

Minutes of the Meeting of Manningford Parish Council held on
Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors Andrew Paine, Andy Reed, Linda Tamani, Sue Lympos, and David Proto.
Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway
Clerk Ruth Kinderman
Resident Mark Johnston.

Cllr Paine opened the meeting with an invitation to Cllr Oatway to give an update after item 4.

1. Apologies

Cllr Bridget Lanyon.

2. Pecuniary and other Interests

None.

3. Approve minutes of the parish council meeting held on 24th October 2023

Cllr Lympos proposed these be accepted as an accurate record, seconded by Cllr Reed with no objections; signed accordingly by Cllr Paine.

4. Matters Arising

Wiltshire Council Democratic Services had confirmed that there had been no requests for an election following the vacancy notice published after Liz Young's resignation and that her seat may now be filled by co-option.

Clerk had written to all three landowners adjacent to MANN33 advising that the midway point of the footpath is deemed to be their boundary when undertaking their maintenance responsibilities.

Cllr Oatway noted that the recent flooding had affected several dwellings in his division but fortunately this had not apparently been the case in Manningford.

Cllr Oatway has been pressing Highways to address the lack of investment and work to the roads in his division; the stock response seems to be that relevant locations are not included in the Five-Year Highways Strategy. Samantha Howell, Director of Wiltshire Highways, had attended the Highways Matters event at the Pewsey Area Board on 27th November, where she had confirmed that the worst roads in the county were to be found within the Pewsey Community Area; Cllr Oatway had recently driven her around his division, so that she could see for herself road surfaces such as the C52/Hare Street and the Seven Wells crossroads.

It was noted that no responses had been received to the questions submitted by this parish to the Highways Matters event; Clerk to chase. **Action:RK**

It was noted that forthcoming works to the C52 are to repair verge over-runs at the southern end, rather than at Hare Street. It was agreed to enquire how this decision had been taken, with this parish council having made no requests relating to that stretch, apart from the ridges left after service works, in contrast to the many complaints submitted about the site of the old ford at the boundary with the neighbouring parish of Wilcot, Huish and Oare, which council has also submitted many requests for improvements at that location.

Action:RK

In discussion, it was noted that the general road situation has regressed further since the recent cold weather, exacerbated by the much lower standards of pot-hole repair, which are not long-lasting due to not being swept out properly prior to filling, and not having the edges sealed after filling; it was agreed that this constitutes a waste of public money. Cllr Paine noted that sealing edges with tar has been discontinued due to liability to Wiltshire Council in the event of an accident caused by the tar which becomes very slippery in bad weather. It was agreed to enquire why Wiltshire Council does not use an alternative contractor who would use improved methods. **Action:RK**

With reference to other local authorities going bankrupt, Cllr Oatway said that Wiltshire Council is in a strong financial position, with an imminent precept rise of 3.99%, to be followed by 2.99% next year. With a projected underspend this year, Cllr Oatway is requesting that the surplus is transferred to Highways for immediate investment rather than added to the reserves.

5. To adopt revised Code of Conduct

Further to the last meeting, an edited Code had been circulated to all councillors. Cllr Lymoss proposed this be adopted, seconded by Cllr Proto with no objections.

6. Finance

i) To receive Idverde quote for bin in Church Lane
Idverde had quoted £340.17 plus VAT to supply and install a free-standing bin in Church Lane. It was agreed to research other suppliers before accepting. **Action:RK**
Idverde currently charges £3.95 per emptying visit but is increasing prices to £292.52 per year regardless of frequency of emptying. This will mean approximately £12.50 per fortnightly visit for the bin opposite the Village Hall and £25.00 per monthly visit for a proposed new bin in Church Lane.

It was agreed not to proceed with these quotes; Clerk has made enquiries as to other service providers in the area. **Action:RK**

Cllr Oatway advised that Idverde is focusing its resources on meeting its commercial contractual obligations to Wiltshire Council, to the detriment of its non-commercial agreements with smaller organisations and parish councils.

ii) To note expenditure since last meeting

Payments made since the last meeting were:

Charlton Baker – payroll services October, November and December - £15.50 x 3 collected by direct debit

Clerk's salary October, November and December - £137.91 x 3 – an increase to comply with NALC published salary scales had been proposed by Cllr Paine and approved by all councillors by email, and backpay to October had been included in the December payment.

Woodborough Parish Council to reimburse bin emptying - £19.75

Mundy and Son Ltd - scalping for parking area - £54.72 (£45.60 + VAT £9.12)

Bank statements had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting; the updated balance sheet and budget monitoring report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

An instant savings account had been opened with a transfer of £12,000.00 from the current account. Interest earned to date is £30.36.

All allotment rental charges for 2023/2024 have now been received.

Forthcoming payments to be made:

Clerk's Salary January - £137.91

Charlton Baker payroll services January - £15.50 to be collected by Direct Debit

Wicksteed playground inspection - £132.00

iii) To review draft budget for 2024/2025

A revised draft budget for 2024/2025 had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting, allowing for expenditure for tree-work in the playground and a higher reserve for a contribution to LHFIG for any agreed works to the C52. Clerk noted the ongoing central government scheme to provide match-funded defibrillators and cabinets, at a total initial cost of £750.00 to parish councils, compared to £1000.00 to add a machine to the current SWAST contract. It was agreed to check the scheme's closure date before dismissing the idea, although the problem remained of finding a suitable location with power; additional costs of installation would have to be met in both cases. **Action:RK**

iv) To set precept for 2024/2025

Cllr Tamani proposed that the precept be set at £8900.00; seconded by Cllr Reed with no objections. It was noted that with an increased tax base for next year, this represents a 4.85% increase on last year's precept of £8300.00. **Action:RK**

7. Planning

i) To note progress of applications previously considered:

PL/2023/07365 and PL/2023/07433 (Listed Building Consent) - The Old Rectory, Manningford Abbots, SN9 6HY

Proposal - Internal and external alterations

Wiltshire Council was due to publish a decision on 12th January.

PL/2023/08917 and PL/2023/09270 (Listed Building Consent) - Lower Farm Cottages, Manningford Abbots, SN9 6HY

Proposal - Remove areas of tile and reinstate thatch to the roof. Replace areas of thatch in poor condition. New area of brickwork and insert new eyebrow window and remove service pipes from north east elevation.

Wiltshire Council was due to publish a decision on 12th January

PL/2023/09307 - Rose Farm, Manningford Abbots, Pewsey, Wilts, SN9 6JA

Proposal - Certificate of lawfulness for the continued use of land as residential gardens

Wiltshire Council was due to publish a decision on 4th January

PL/2023/09577 - 2 Chapel Cottages, Manningford Bohune, Pewsey, SN9 6JP

Proposal - Removal of existing outbuilding used as garden room office and replacement with new outbuilding for use as garden room and office

Approved by Wiltshire Council subject to the structure remaining ancillary to the main dwelling. The structure cannot be used as a holiday let without a further planning application.

PL/2023/09700 - Primrose House, Primrose Lane, Manningford Bruce, Pewsey, SN9 6JQ

Proposal - Two storey extension to the north elevation with attached single storey; creation of new access onto unmade road.

Wiltshire Council is due to publish a decision on 18th January.

It was noted that a new access should not affect traffic volume in Primrose Lane.

ii) To discuss Street Development Orders

Central government is currently consulting on proposed legislation providing for householders residing within a street to vote on development proposals for that street, subject to certain restrictions but without the planning restraints which would otherwise prevent the development.

It was noted that Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (recently renamed as National Landscapes) are likely to be protected from SDO's by being specifically excluded from the proposals; it was therefore agreed that no response from this parish council to the consultation was necessary.

8. Playground

i) Slides

One quote for supply of a bank-mounted slide had been received at £8843.00 plus VAT. A second company had declined to quote for supply-only. Free-standing slides are cheaper in the region of £4000.00, dependent on size, but would require an expensive safety surface.

It was agreed that £2000.00 should be the maximum spent on a slide project. Cllr Reed will continue to look out for a donation of a concrete pipe for use as a play tunnel. **Action:AR**

ii) Grass matting

Cllr Proto reported that a larger quantity is required than originally thought, including half-size sloping edge pieces, considerably reducing the price difference between the do-it-yourself option and the quote previously obtained. It was agreed to re-run the quote. It was noted that this project could be funded by CIL monies now that replacing the slide has been deferred indefinitely. It was noted that paying for professional installation would cover any subsequent problems. **Action:RK**

iii) Inspection

The inspection had been ordered during December and should take place shortly. Clerk had reminded Andy Martin to replace the rotten gate post.

9. Allotments

It was noted that, with clearance, a lot more space could be available in which to construct rooves for water collection.

Clerk and Cllr Paine to visit Mr Milson for confirmation of the rear boundary of the allotment site.

Action:RK/AP

Clerk to obtain prices of reconditioned IBC's.

Action:RK

It was noted that rental prices have remained constant at £25 for at least six years. It was noted that some plots are not cultivated to their potential and that there are three people waiting for plots to become available. It was agreed that under these circumstances, increasing the rent is acceptable. Cllr Reed proposed that the annual rent be raised from £25.00 to £30.00, seconded by Cllr Proto with all in favour.

Clerk to check tenancy agreements for the notification procedure and timescale. **Action:RK**

10. Highways

Results of the traffic survey outside Wythe Cottage had been received. As Wiltshire Council had not realised the two surveys south and north of the village should be run together, this survey will be re-run at the same time as the imminent survey outside Snowdrop Cottage.

Cllr Proto noted that the survey results showed 450 vehicles on a Friday, which indicates no reduction in traffic volume since the previous figure of 30 vehicles per hour.

Cllr Proto noted that the aim of the surveys along the C52 in this case is to measure volume rather than speed; to ascertain the effect, if any, of the 'Local Traffic Only' signs; and if necessary to implement further measures to deter its use as an unofficial Pewsey by-pass.

Clerk reported that Wiltshire Highways does not take responsibility for road-side ditches as the presumption under common law is that the ditch belongs to whoever owns the hedge. Landowners will be advised accordingly, as required.

Upavon Parish Council is forming a group of affected parishes to discuss the recent flooding of the Avon and prepare for similar situations in future. It was agreed to ask to be kept informed; parish councillors will attend the group meetings if possible. **Action:RK**

It was agreed that Clerk should contact the Canals and Rivers Trust to enquire about clearing dams created by fallen trees on waterways. Cllr Proto noted that engineers have previously advised that holding the water further upstream helps to protect Salisbury and that policy was to allow nature to take its course. Cllr Reed noted that higher water levels were reducing burrowing sites for kingfishers. **Action:RK**

PCAP is collating a list of long-term unrepaired pot-holes in the Pewsey Area; Clerk to submit those at Seven Wells Crossroads, Hare Street, C261 Woodborough Road by Swanborough Tump, north of the railway bridge before Furze Copse, and opposite 3 and 4 The Ivies.

Action:RK

11. Footpaths

Cllr Paine reported that resident Dick Andrews is providing crushed rubble to alleviate the worst muddy patches under kissing gates; he will deliver tractor bucket-loads to convenient sites for working parties to distribute. Cllr Paine confirmed that the Kimmins are content; Clerk to check with the Gates. Cllrs Paine and Reed will inspect footpaths at the weekend and make a list of locations. It was agreed to hold the working party during the second

weekend of February. Cllr Paine to produce a leaflet; Cllr Tamani to distribute. The parish council expressed its thanks to Dick Andrews for his generosity. **Action:AP/LT/AR**

12. Parish Steward

This parish is currently without a dedicated steward, although should be covered by others. Cllr Reed and Clerk had both been unsuccessful in making contact with the cover steward, having to leave messages on the generic telephone number provided.

It was agreed to submit a formal list of tasks on the request spreadsheet in time for the next scheduled visit on 1st February; tasks to include cleaning signs, unblocking drains, clearing out the gully in Church Lane, and clearing the leaf mould from the carriageway at Wick Lane.

Action:RK

13. Village Hall

i) Martyn's Law – WALC training event

The training event on 30th January is aimed at larger councils, or any councils which organise large events. Cllr Lymposs said that the village hall seats 52, below the threshold of 100. Cllr Lymposs noted that terrorism can be added to the standard village hall event risk assessment for any large gatherings in future.

ii) Improvements to parking area

Cllr Paine thanked Cllr Reed for ordering and spreading scalplings, which have greatly improved the surface for parking by village hall users.

Cllr Lymposs said that the Village Hall Committee had successfully applied to the Area Board for £1900.00, as a match-funded grant towards the cost of replacing the soffits and guttering.

The village hall had held a successful Christmas party, raising approximately £300.00 for the Julia's House Hospice. Genevieve Benest had produced and sold many copies of the 2024 Manningfords Calendar, the proceeds also going to Julia's House.

Pizza Lola, the mobile food van, had been well supported and will visit the village hall monthly from now on.

A Pig Race Night is planned.

14. PCC

Cllr Lymposs reported very well-attended Christmas concerts and services; the parish council expressed appreciation for the Kimmins allowing use of their driveway for parking.

15. Website

Cllr Lymposs to check that all names of PCC committee members are up to date. **Action:SL**

16. Correspondence and diary dates

Thursday 18th January – PCAP - Rushall village hall.

22nd-26th January – C52 road closure between the White House and Indigo.

6th June - the official D-Day 80 celebration information has been received. Clerk to circulate to councillors.

The quarterly police report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

17. Items from the public

Cllr Lymposs said that the dead trees opposite the bungalows between Keepers Cottage and Woodlands are causing concern. Clerk to write to Vitacress alerting them to the risks to property should high winds cause these trees to fall. **Action:RK**

The oak tree outside the village hall has overgrown the cables; Clerk to contact BT or SSE as necessary. **Action:RK**

18. Set date of next meeting

Tuesday 26th March at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Clerk to check whether the hall will be available earlier than 8.00pm. **Action:RK**

Meeting closed at 9.45pm.



Manningford

Quarter 4 2023

Crimes and incidents

Wiltshire Police record crimes and incidents in accordance with the National Crime and incident recording standards. Not all incidents that one would consider a crime are necessarily classified as a crime for recording purposes.

NB- The below statistics do not account for incidents that police respond to but do not need any follow up (Road traffic incidents, minor incidents of Anti-social behaviour)

From 1st October – 31st Dec 2024

- 0 crimes and 0 incidents have been recorded in the Manningford Parish area.
- There have been 0 reports of dwelling burglaries
- There have been 0 report in relation to theft of or theft from motor vehicles.

Having reviewed the crime data for the area – There are no apparent trends that are presented or a series of crimes that are linked.

Speed enforcement

There have been 2 occasions where there has been speed enforcement in Manningford within this period. On these occasions no drivers were issued with fines or Speed awareness courses.

Community consultations

Although there have not been any specific consultations in the parish during the time there has been 5 in the general area of Pewsey.

Future Planned Community Consultations

4th January 2024 – Holy Cross Church Great Bedwyn

23rd January 2024 – Pewsey Fire station.

8th February 2024 – Royal Oak, Wootton Rivers

15th February 2024 – Burbage Coffee Morning, Village Hall, Burbage

12th February 2024 – Pewsey Village Hall

Incidents of note

No Incidents for this quarter.

FY22/23 as at year end		Manningford Parish Council	FY23/24 as at 10thJan24		Budget 23/24	
14650.99		Balance at start of year	10888.81		10888.81	
12907.68		Income	8480.36		8475.00	
-16669.86		Expenditure	-4314.86		-9523.00	
10902.81		Lloyds Bank current a/c at 10th Jan24	3039.45			
		Lloyds Bank reserves a/c at 10Jan24	12030.36			
-14.00		Creditors(ChltonBaker)	-15.50			
10888.81		Manningford PC owns	15054.31		9840.81	Original F/cast bal Mar24
Income	Expenditure		Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
	1050.00	Clerk's Salary		938.73		1050.00
	140.04	Charlton Baker Payroll Services		116.28		150.00
	300.00	SID		300.00		400.00
	450.00	Defibrillator		450.00		450.00
	120.00	Playground - inspection				70.00
	195.00	Website Hosting		322.24		453.00
	1500.00	Grass cutting		1000.00		2500.00
	126.41	WALC sub		127.28		150.00
	n/a	Waste Bin Emptying		19.75		220.00
	558.50	Insurance		571.18		580.00
	22.00	Village Hall		45.60		100.00
	1395.07	Events/Jubilee				0.00
175.00	10.00	Allotments	150.00		175.00	1500.00
	1255.20	Website construction				0.00
	6658.67	Playground improvements				1500.00
	292.00	Bench repairs, other projects				400.00
9828.15		Wilts Council (precept and CIL)	8300.00		8300.00	
		Interest received on reserves	30.36			
2904.53	2136.38	HMRC (VAT)		356.80	n/a	n/a
	460.59	Other payments inc training		67.00		0.00
12907.68	16669.86	Sub totals	8480.36	4314.86	8475.00	9523.00
-3762.18		Excess income over expenditure	4165.50		-1048.00	
10888.81		Bank Balance c/f to 11th Jan	15054.31			