

MANCETTER PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on
Tuesday 27th November 2012, commencing at 7 p.m.
In the School Room, St. Peter's Church, Mancetter.

Present:

Chairman	Mr T Hopkins
Parish Councillors	Mrs J Marshall, Mr H Blackburn, Mr B Hamson Mrs J Mawson, Mrs S Healy.
Borough Councillors	Mr M Davis
Parish Clerk	Mrs K Meads
Public	Mr J Arrowsmith,
Item 1-Apologies	Councillor Mrs C Fox and Mrs L Freer PCSO A Wynder.

Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

The Chairman also acknowledged the loss of Mr Norman Spence, a Parishioner and supporter of the Parish Council, who until recently always attended Annual Parish meetings.

Item 2- Resignation of Councillor

The Chairman reported that due to ill health Mr M Hopkins had resigned as Councillor.

Item 3-Declaration of Interest

Both Mr T Hopkins and Mrs J Mawson declared an interest in Item 16-Allotments.

Item 4a-Approval of minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 25th September 2012

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting were approved and signed by Mr T Hopkins.

Item 4b- Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting of 25th September 2012

Mrs J Mawson asked for an update on the flooding in the recreation ground in Mancetter.

Mr H Blackburn advised that the flooding had receded, but was fearful that it would flood again.

Mr T Hopkins reported that water from Merevale Estate was running across the road just before the Beehive Cottage in Coleshill Road.

Mr T Hopkins reported that notification had been received that STWA would be closing a section of Ridge Lane from early January for repairs to sewerage pipes.

Mr M Davis was asked for an update on the issue of the burning of plastics in a skip in Manor Road. Mr Davis agreed to take up this matter again.

Mr M Davis was asked if he was aware of any impact the Council Tax Reforms would have on services currently provided by the Borough Council. Mr Davis reported that no specific cuts had been discussed. He also confirmed that the Borough Council had agreed to accept the interim funding from Government to assist with the shortfall in funding.

Item 5a – Footpaths & Public Rights of Way – AE96

Mr J Arrowsmith reported that Mrs C Fox had met with a representative from WCC and that work was complete. Mr T Hopkins confirmed that the Parish Council have done everything within their power to resolve this issue.

Item 5b – Tender for Clearance Programme 2013/14

The Clerk confirmed that an invitation to tender for this contract had been issued. One tender had been received from Mr G Wale. The value of the contract is unchanged. It was proposed by Mrs J Marshall and Seconded by Mr H Blackburn that this tender be accepted. This decision was unanimous.

5c-County Council Rights of Way Risk Assessment and Partnership Contract

Mr J Arrowsmith advised that the Partnership Agreement should now be signed. This was proposed by Mrs S Healy and Seconded by Mr B Hamson. The decision was unanimous and the Clerk was asked to arrange signing and forwarding to WCC.

Signed By Chairman

Date:

Mr Trevor Hopkins

Item 6 – Any other Parish Business Item 6a – Roman and Boudica Walk

Mr T Hopkins reported that he had met with members of the project to walk the proposed route. The group want to erect signs around the Parish. It was unanimously agreed in principle that, providing all statutory permission was given and that there was no cost to the Parish Council, they could proceed.

Item 6b – Tarmac Quarry

Mr T Hopkins confirmed that headway was now being made regarding the quarry extension and more information should be available soon.

Item 6c – Update on the culvert on footpath AE108

Mr T Hopkins requested that the Clerk contact WCC for an update on this matter.

Item 6d – Website

Mr J Arrowsmith reported that he would like to see more information on the website.

Item 6e – HGV Speed Consultation

Much discussion took place on the proposals to increase the speed limit from 40mph to 50mph on single carriage roads. The Clerk was asked to respond and object to these proposals.

Item 7 – Reports from Borough Councillor Item 7a- Manor Road Extra Care Scheme

Mr M Davis advised that there had been some interesting archaeological finds on the site and more tests were to be carried out. Mr H Blackburn expressed concern that the perimeter fencing had been knocked down.

Item 7b – Japanese Knotweed

Mr M Davis confirmed that the Japanese Knotweed had been treated.

Item 7c – Other items

Mr T Hopkins asked Mr M Davis if he knew why the Borough had included Town and Parish Councils at the Scrutiny Board Meeting. Mr M Davis did not know why.

Mr T Hopkins advised members that he was to represent Parish Councils at the Area Forum East meetings.

Item 8 - Correspondence Received

A list of correspondence received was issued to all Councillors.

Item 8a – Joint meeting of Borough and Parish Councils 15th January 2013

Mr B Hamson asked for the following question to be included on the agenda for this meeting.

In light of the fact that the Borough Council needs to meet the shortfall of funding due to Council Tax reforms are lists available for:

Statutory Services which the Borough Council must provide; and

Services which the Borough Council currently provide, that, as a result of cuts, responsibility may be passed to Parish Councils?

After meeting note:

Mr B Hamson requested that a second question be included on the agenda.

Having seen a feature on Country File regarding the massive damage that may be caused to trees, by disease and bugs transferred from the continent by infected imports / contamination by local walkers etc. Can the Borough Council advise, what measures are being taken to prevent / restrict the spread of diseases affecting Ash, Juniper and many other tree species? Any plans will need to take consideration of plant movements and de-contamination points for walkers on footpaths in and around the Borough / County Boundaries.

Item 8b – Parish Snow Warden

Mr H Blackburn confirmed that he was willing to take on the role of snow warden in Mancetter.

Mr T Hopkins confirmed that he would take on the role in Ridge Lane.

Item 8c – Neighbourhood Watch in Ridge Lane

Mrs J Mawson confirmed that, a meeting had now been arranged for Tuesday 4th December to discuss a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Ridge Lane.

Signed By Chairman

Date:

Mr Trevor Hopkins

Item 9-Cheques, Accounts and Finance

The Parish Clerk, Mrs K Meads issued a Financial Statement up to 27th November 2012. All cheques and bank payments were signed in accordance with the bank mandate.

Item 10 – Precept for 2013 /2014

Papers had been distributed regarding the Precept for 2013/14. It was proposed that a small increase be requested, to cover the costs of extra work to be carried out to keep the Parish looking neat and tidy. This was proposed by Mr H Blackburn and seconded by Mrs J Mawson. Approval for this increase cannot be finalised until further information is received from the Borough Council in early January.

Item 11 – Grant Making Policy

Mrs K Meads reported that one application had been received from St Giles Hospice. Everyone agreed that this was a very worthy cause. However, as the funding would be used for on- going costs it was unanimously agreed that this request be refused.

Item 12-Councillors Code of Conduct and disclosure of pecuniary interest

Mrs K Meads confirmed that the statutory list of pecuniary interests had been forwarded to the Monitoring Officer at North Warwickshire Borough Council. This list had been accepted and is posted on the Borough and Parish website.

Details of an amendment to the Code of Conduct as a result of the Localism Act 2011 had been issued. It was unanimously agreed that this amendment be made. An amendment to item 19 of the Standing Orders, Accounts and Financial statement had also been issued. It was unanimously agreed that this amendment be accepted.

Item 13 – Freedom of Information

A draft copy of the Freedom of Information document had been issued. This was discussed and it was proposed by Mrs S Healy and Seconded by Mr H Blackburn that it be accepted. This was unanimously agreed.

Item 14 – Complaints Procedure

A draft copy of the Complaints Procedure document that all Parish Councils are required to publish had been issued. It was proposed by Mrs S Healy and Seconded by Mr H Blackburn that it be accepted. This was unanimously agreed.

Item 15 – Cemetery and Maintenance 15a-Gravedigging Policy

Mrs K Meads confirmed that the Grave digging Policy document had now been signed.

15b-Cemetery Charges 2013/2014

A leaflet detailing the Cemetery Rules and Charges to come into effect on 1st March 2013 had been issued. This leaflet was accepted in principle, after a minor amendment.

Item 16-Allotments

Mrs K Meads reported that there had been one resignation but this allotment had been re let. Mr T Hopkins reported that there had not been any improvement to the three allotments mentioned at previous meetings. Mrs K Meads advised that a second letter would be sent.

Item 17 – Draft Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plan

Mrs K Meads issued a document, from the Borough Council, detailing the preferred option site for development within the Borough. This document confirmed the sites for Mancetter as: Manor Road Extra Care Scheme – 80 units, Old Farm Road – 6 units, Church Walk – 18 units Watling Street (Former allotments) – 6 units

Item 18 – Publicity18a-Summary minutes

Mrs K Meads circulated Summary Minutes for 25th September 2012. These were agreed and signed by Mr T Hopkins. Mrs K Meads confirmed that these will be included on the website.

18b- Newsletter

Mrs K Meads advised that the report for the October, November and December edition of Mancetter Matters had been sent in. Mr T Hopkins signed a paper copy of the reports for the files.

Item 19-Planning Applications No new Planning Applications had been received.

Item 20 - Date of next meeting- Tuesday 22nd January 2013

Signed By Chairman

Date:

Mr Trevor Hopkins