

MANCETTER PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on
Tuesday 22nd January 2013, 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.
Parish Clerk	Mrs K Meads
Public	Mr C Tooby
Police	PCSO A Wynder
Item 1-Apologies	Parish Councillor, Mrs S Healy due to ill health, County Councillor Mrs C Fox. Borough Councillors Mrs L Freer and Mr M Davis. These apologies were accepted.

Item 2 -Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.
The Chairman also welcomed Mr C Tooby, who had expressed an interest in the vacancy for a Parish Councillor.

Item 3-Declaration of Interest

Both Mr T Hopkins and Mrs J Mawson declared an interest in Item 12-Allotments.

Item 4a-Approval of minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 27th November 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 27th November 2012

- Mr B Hamson reported that he had contacted the Borough Council regarding the burning of plastics in Manor Road. A representative of NWBC has visited the site on two occasions and discussed this issue with the owners.
- Mr T Hopkins, in his capacity as Parish Snow Warden reported that a number of grit bins in the Parish were empty after the recent snow and ice. Mrs K Meads will contact WCC to arrange for the grit bins to be refilled.
- Mr B Hamson reported that he had been approached by a resident to request a grit bin on the church driveway. This matter was discussed at length, but it was pointed out that the Parish Council has no responsibility for the church driveway as this is private property, and therefore would not be in a position to provide a bin.

Item 5 – Footpaths & Public Rights of Way

Mr T Hopkins confirmed that the County Council Footpaths Partnership Agreement had now been signed by both parties.

Item 6 – Report from County Councillor

Mrs K Meads had received a report from Mrs C Fox which stated that a grant had been made from the County Councillors budget, for a dog bin to be positioned near to public footpath AE96. This was not yet in place as the Borough Council had not agreed to empty the bin. This matter was discussed by Councillors and Mrs K Meads was asked to write to NWBC to request that this bin be included on the emptying round.

Signed By Chairman

Date:

Mr Trevor Hopkins

Item 7- Any other Parish Business

Mr A Wynder, PCSO covering Mancetter gave a report on Police incidents in the last two months. Considering that this report included Christmas and a period of very inclement weather everyone agreed that the number of incidents was relatively low.

1 abandoned vehicle; 8 alarm callouts (mainly due to a problem in Margaret Road); 2 animal incidents; 2 burglary of sheds; 1 burglary; 15 concerns; 3 damage to property; 10 domestics; 4 drug related; 1 drunk; 1 fire; 2 floods; 4 malicious texts; 4 mental health; 1 missing person; 2 violence; 1 neighbourhood disturbance; 9 RTCs; 5 road issues; 5 rowdy incidents; 2 thefts from vehicles.

Mr B Hamson stressed his concern about the hazard of vehicles trying to turn right, out of Woodford Lane onto the A5.

Mr H Blackburn asked PCSO Wynder to investigate parking issues at:

Outwoods School in Margaret Road

Parking on the footpaths in Manor Road and Purley View.

Mr T Hopkins reported that a resident had complained to him that he had tried to report incidents on the Police 101 number and couldn't get through. PCSO Wynder said that this shouldn't be the case, but he would provide new posters to be displayed around the Parish, giving alternative numbers.

As there were no other issues to be discussed, PCSO Wynder left the meeting.

Mr T Hopkins and Mrs J Mawson reported on the Annual Meeting of Borough, Town and Parish Councils which they had both attended. Both Councillors agreed that this was a very informative and well organised meeting. The questions raised by Mancetter Parish Council were answered:

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 provides, that, as a result of cuts, responsibility may be passed to Parish Councils?

Response: The list would be too great to publish and as there are no plans to cut services lists are not available.

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.

Response: The Borough Council are relying on direction from the Forestry Commission regarding any action needed to deal with diseased trees.

Mr T Hopkins also reported on the high pressure that the Borough Council is under due to the reduction in funding of £1.5m in 2014/15 and a further £1m by 2017.

Mr T Hopkins requested that Mrs K Meads write to Mr S Maxey of NWBC to thank him for a very positive meeting and suggesting that more regular meetings would be beneficial.

Mr B Hamson stated that he was concerned that a report had not been received from the leader of the research project, which considered the link between transmission masts and health issues.

Mr B Hamson confirmed that he would continue to pursue this matter.

Mrs K Meads advised that she had contacted Mr A Rigby of WCC for an update on the Manor Road Extra Care Scheme, as it was evident that archaeological work had started but no report had been received. Mr A Rigby had advised that this matter will be included on the agenda at the Area Forum East meeting on 5th February 2013.

Item 8 - Correspondence Received

A list of correspondence received was issued to all Councillors. This list is attached to these Minutes.

Signed By Chairman

Date:

Mr Trevor Hopkins

Prior to the meeting, Mrs K Meads had distributed information on the WALC Annual Briefing Day on Saturday 2nd March 2013. The following Councillors will be attending: Mr T Hopkins, Mrs J Marshall and Mr B Hamson. Mrs K Meads will book places. Mrs K Meads read out a letter from WALC requesting nominations to attend a Royal Garden Party in May 2013. All Councillors unanimously recommended that Mr T Hopkins be nominated. Mrs K Meads will complete the form and return to WALC.

Item 9-Cheques, Accounts and Finance

The Parish Clerk, Mrs K Meads issued a Financial Statement up to 22nd January 2013. All cheques and bank payments were signed in accordance with the bank mandate. Mrs K Meads gave a short report on her attendance at the WALC Financial Clinic which was held on 17th January 2013. The topics covered included, VAT, Real Time Payroll, Capital expenditure and how Council Tax Reforms will affect the precept.

Item 10 – Precept for 2013 /14

Mrs K Meads reported that although the precept request form had not been received from NWBC, she had been in touch with the Revenue and Benefits section to obtain the tax base figure, which is used to calculate the amount used for the Council Tax.

The Borough Council had agreed to make a transition grant to all Parish Councils to cover the shortfall resulting from the reduced tax base due to Council Tax Reforms. The precept amount of £24,500 discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 27th November 2012 will result in an increase of 2% on the Parish element of the Council Tax for 2013/14. This was discussed at length and it was proposed by Mr H Blackburn, seconded by Mr B Hamson, and agreed unanimously that the precept figure for 2013/14 should be £24,500.

Item 11 – Cemetery and Maintenance

Mrs K Meads reported that the wall in cremation bay three had been rebuilt and the slabs levelled. Mr H Blackburn requested that the handrail on the centre steps within the cemetery be replaced.

Item 12-Allotments

Mrs K Meads made a formal request to the Council that collection of allotment rents for 2013/14 is passed to Mr T Hopkins. This request was unanimously agreed.

Item 13 – Draft Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plan

Mr T Hopkins reported that Coleshill Town Council were the only council within North Warwickshire to request permission to compile a Neighbourhood Plan.

Item 14 – Publicity

14a-Summary minutes

Mrs K Meads had previously circulated Summary Minutes for 27th November 2012. These were agreed and signed by Mr T Hopkins.

14b- Newsletter

Mrs K Meads advised that the report for the January edition of Mancetter Matters had been sent in. Mr T Hopkins signed a paper copy of the report for the files.

Item 15-Planning Applications

The following planning items were discussed:

- Meal Store at DeMulders. Advance notification of this application had been received, it was discussed in detail and no objections were made.
- Certificate of Lawfulness for Residential Mooring of canal boat and associated parking and landscaping at Garden Farm, Quarry Lane. This item was discussed at length, particularly due to the fact that there seems to be evidence of other developments along that stretch of Quarry Lane, for which permission has not been sought. Mrs K Meads was asked to contact the Planning Department to request that an Officer visit the area to check for unauthorised development.

Item 16 - Date of next meeting- Tuesday 26th March 2013

Signed By Chairman

Date:

Mr Trevor Hopkins