

MANEA PARISH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

2 MARCH 2011 – 7.40 pm.

Present: Councillor Archer, Chairman; Councillors Cole, Mrs Desborough and Emery plus C Carson, Mr P Catling, Mr I Fost, Mr RK Miller and Mrs P Smith. Councillor Lockett attended as an observer.

Apologies: Mrs B Carson.

The minutes of the meeting of 26 January 2011 were confirmed and signed.

SC51/10 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

All matters arising from the last meeting were covered by items on the agenda for this meeting.

SC52/10 Field adjoining Manea Pit – possible use as community orchard/woodland

Further to minute SC43/10, Mrs Smith reported on the current situation regarding this project.

Mrs Smith informed the Sub-Committee that she had reported to 14 February 2011 meeting of Manea Parish Council on the success of the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and the issues associated with the use of this funding and that, as a result, the Parish Council had agreed to delegate authority to this Sub-Committee to allocate the Heritage Lottery Fund funding, provided that the work is within the available budget and the agreed aims of the project.

To commence the project, Mrs Smith sought the Sub-Committee's agreement to place an order for seed mix, at a cost of £289.25.

Mrs Smith circulated a draft design brief that she had produced for the orchard/woodland, upon which she invited Sub-Committee members to submit their comments to her outside of the meeting.

The Sub-Committee supported the suggestion of Mrs Smith that a page be added to the Parish Council's website in respect of the pit and orchard/woodland.

Councillor Archer reported that the delivery a number of trees, from the Woodland Trust (WT), is expected soon; the requirement of the WT is that they be planted (even if only in temporary locations) on 23 March 2011. The Sub-Committee discussed a number of potential planting locations, some of which are in the vicinity of Manea Pit.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the information reported and circulated by Mrs Smith be noted and that Sub-Committee members would forward to her their comments on the draft design brief;
- (2) the purchase of seed mix be approved and that spreading of the seed be undertaken at an appropriate time thereafter;

- (3) relevant members of the Sub-Committee would provide potential content for a pit and orchard/woodland page on the Parish Council's website to Councillor Archer (who will co-ordinate the information provided); the Clerk would then arrange, via the website host, for publication;
- (4) arrangements be made for planting of the trees from the Woodland Trust to take place at various locations in the village on 23 March 2011.

SC53/10 Management Plan - improvement/development works and projects

The Sub-Committee discussed the works still necessary to deliver the current management plan.

Mr Miller made the point that the netting works agreed at minute SC24/10 are still outstanding and that some tree cutting works are still required. He mentioned also that work to fill the small pool is needed.

Some members of the Sub-Committee made the point that remedial work is required to the north-eastern corner of the roadway to the pit. Members agreed that this matter should be "flagged up" as an action for the ongoing management/maintenance of Manea Pit.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) a work party be arranged for 12 March 2011 for undertaking the netting works agreed at minute SC24/10 and other minor maintenance and improvement works deemed necessary;
- (2) Councillor Cole would arrange for filling of the small pool to take place when the weather improves and, consequently, the ground conditions would be better.

SC54/10 Manea Pit – Revision of the management plan

Further to minute SC45/10, Councillor Emery reported that he had left a number of messages for the relevant officer at the Wildlife Trust but had, to date, received no response. Mrs Smith reported that she had now received some information from the Wildlife Trust, as well as some from Mr Carson. On the basis of the information now in her possession, Mrs Smith is now able to begin the development of a new management plan for Manea Pit.

Members decided that

- (1) the current position regarding the development of a new management plan be noted;
- (2) Mrs Smith would pursue the Wildlife Trust for any information that she requires in this regard and update the Sub-Committee at its next meeting.

SC55/10 Manea Pit – Health and Safety

The Sub-Committee considered whether there are currently any health and safety issues relating to Manea Pit.

The Sub-committee identified the possible need for the provision of protective clothing, to be worn by any persons who are undertaking chainsaw works in the vicinity of Manea Pit.

The Sub-Committee decided

- (1) to RECOMMENDED to Manea Parish Council that appropriate protective clothing be purchased for use by any volunteer undertaking chainsaw work, on behalf of Manea Parish Council, around the pit;

(2) that Mr C Carson would investigate the protective clothing necessary, and the likely cost of such equipment, and provide the information to the Clerk, for reference to the Parish Council.

SC56/10 Fishing issues

Mr P Catling presented the Clerk with a payment of £180.00 in respect of additional Carp Syndicate membership fees (£175.00) and sale of a fishing ticket (£5.00).

Further to minute SC48/10, the Sub-Committee discussed the setting of fees for Carp Syndicate membership and fishing tickets for the 2011/12 fishing season. Mr Catling informed the Sub-Committee that members of the Carp Syndicate had met recently to express their opinions in relation to fees for 2011/12 and the consensus view of attendees at that meeting was that a request be made for the fees for 2011/12 to be retained at the 2010/11 level.

Further to minute SC48/10, Councillor Emery reported that the Environment Agency has stated that it is happy to provide further fish for Manea Pit once it has delivered against the requests of other fisheries.

The Sub-Committee decided

- (1) to RECOMMEND to Manea Parish Council that (given the current economic circumstances, the level of increase in 2010/11 and the contribution that has been made by anglers to the improvements at Manea Pit) the fees for Carp Syndicate membership and fishing tickets for the 2011/12 fishing season be retained at the 2010/11 level;
- (2) that the increase in the level of Carp Syndicate membership, and associated income, be noted.
- (3) that the stance of the Environment Agency in relation to the provision of additional fish for Manea Pit be noted.

SC57/10 Communications/correspondence with the Wildlife Trust

Mrs Smith referred to the letter from the Wildlife Trust, considered by the Sub-Committee at minute SC25/10, insofar as related to management of trees at Manea Pit.

The Sub-Committee decided that Mr Carson would seek advice, from a relevant contact, as to appropriate action regarding the trees at Manea Pit.

SC58/10 Next meeting

Members decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on 4 April 2011, commencing at 7.30 pm, at the British Legion Club, East Street, Manea.

Meeting finished at 9.15 pm.

Signature:.....(Sub-Committee Chairman).

Date:.....