

Minutes of the Meeting of Manningford Parish Council held on
Tuesday 15th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors Richard Netherclift, Sue Lymposs, Andy Reed, David Proto and Phil Hossack.

Councillor Paul Oatway

Clerk Ruth Kinderman

1. Apologies

Councillors Bridget Lanyon and David Wheen.

2. Pecuniary and other Interests

Cllr Lanyon had declared an interest with regards to planning application 18/11417/FUL but had no objections to the proposals.

3. Approve minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2018

Cllr Hossack proposed that these be accepted as an accurate record; seconded by Cllr Reed and signed by Cllr Netherclift accordingly.

4. Matters Arising

Vacancy notices for the vacant councillor seat will be posted on the boards this Friday.

Clerk had contacted Highways about traffic diversions incorporating the C52; the response had been helpful, although in that instance it was too close to the planned roadworks to alter the advertised diversion. Traffic orders and advertised diversions to be scrutinised carefully in future.

Cllr Proto had met the playground inspector on site this morning for the annual safety inspection. The written report will follow in due course but Cllr Proto reported that some work will be required (*see item 7*).

5. Approve appointment of Cllr Wheen as Responsible Finance Officer

Cllr Proto proposed that Cllr Wheen assume the role of Responsible Finance Officer; Cllr Netherclift put this to the vote, all were in favour with no abstentions.

6. Appoint Allotments Officer

Cllr Lympson proposed that the Clerk be appointed as Allotments Officer; Cllr Netherclift put this to the vote, all were in favour with no abstentions.

It was agreed that half an allotment could be rented out £12.50 pa, half the current rate of £25 pa.

7. Finance

Cllr When had perused the accounts for the current financial year and brought the statements up to date; attached as an appendix to these minutes.

i) Agree precept for 2019/2020

Cllr Netherclift reviewed the main expenses of the current year, many of which were one-off payments. Future expenses will include the new SID and possible repairs or replacement of the playground equipment. It is also important to bear in mind that the defibrillator contracts will need to be revisited in 2022. Clerk advised that central government will defer capping whilst parish councils are seen to be exercising restraint and is not favourable to precept increases of more than 3%.

Cllr Proto proposed a precept of £6400 (up from £6300 last year) and this was agreed unanimously.

ii) Approve training course for Cllr When

WALC is running a training course for RFOs and it was agreed that Cllr When should attend the next available session. The cost of £78 plus travel expenses was approved in principle; clerk to book a place for Cllr When as appropriate.

8. Planning Applications

18/11417/FUL – Little Abbots - Demolition of timber clad extensions and construct rear single storey and two storey extension, oak framed lean-to single storey extension and five dormers to increase first floor accommodation

As none of the neighbours had any objection, it had been agreed through email discussion that this application should be supported as an improvement to the current visual appearance of the property. Clerk had submitted the response.

18/05366/FUL - Cocklebury Farm - Conversion of two stable buildings into three units of holiday accommodation; use of land for the stationing of shepherd's huts (maximum of 4); associated parking - Appeal against refusal to grant the application

It was agreed to reiterate the comments made regarding the initial planning application. It was noted that the old farmhouse has now been demolished in accordance with the conditions laid down in 2005 for the construction of the new house K/52691/F. Concern was expressed over the timing of the appeal, which was announced just before Christmas. It was also noted that 'working farm' connotations of the appeal statement are misleading. Cllr Lanyon will prepare a response by the 22nd January deadline.

Action:BL

17/05760/FUL - Aero View – pending outcome of public enquiry

Cllr Oatway said that there has been no communication from the inspector since the enquiry at the end of September.

9. Garages at The Ivies

Clerk and Cllr Oatway had written to Aster to ask for an explanation of the recent notification delivered to residents at The Ivies of the forthcoming auction of the garages. Points raised included the short notice period (two weeks to clear garages and return the key), unsympathetic timing of this notice (the two-week Christmas period) and the offer of alternative garages nearly three miles away in Pewsey. The reply from Aster had enlarged on the economic reasons for selling the garages but had failed to address these three points. Clerk to respond to Aster as appropriate.

Action:RK

10. Parish projects

i)Telephone kiosk

Cllr Reed has concreted the base. Clerk to ask Marden and Rushall how they deal with condensation in their kiosks. Clerk to report on costings for purpose-built shelves.

Action:RK

ii)Defibrillator training session

Clerk had liaised with Woodborough parish council and it was agreed that holding the next training session in Woodborough school hall might attract more attendees. Clerk to approach the school about this.

Action:RK

Cllr Lymposs reported that the call sign on the defibrillator cabinet rubs off very easily; she has rewritten it in permanent marker pen but it was agreed to consider obtaining small 'number plates' from Wessex printers if the problem continues.

iii) Hedge trimming

Cllr Lymposs reported that the work will take place on 28th January and that all vehicles should be removed from the vicinity; all approved the wording of the flyer she had produced for affected residents and she and Cllr Reed will liaise about delivery of these notices.

Action:SL/AR

Cllr Netherclift had arranged for D Stevens to lop the beech hedges around the playground. He noted that an imminent project should be the de-greening and repainting of the parish gates.

11. Highways

Cllr Netherclift had joined Cllr Oatway and Richard Dobson of Highways on a site visit outside The Former Rectory to discuss the bollards as requested. The verge belongs to Wiltshire Council and this is now a matter for Highways to resolve directly with the residents.

Richard Dobson had also inspected the man-made laybys along the narrow stretches of the C52 and said that reinstating the verges would be classed as a major project in the Highways maintenance schedule and would not come within the scope of CATG. Meanwhile, the parish steward will address any potholes.

12. Footpaths

Clerk had requested a new definitive map from the Wiltshire Rights of Way department in the light of legislation emanating from the Countryside Act 2000, whereby any routes not recorded will be lost after 1st January 2026.

Cllr Reed reported that horses have chewed one of the new kissing gates and displayed photographic evidence of the damage. Cllr Netherclift will ascertain who owns the horses and request recompense.

Action:RN

13. Localism, environment and flooding

Cllr Reed reported that the parish steward had unblocked the drain outside the village hall but was concerned that there was an ongoing problem of sediment building up.

14. Police matters

Clerk will circulate the recent police report and Cllr Hossack will upload it to the website.

Most reported incidents had taken place to the east of Pewsey, with several in Pewsey itself.

Clerk will investigate the new Neighbourhood Watch website.

Action:RK

15. Village Hall

A cheque for £335 had been sent to the Prospect Hospice further to the successful Pig Race Night as reported in the last meeting minutes.

Cllr Lympos reported that the December coffee morning had been very successful, with about fifty attendees, and would be re-run in the future.

The Christmas party had also been a success and the next event will be the pop-up pub night on 8th February.

16. PCC

Cllr When will report PCC matters in future.

17. Website

Cllr Hossack is hoping to install a compliant events feed, following the GDPR-induced removal of the Facebook link.

Cllr Hossack has investigated new legislation regarding website accessibility and this may incur a cost of nearly £200. It will also be necessary to secure the site by upgrading to an https address.

Clerk to send Cllr Hossack the weekly email from Ros Griffiths for linking articles to the site where possible.

18. Correspondence and diary dates

Nobody is available to attend the Area Board meeting next Monday 21st or the PCAP meeting next Thursday 24.

19. Items from the public

A resident had reported finding a bottle of petrol in her hedge, having initially mistaken it for a water bottle. Cllr Netherclift will follow this up.

Action:RN

20. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 12th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.