

3 bed house E of Rose Cottage

3 bed Chalet N of 16 High Street

Land SE of fire station Westfield Road

Refusal details for the willow trees in Westfield Road were given

Finance

Burial fees – were discussed – it was proposed by Mrs Desborough, seconded by Mr Risbridger that these be increased 25% rounded up to the nearest £5. This was agreed by all.

Audit Report – the external auditor has made comment that he feels the fidelity guarantee should be increased to take account of the large cash balance in council funds. It was therefore agreed this should be done immediately and the amount increased to £80,000. It was proposed by Mrs Palmby, seconded by Mr Archer the report be accepted.

Cheques –

Receipts	M Stacey burial	£60.00
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Payments

Powergen pav	71.43
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Sports	17.38	88.81
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Suffolk Acre – insurance	1137.45
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Moore Stephens audit fees	317.25
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K & H Services – verges	303.27
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Hutchinsons spray	55.23
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T & R Savage various	881.25
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Mill Hill – petrol	19.09
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I Cook sal + sign	271.11
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J Boardman cem	23.28	
P Clarke playing field	122.22	
P Deaves – cem	270.00	proposed C Barnes
Cambs CC pension	69.13	seconded W Palmby
Inland Revenue	<u>208.23</u>	
	3776.32	

It was agreed council must ensure Mr Savage sends invoices in regularly, so they do not accumulate. We must also ensure three quotations are sought for all work.

Correspondence

CCC scrutiny – improved services for Cambridgeshire

FDC parks and green space strategy

Anglian Playground Services – catalogue

A Hankins – drainage Park Road – he says water in a manhole on his property is very deep after wet weather. The pipe which runs under the road into the ditch opposite his property is not adequate to deal with the volume of water and he understands this is the property of council and asks he action could be taken to rectify problem. It was explained originally the water went around his property and down Straight Road through a culvert near Mr Piefinch’s property. The manhole in question was an extension to our manhole which was there solely to drain the cemetery. A solution would be to re-install the dyke which would re-route the watercourse to its original route to Straight Road.

FDC gambling Act 2005

Sharman Fabrications – new price list

Cambridgeshire old age information

Heath Forum at Wisbech on 2nd October

Fenland Volunteer Centre letter asking for donation – left on table

Fenland Citizens Advice Bureau asking for donation. Mrs Desborough proposed £25 seconded by Mr Emery.

Cambs Constabulary – Chatteris & Manea Neighbourhood panel meeting – 16th October – Mr Archer offered to attend.

Mr Archer enquired about the recent vandalism and asked if the Police were involved. Mr Emery explained what had happened and said the police had been informed, he said the names and addresses of the young people involved were to be kept on police file. The work had been done at no expense to the council and recompense was being sought from the parents of those involved. All future incidents will, of course, be referred to the police as had taken place in this case.

Mr Sears asked councillors views about the proposed council house sales in Fenland.

Date of next meeting – Monday 23rd October 7.00 p.m. Visitor – Liaison Officer from Fenland – Mr Tim Mills.

Signed Dated