

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF MANCETTER

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Parish of Mancetter, held on Tuesday 26th November 2013 commencing at 7.00pm in the School Room, St. Peter's Church, Mancetter.

Present:

Chairman	Mr T Hopkins
Parish Councillors	Mrs J Marshall, Mrs S Healy, Mr H Blackburn, Mr C Tooby, Mr A Benham, Mrs J Mawson
Parish Clerk	Mrs K Meads
County Councillors	Ms A McLauchlan, Mr C Hayfield
Borough Councillors	Mrs L Freer
Police	PCSO Ashley Wynder
Visitors	Ansley Parish Council – Ms J Sands, Mr T Worrall, Mr B Martin
Public	Mr J Arrowsmith

Item 1-Apologies

Mr B Hamson was absent due to illness. These apologies were accepted.

Item 2 – Notice of Interest

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

Mrs J Marshall declared an interest in item 8 – Community Right to Bid.

Item 3a-Approval of minutes of the Parish Meeting of 24th September 2013

It was proposed by Mr H Blackburn and seconded by Mrs J Marshall that the minutes be accepted.

Item 3b-Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting.

There were no matters arising.

Item 4-Discussion with Ansley Parish Council regarding cross boundary speed limits.

Both Ansley and Mancetter Parish Councillors have grave concerns about speed limits on some of the village roads which cross Parishes.

Mancetter Parish's concern is with Monks Park Lane going into Birchley Heath Road where the speed limit is 60mph through tight bends. This is also a danger for vehicles exiting from Ridge Lane by The White Hart Pub.

Ansley Parish's concern is with Pipers Lane through to Church End.

There was much discussion about these problems including requests to the County Councillors:

- To consider some measures from their budget.
- To consider measures to implement changes through "Speed to the villages scheme"

Mrs J Mawson reported that she had received complaints from members of The Neighbourhood Watch and Ridge Lane WI on this matter.

Mrs A McLauchlan stated that WCC have a seminar in January 2014 which will prioritise road safety schemes.

Both County Councillors stated that they support speed reductions but also confirmed that due to County Council budget cuts and the fact that it is difficult for the Police to implement speed limits they couldn't guarantee that anything would be done.

Mr H Blackburn suggested that both Parish Councils should meet again to discuss matters concerning cross border issues. It was suggested by Mr C Hayfield that the Area Forum meetings are a good place for discussion. Mr T Hopkins formally requested that the County Councillors take up these issues on behalf of both Ansley and Mancetter Parish Councils.

Mr T Hopkins thanked members of Ansley Parish Council for attending the meeting.

Members of Ansley Parish Council and Mr C Hayfield left the meeting.

Item 5 – Report from Police

PCSO Ashley Wynder updated the Councillors on crime numbers in the past few months.

Farm burglaries	7	Damage burglaries	2
Suspicious calls	3	Silent 999 calls	4
Drug offences	2	Missing person - found	1
Road traffic accident	1	Suspicious car	1
Sexual offence	1	Abandoned vehicle	1

Parking at all schools in the area was again discussed.

Mr T Benham asked if the motorcyclist that had been reported for driving without lights on a daily basis had been caught. PCSA Wynder advised that he hadn't, but the police were still aware of the problem.

PCSO Wynder advised that he was moving on to become a British Transport Police Officer, he confirmed that his successor had been appointed and that he would pass on all the information he had about Mancetter and he hoped that the new PCSO would be able to come to future meetings.

Mrs L Freer also confirmed that an additional full time Police Officer had been appointed.

Mr T Hopkins thanked PCSO Wynder for his work in Mancetter and wished him well for the future.

Item 6 – Report from Borough Councillors

Mrs A McLaughlan reported on traffic in Margaret Road and parking at Outwoods School. She has received a petition from local residents who want traffic calming. Mrs A McLaughlan stated that she was very aware of the situation and was in discussion with agencies to investigate the best course of action.

Mrs A McLaughlan stated that she had not received any requests for grants from Mancetter or Atherstone South.

Mrs L Freer advised that:

- The resident who attended the previous meeting had now been rehoused.
- She had received reports of blocked drains in Monks Park Lane which had been dealt with.
- Manor Road Scheme was going ahead and WCC had accepted that the perimeter fencing was a safety issue and would be removing it.

Mrs S Healy asked who had attended to the trees in Mancetter Recreation Ground as it did not appear to have been done correctly. Mrs Freer agreed to find out and report back.

Item 7- Footpaths and Public Rights of Way

Mr J Arrowsmith had attended the meeting to discuss this matter as he is unable to continue with the role.

Mr T Hopkins confirmed that he has spoken to a resident of Ridge Lane who is willing to walk the footpaths three or four times per year and report any issues to the Parish Clerk. It was agreed that the Clerk would make contact in the New Year. Mr Arrowsmith commented that a group of volunteers would be very useful and he suggested that full survey of the footpaths should be carried out as in 1997.

Mrs J Mawson suggested that Mancetter Matters would be a good place to ask for volunteers.

Mr T Hopkins confirmed that Tarmac Quarry had carried out further bore holes and advised that a Planning Application would be lodged soon. Mr J Arrowsmith agreed to look at the application with regard to the possible impact on public footpaths.

Item 8- Any other Parish Business for discussion

8a-Community Right to Bid

Mrs K Meads confirmed that requests have been lodged for Mancetter Memorial Hall and Ridge Lane Community Hall.

8b- Bulbs around the Parish

Crocus bulbs have been planted in Mancetter. If it is agreed to purchase more next year they will be planted in Ridge Lane.

8c – Wildflower meadow to commemorate the Centenary of World War 1

Both the Clerk and Mr T Hopkins have spoken to Mr R Drakeford and Mr B Stevenson who have an outline plan for planting poppies in the “overflow” field in Mancetter Cemetery.

8d – New and replacement grit bins

The Clerk reported that she had made a request to WCC for a replacement grit bin in Ridge Lane and a new smaller one next to Gramer Cottages. These were refused by WCC as both sites are on main gritting routes.

8e- Grant applications

The Clerk reported that one application had been received from The Gramer Trust for a grit bin next to the cottages on Mancetter Road. The application fitted all of the criteria of the Grant Making Policy and it was proposed by Mr H Blackburn and seconded by Mrs J Mawson that a grant of £109 be made to the trust.

Item 9 – Correspondence

A full list of correspondence received had been passed to councillors.

The following items were discussed in detail:

9a – Joint meeting of Borough and Parish Councils Tuesday 21st January 2014

It was agreed that a request be sent for the following question to be included on the agenda:

There are a considerable number of village roads which still have speed limits in excess of 30 miles per hour.

Will the Borough Council support Parish Councils who wish to lobby Warwickshire County Council to try to get the speed limit on village roads reduced to 30mph?

Mr T Hopkins confirmed that both he and The Clerk would be attending a WALC seminar on Data Protection on Saturday 18th January 2014.

Item 10 – Cheques and Accounts

Mrs K Meads issued a full statement of all accounts up to 25th November 2013.

All cheques and bank payments were signed in accordance with the bank mandate.

10a–Budget Proposals for 2014/15 precept

Before the meeting the Clerk had distributed papers which included budget proposals prepared from; actual income and expenditure from April to October 2013, projected income and expenditure from November 2013 to March 2014, along with estimated expenditure for April 2014 to March 2015.

Mr T Hopkins explained that although these papers could be discussed they could only be agreed in principle as at this stage it was not known if the Borough Council would pass on the Council Tax Reform transition grant or if there would be a cap on the percentage increase Parish Councils could charge.

After discussion, it was agreed in principle that Mancetter Parish Council would increase the precept request by 2%. This was proposed by Mr H Blackburn, seconded by Mrs J Marshall and agreed unanimously.

The Clerk agreed that she would pass on all information regarding the precept as soon as it was received and amend all papers accordingly.

Mrs S Healy requested that it be noted in the minutes that the papers received were very clear and informative.

Item 11– Cemetery and Maintenance

11a- Procedure for new paths in the cemetery

The Clerk reported that she had contacted one contractor for a quote to renew part of the path in the cemetery. A further contractor will be contacted.

11b- Maintenance work in cemetery next to Gramer Cottages

The Clerk reported that she had attended a meeting with trustees of Gramer Cottages regarding the wall of the cottages next to the cemetery. This wall is very damp and over time the earth in the cemetery has risen above the damp proof course. After a meeting with Mr R Drakeford and Mr B Stevenson it was agreed that a trench should be dug to remove the soil from the wall, then paint the wall with bitumen and finally fill the trench with pea gravel to allow drainage.

This work has now been completed to a high standard.

11c- Outstanding works list. This item to be carried forward to the next meeting.

The Clerk passed on thanks to Mr T Hopkins for cutting slabs in the cremation area to fit around a new tablet.

Item 12 – Allotment Update

Mr T Hopkins confirmed that the caravan reported at the last meeting was now only a chassis and he will continue to monitor the situation.

Mr T Hopkins advised that:

- He had requested a quote for stone for the entrance to the allotments.
- The reclaimed notice board had been damaged, but had now been repaired

Mr T Hopkins reported that there had been no improvement to the allotment mentioned previously, despite two letters being sent. A request was made to the Clerk to advise the allotment holders that they would be unable to renew their lease in March 2014.

Item 13 – Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plans

After discussion and it was agreed that nothing more could be done until the public enquiry was complete.

Item 14 – Publicity

14a Summary Minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2013 were agreed as correct and signed by Mr T Hopkins.

14b Mrs K Meads advised that a report for the December edition 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 Applications were discussed:

New applications:**112 Ridge Lane** – No objections

Item 16 - Date of next meeting-Tuesday 28th January 2014

There being no further business Mr T Hopkins closed the meeting at 9.30pm