

Minutes of the Meeting of Manningford Parish Council  
held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present:**

Councillors - Richard Netherclift, Bernard Gaskin, Phil Hossack, Andy Reed, David Proto, Bridget Lanyon and Sue Lymposs  
Wiltshire Councillor Paul Oatway  
Clerk - Ruth Kinderman

**1. Apologies**

Councillor Reg Sampson

**2. Pecuniary and other Interests**

None declared. There was some discussion as to whether planning applications should be itemised on the agenda to facilitate declaration of interest at the start of the meeting; to be decided on Cllr Sampson's return.

**3. Approve minutes of the annual meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Cllr Lymposs proposed that these be accepted as an accurate record; seconded by Cllr Hossack. No objections; signed accordingly by Cllr Netherclift.

**4. Matters Arising**

Dispensations had been granted to all councillors who had applied; Cllrs Gaskin and Lymposs submitted applications at this meeting, having been absent from the last meeting.

It was agreed to drop the WW1 tree-planting idea; Cllr Sampson had advised that there had been little or no support in the village.

**5. Finance**

Cllr Gaskin distributed copies of the financial report to date, showing a balance of £16,944.57, which includes £2582.71 in the SID fund. The report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Cllr Gaskin reported that the two grant applications had been successful, one for tables and chairs for the Village Hall and the other for ten new kissing gates. All thanked Cllr Gaskin for having pursued these and all expressed their appreciation to Cllr Oatway for having supported the applications at the Area Board.

Cllr Gaskin and the Clerk are to meet next Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> to finalise the budget for next year. Cllr Gaskin proposed an unchanged precept of £6300 for 2018/2019; Cllr Netherclift put this to the vote and all were in favour.

## **6. Planning Applications**

17/08662/FUL – Cocklebury Farm

Cllr Sampson had submitted the response to the planning department wherein this parish council fully supported the views expressed by Wilcot Parish Council and consequently objected to the application. Cllr Sampson had also expressed concern that the development proposed is likely to result in additional parking in the vicinity of Swanborough Tump, leading to further damage to the surrounding area.

## **7. PCC**

There are two forthcoming services to be held at St Peter's Church; there will be a Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm, followed by mulled wine and mince pies, and then the Christmas Day service at 9.30 am as usual.

## **8. Parish projects**

i) Playground request

Cllr Gaskin reported a wide variation in prices for goalposts and nets, depending on supplier. After some discussion as to requirements, it was agreed that the posts should be as robust as possible, and that Cllr Gaskin will ask Pewsey Youth Club from where they obtained their equipment.

Disappointment was expressed at the careless treatment meted out to the playground by a few children, which spoils it for all.

ii) Telephone kiosk

Clerk confirmed that the invoice will not become payable until delivery of a kiosk, which is dependent on the right design becoming available. Cllr Gaskin said that a grant of up to £500 is available for telephone kiosk refurbishment.

## **9. Highways**

Cllr Proto reported that Wiltshire Council will be arranging the installation of the new road signs at either end of the C52.

The large pothole on the C52 has been filled, though it is likely to reappear due to the spring beneath the road surface.

Cllr Proto reported that Speedwatch has only been conducted once or twice during the past month; volunteers have been lacking, partly due to the poor weather and the clock change.

It was agreed that SID has not been as effective as it could have been due to its location so close to the railway bridge, where traffic slows down anyway. Cllrs Netherclift and Proto will explore alternative locations, possibly attached directly to the village gates.

*Action:RN/DP*

Cllr Proto should receive the price for the replacement gate this week.

Cllr Gaskin said that several residents had complained about HGVs in the village. Cllr Netherclift hopes that the new signs will go some way towards solving this problem, though SatNavs are still a menace; meanwhile, anyone should immediately telephone the number on the back of any stray lorry they happen to see.

Clerk reported that SatNavs had been very unreliable during the recent roadworks in Woodborough, being responsible for directing traffic down a bridleway to get over the canal. It was agreed that it might be worth contacting Claire Perry about the apparent aloofness of the SatNav companies.

## **10. Footpaths**

Cllr Reed reported that following receipt of the grant monies, he had ordered the kissing gates from Stephen Leonard of Wiltshire Council and that delivery will be in two weeks' time, for installation starting before Christmas and going into the New Year.

Cllr Reed expressed his great appreciation for the work carried out by the parish steward, as well as his attitude and work ethic; he is currently cleaning all the road signs as part of his routine maintenance schedule.

## **11. Localism, environment and flooding**

Cllr Lanyon had nothing to report, though there was some discussion about the need for landowners to ensure their ditches are kept clear.

Cllr Oatway reported that the HRCs are now being managed by the new contractors. This had not gone smoothly at Everleigh, with the site having to close last weekend after lorries failed to arrive to empty the containers. Cllr Oatway reported that this incident had been dealt with swiftly but longer-term concerns about Everleigh centred around the postponed revamp due to a drainage problem. Cllr Netherclift said that a Manningford resident and a Rushall parish councillor are both following the situation closely.

Cllr Gaskin was disappointed that the largest cuts being made to bus services are falling in rural areas, notably in the eastern part of the county.

## **12. Police matters**

Clerk had circulated the recent report; there had been no incidents in Manningford.

## **13. Village Hall**

Cllr Lympson reported that the Village Hall Committee had passed a vote of thanks to Cllr Gaskin for obtaining the grant for the tables and chairs.

Forthcoming events are a vintage fair (19<sup>th</sup> November), a quiz night (25<sup>th</sup> November), a Christmas party with carols (20<sup>th</sup> December) and a pub night (26<sup>th</sup> January).

All present admired the lights and acoustic boards, which were deemed to be very effective.

## **14. Website**

Cllr Hossack said that all parish council documents are up to date.

Cllr Hossack had attended the Broadband meeting hosted by Claire Perry, MP. He reported that many parishes are served even more poorly than Manningford, but that due to the dynamic nature of the industry it is very hard to get definite answers about some issues. He recommended the Wiltshire Online website as the best source of information and he will also circulate the information from the meeting. Cllr Hossack also drew attention to the voucher scheme whereby anybody with a broadband speed of under 2mbs can apply for £350 towards an upgrade.

## **15. Correspondence and diary dates**

Nobody is able to attend the WALC AGM on 4<sup>th</sup> December or the Wiltshire Council Christmas Carol service on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Clerk will attend the Wiltshire Council training and networking event on 17<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr Gaskin will attend the briefing session about the Wiltshire Core Strategy Review on 30<sup>th</sup> November at Salisbury.

## **16. Items from the public**

None received.

## **17. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall