Minutes of the meeting of Manningford Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th July 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors - Richard Netherclift, Bernard Gaskin, Phil Hossack, Andy Reed, Reg Sampson and Sue Lymposs

Clerk - Ruth Kinderman

Member of Public - Sandra Hossack

Cllr Netherclift opened the meeting by welcoming the new clerk and proposing a vote of sincere thanks to Anne Thompson-Ashby for all her hard work as voluntary clerk during the preceding three years. This was carried unanimously.

1. Apologies

Councillors David Proto and Bridget Lanyon, Wiltshire Councillor Paul Oatway

2. Pecuniary and other Interests

Cllr Sampson – with relation to Planning Application 17/05938/FUL

3. Approve minutes of the annual meeting held on 30th May 2017

Cllr Gaskin proposed that these be accepted as an accurate record, seconded by Cllr Hossack and signed by Cllr Netherclift accordingly. Clerk to send PDF to Cllr Hossack for the website.

Action:RK/PH

Cllr Netherclift to locate Chairman's Annual Report and send copies to Clerk (files and noticeboards) and Cllr Hossack (website).

Action:RN/RK/PH

4. Finance

Cllr Gaskin distributed copies of the financial report to date, showing a balance of £19,155.06, which includes £1262.71 in the SID fund. The report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

5. Planning Applications

17/03466/FUL – Manningford Bohune Manor – internal and external alterations This has been approved by Wiltshire since the last meeting.

17/05760/FUL – Aero View – set back existing retaining wall and picket fence to obtain one-metre wide pedestrian refuge.

The parish council was surprised to receive this application in the light of the Legal Order by which the retaining fence must be removed and the hedge and bank reinstated, two metres back from the carriageway, by 14th August. Cllr Sampson had prepared a draft response; he will circulate this by email for approval and then submit it to Planning.

Action:RS

17/05938/FUL – Land at Dragon Lane – replacement single storey dwelling Due to Cllr Sampson's interest, Cllr Netherclift will lead a sub-committee to investigate the proposal and prepare a response.

Action:RN

17/05829/FUL – Bohune House – erection of replacement garage Application just received; Cllr Sampson to report in due course.

Action:RS

From 31st July, Planning Department will dispatch all planning applications electronically on the day of registration.

6. PCC

Cllr Sampson reported a successful rounders match on 25th June.

7. Parish projects

Telephone kiosk – Clerk will make Woodborough PC aware that Manningford PC is looking to purchase a kiosk; Woodborough has not adopted its kiosk due to incompatibility of location with potential uses. Clerk will report back once she is aware of Woodborough's thoughts.

However, it was agreed that costs would not be much different to those provided by Sandra Hossack for purchase from another source, especially due to electrical requirements. Electricity for a 'new' kiosk could be provided by a small solar panel in the roof; installation costs of the panel would be in the region of £45.

The council was unanimous in agreeing to proceed with the project.

Action:RK

Path clearing – Cllr Reed requested that a working party be recruited, to clear the track by The White House. Clerk suggested parish steward as a possible alternative in the first instance and will pass contact details to Cllr Reed.

Action:RK

Village Hall — Cllr Lymposs and Sandra Hossack reported that following the recent electrical inspection the lighting in the hall, together with some other minor electrical works, need immediate attention. They confirmed that the hall is fully insured and that the electrical inspection had been prompted by the insurance requirements. Although the hall committee has kept a contingency fund in its accounts towards future boiler replacement, this was an unforeseen expense for the hall and we have already carried out quite a lot of repair and redecoration over the last twelve months. Time has eroded the value of that fund in relation to boiler costs and therefore both items of expenditure would present a financial challenge. The committee would therefore appreciate a contribution from the parish council.

Cllr Lymposs abstained from all further discussion of the matter due to her role on the committee. Following debate as to the extent to which parish council and village hall funds should be kept separate, and the merits of supporting capital expenditure as opposed to general running costs which are currently met by committee fundraising events, Cllr Netherclift proposed that the parish council contribute £1500 towards the work. This was carried with four in favour and one abstention; Cllr Gaskin to arrange transfer of funds.

Sandra Hossack thanked the parish council for their help.

Action:BG

Footpath by chapel – Cllrs Netherclift and Proto have spoken to three of the Chapel Cottages owners, all of whom have no objection to losing two feet from their front gardens to enable a pavement along the A345 between the chapel and car park. The fourth owner is yet to be contacted.

Action:RN/DP

8. Highways

Clerk had circulated the recent highways newsletter and details of the forthcoming temporary C52 closure for utility works.

Cllrs Netherclift and Proto are due to meet Mark Stansby of Highways at the southern end of the C52 to discuss how signage can be changed to deter traffic from turning off the A345. Speedwatch continues on a regular basis and Cllr Netherclift has written to the SatNav companies to request that the C52 be removed from their systems.

Cllr Gaskin has had no success with getting action about the overhanging trees opposite his house, which have the unfortunate effect of causing traffic to veer towards the property as it avoids the trees. Wiltshire Council has been unhelpful so far; Cllr Gaskin hopes that the landowner will be prevailed upon shortly, via Humberts, although progress is slower than desired due to the landowner being abroad for most of the year.

9. Footpaths

Cllr Reed reported that he awaits written permission from the landowners to install the kissing gates, though both have given it verbally. He will telephone the Rights of Way department about the new signs.

Action:AR

Cllr Reed is still awaiting official approval for the proposed change to the bridleway south of the A345.

All councillors wished to record their gratitude for Gordon Smart's work in clearing the paths in the village.

10. Localism, environment and flooding

Nothing to report.

11. Police matters

Clerk had circulated the report and Cllr Hossack had uploaded it to the website; a person has been arrested in Manningford for the theft of a bicycle.

12. Village Hall

Cllr Lymposs reported that following the Committee AGM in June, Jacqui Burgess had succeeded Sandi Proto as treasurer. There will be a fund-raising treasure hunt on 22^{nd} July.

13. Website

Cllr Hossack reported that the website is up to date and that the Social Media is proving very successful.

14. Correspondence and diary dates

A donation request had been received from Citizens' Advice Wiltshire, to help with the likely increase in workload as the Universal Tax Credit scheme is rolled out.

Cllr Netherclift proposed a donation of £250; this was seconded by Cllr Lymposs and there were no objections.

Action:BIG

15. Items from the public

None received.

Cllr Netherclift asked that all councillors confirm by email to the Clerk that they have read the Code of Conduct.

Action:all

All councillors present completed a new Declaration of Acceptance of Office, further to the elections held in May.

16. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 19th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall