

# MANEA PARISH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF MEETING

4 APRIL 2011 – 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Archer, Chairman; Councillor Emery plus Mr I Fost, Mr R K Miller and Mrs P Smith. Councillor Lockett attended as an observer.

**Apologies:** Councillors Cole and Mrs Desborough plus Mr P Catling.

The minutes of the meeting of 2 March 2011 were confirmed and signed.

### SC59/10 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.

### SC60/10 Field adjoining Manea Pit – possible use as community orchard/woodland

Further to minute SC52/10, Mrs Smith reported on the current situation regarding this project.

Mrs Smith reported that she had received no comments from Sub-Committee members in relation to the draft design brief that she had produced for the orchard/woodland. In addition to seeking comments from Sub-Committee members, Mrs Smith had sent a copy of the document to the relevant officer at the Wildlife Trust. Mrs Smith has revised the design brief to incorporate the comments of the Wildlife Trust.

Mrs Smith informed the Sub-Committee that she had formed a team of interested persons to produce a scheme design and that such work would commence in the near future.

The seed mix which was ordered following agreement at the last Sub-Committee meeting, together with an additional amount (as the amount ordered originally proved insufficient to give the necessary coverage), has been sown.

The Clerk reported that the cost of an additional page on the Parish Council's website in respect of the pit and orchard/woodland would be £60 per annum.

Councillor Archer reported that a number of the trees provided by the Woodland Trust had been planted in the village.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the progress situation be noted;
- (2) Mrs Smith would provide each member with a copy of the revised design brief;
- (3) the Parish Council be requested to meet the cost of the additional page on the Parish Council's website

### SC61/10 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 there is a need to remove broken branches and other debris from the pit. He mentioned also that work to fill the small pool has still to be undertaken.

The Sub-Committee decided that a work party be arranged for 9 April 2011 for undertaking the netting works agreed at minute SC24/10 and other minor maintenance and improvement works deemed necessary; the services of the Community Payback Team would be utilised on 10 April to help tidy the site following the works undertaken on the previous day.

### **SC62/10 Manea Pit – Revision of the management plan**

Further to minute SC54/10, Mrs Smith circulated a discussion paper that she had produced in relation to this matter.

In the paper, Mrs Smith reminds the Sub-Committee of the various plans and documents relating to Manea Pit and of the Vision and Objectives within the Strategic Plan and the Summary Management Plan 2008.

The Clerk circulated copies of the Summary Management Plan 2008.

Although it is apparent that the 2008 plan is now out-of-date (as it does not include all of the current activities and, obviously, includes no reference to the orchard/woodland project), it provides a sound basis for the development of a new management plan.

Mrs Smith suggested that the new management plan for Manea Pit should highlight the particular interest features / habitats / species / people activities and then identify which ones the Sub-Committee should concentrate its efforts upon conserving or increasing numbers; the plan should describe the actions needed to achieve these aims. It is also necessary, within the plan, to identify potential conflicts (e.g. the fishery aims v. the aquatic plants) and how these will be managed. One of the plan's outputs will be a list of tasks, as in the Summary Management Plan.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) the current position regarding the development of a new management plan be noted;
- (2) an ecological survey (to identify the interest features (by name and location) and provide a baseline for planning of the site) be undertaken; Mrs Smith would obtain quotations for this work;
- (3) a new set of objectives for the site, to reflect the current potential and activities at Manea Pit, be formulated;
- (4) the previous decision (at minute SC25/10 refers) that Councillor Emery would be the single point of contact with officers of the Wildlife Trust (WT) be relaxed, to enable Mrs Smith to liaise with the WT regarding revision of the management plan.

### **SC63/10 Manea Pit – Health and Safety**

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

Councillor Archer informed Sub-Committee members of the decision of the Parish Council in relation to the Sub-Committee's recommendation (at minute SC55/10) that appropriate protective clothing be purchased for use by any volunteer undertaking chainsaw work, on behalf of Manea Parish Council, around the pit. The decision of the Parish Council (at minute M138/10) was that chainsaw work at Manea Pit would only be undertaken by appropriately qualified/experienced persons and that, consequently, no protective clothing for this purpose be purchased by the Parish Council.

The Sub-Committee decided that

- (1) there are no new health and safety issues at this time;
- (2) the decision of the Parish Council in relation to the undertaking of chainsaw work at Manea Pit be noted;
- (3) Mr C Carson be thanked for his investigations into identifying the protective clothing necessary for those who undertake chainsaw work.

**SC64/10 Fishing issues**

Councillor Archer reported that Manea Parish Council had approved (at minute M138/10) the Sub-Committee's recommendation (at minute SC56/10) that the fees for Carp Syndicate membership and fishing tickets for the 2011/12 fishing season be retained at the 2010/11 level.

Mr Fost presented the Clerk with the sum of £23.00 (after the deduction of the cost of purchasing fish food and grass seed) in respect of fishing fees.

The Sub-Committee decided that the decision of the Parish Council regarding fishing fees for 2011/12 and the additional income received from 2010/11 fishing fees be noted.

**SC65/10 Management of trees at Manea Pit**

Further to minute SC57/10, members were unable to receive information from Mr Carson, due to his absence from the meeting, as to appropriate action regarding the trees at Manea Pit.

Mr Fost informed Sub-Committee members of works required to nine trees around the pit, which, based upon information he had obtained from a potential contractor, would cost in the region of £1,500. He made the point that £175 had already been committed, to meet the cost of emergency works which have been carried out.

The Sub-Committee decided that the situation be noted and that the required works be included within the Tree Management Plan which needs to be developed.

**SC66/10 Next meeting**

Members decided that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on 10 May 2011, commencing at 7.30 pm, at the British Legion Club, East Street, Manea.

**Meeting finished at 8.55 pm.**

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

Date:.....