

**MANSTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of**  
**MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL**

held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2008,  
at 7.30 pm, in the Manston Village Hall

**Present:** Parish Cllrs R Goodban (Chairman), N Carmody, M Denyer, J Fletcher, J Hatch and L Samme, Dist. Cllr. M Roberts, and 2 members of the public, with the Clerk in attendance.

**Apologies** received from: Parish Cllr D Huckle, Mr R Gale MP, Dr S Ladyman MP, County Cllr Charles Hibberd, and Community Warden L Peskett

1150/08 **Declarations of interest**

There were none.

1151/08 **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

These were proposed by Cllr Fletcher, seconded by Cllr Carmody and resolved to be a correct record, subject to the handwritten alteration to Minute 1132/08, (to read "Cllr Hatch was nominated ... to fill both the above roles, and was unanimously declared elected." and the Minutes were signed accordingly, as a correct record, by the Chairman.

1152/08 **Matters arising from the above Minutes**

1. Meeting Accommodation and Dates – min.1143/08 – as Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2009 is Good Friday, it was agreed that the Council should meet (subject to Hall availability) on 17<sup>th</sup> April and Fri 15<sup>th</sup> May, both the third Fridays of those months, reverting to the second Friday on 12<sup>th</sup> June, maintaining four-week intervals between these Meetings and assisting scheduling of the Audit processes for 2008-9 Accounts.

1153/08 **Correspondence**

1. Roger Gale – re Concessionary Bus Travel – to be circulated
2. SE Regional Assembly - Quality of Life Strategy documents – circulated for comments.
3. ACRK – details of Colyer Fergusson Grant Scheme – details circulated to Members
4. BCTV – Kent Tree Warden Scheme – re. training etc. – Cllr Hatch to consider appropriate action and to circulate to Councillors. The Clerk would ascertain the status of the yew which had recently been felled in the Church Yard..

1154/08 **Reports**

1. County Councillor – no report was available
2. District Councillors – Cllr Roberts - suggested a visit to the Airport, (probably on a Saturday in August) with the opportunity to put questions to the Operations Director, which was welcomed.
  - assured the Meeting that the recent flooding on the A.299 was not a result of abnormal run-off due to the works at Thanet Earth; it was noted that the scheme would include water-catchment arrangements. The proposed bund and tree-planting would also limit run-off.
  - believed that the work of the Joint Transportation Board was already beneficial to Thanet. The failure of KHS to provide firm scheduling for carriageway improvements in Spratling St. was discussed.
  - agreed that KHS, when responding to Planning Applications, should seek provision of vehicle wheel brushing/washing facilities as a planning condition in any permission involving earth works and vehicle movements onto the highway.
  - outlined changes to the working of the Standards Board, with less serious matters to be dealt with at local level.
3. Rural Police Officer and Community Warden – the Warden’s written report was received:-
  - the abandoned trailer full of rubbish had been removed from Preston Rd.
  - the untaxed vehicle in Preston Rd. would be subject to formal proceedings
  - requested TR31 be cleared, as it was obstructed by the rape crop

1155/08 **Town and Country Planning**

1. Applications:

TH/06/0650 – Urban Extension at Westwood inc. KHS Transport Plan and s.106 Agreement - response from Doug Brown, to the Council’s comments on the . s.106 Agreement had been circulated to Councillors was noted. The KALC TAC had resolved to support the Manston PC resolution which would be forward by TAC for the County AGM.

TH/08/0400 - Manston [Business]Park – China Gateway - warehouses and factories – uses B1c, 5 and 8 (in Minster Parish) – Cllr Goodban reported on the Site Meeting – the Planning Cttee Chairman had stated that the use of main drainage would be a condition of any Approval, as this was recommended by the Environment Agency. This Council was concerned that although the proposal was for Phase 1 of the project, in line with the Local Plan, Phases 2 and 3 were dealt with in detail, and the implication was that they were likely to be approved, although sited in an area designated Open Countryside, once Phase 1 was in place. It was agreed to accept Roger Gale’s offer to discuss this proposal with Councillors.

TH/08/0448 –EuroKent Business Park – erect two 2/3 storey office buildings and four [previously 3] for B1/B2/B8 uses, with access and parking – details awaited – “change of description” – it was agreed to make no comment, as this was outside the Parish and unlikely to affect Manston.

TH/08/0670 - 5 St Catherine’s Grove, Manston – 2-storey side extension – circulated - no objection in principle, but subject to neighbour’s views, as Councillors have concern at the closeness of building to the boundary,

TH/08/0696 – Land r/o St Bruno & The Bungalow, Queensdown Rd., Woodchurch  
- change of use of land for siting mobile home in connection with existing equestrian enterprise – being circulated

1155/08 **Town and Country Planning**

2. Planning Decisions and Correspondence

GRANTED

- TH/08/0350 – 28 High St., Manston – side extensions

REFUSED

- TH/08/0146 – adj. Doris Villa and Fairfield, Flete Rd – 6 det. dwellings
- TH/08/0458 – Portland, Flete Rd. – erection of det. dwelling

SE Reg. Assembly – consultation on Allocation of Land-Won Aggregates - circulated

TDC Enforcement – it was noted that a letter requesting inspection and action had been sent to the TDC Enforcement Officer, regarding dumping in the western area of the Parish and also regarding development which it was believed might require formal permission.

**Parish Plan Project**

1156/08

Cllr Carmody reported that work continued to analyse the questionnaire responses.

1157/08 **TDC proposal for transfer of assets**

The Clerk reported that Allianz offered impact damage insurance at a standard rate of £8.50 (plus 5% tax) per £1,000 replacement value, for railings such as those around the War Memorial. Quotes for replacement value were not available, but believed likely to be £4-5000, with a premium of £35 to £45 annually. The Internal Auditor had recommended seeking control of assets only to preserve them for the community or ensure they were well-maintained. It was unanimously agreed not to proceed with the transfer of this asset.

1158/08 **Kent Int. Airport Advisory Committee**

The Committee Chairman had welcomed Cllr Carmody to the Committee, which would meet on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 28<sup>th</sup> October (all at 1400 hrs) and 2<sup>nd</sup> December (1900 hrs - a Public Meeting). It was agreed that the Council was generally supportive of the continuing and increasing use of the Airport, subject to certain conditions, including no night flights being scheduled. They hoped that reasonable proposals for industrial activity, such as Thanet Earth and Phase 1 of China Gateway would support growing freight traffic.

**Adjournment of Meeting for Public Discussion**

In response to a question from a resident, the Council advised that legislation supported requests to neighbours to lop a high garden hedge; more information could be found on the TDC website.

**The Meeting was reconvened**

1159/08 **Highway matters**

1. Manston Court Rd. - copies of emails received from residents had been circulated, concerning continued flooding of garages of properties at the bottom of the hill and also in the narrow section between Bradgate and Vincent Rd.

- a letter had been sent to Dennis Button, KHS, re. the concern over scheduling of improvements under the TH/06/0650 s.106 Agreement

2. KHS Reorganisation and Officer responsibility – the Clerk advised that the Council’s contact at KHS had retired and several officers had responsibility for specific types of work on the highways in Thanet..

- the Clerk - had advised the Officer responsible for drainage (Ken Rawson) of ongoing concerns regarding Manston Ct. Rd. and Flete Rd. and requested a site meeting;

- and asked the Officer dealing with resurfacing (Russell Boorman), to advise on scheduling of work in Spratling St.; he replied that this was not done in 2007-8 due to continued infrastructure work, which had resulted in the carriageway needing strengthening This might be affordable in 2009-11, which it was agreed was unacceptable.

- the Clerk would ask Paul Valek to schedule repair to the footway outside the Old Forge House, urgently, as it was hazardous.

3. Potholes and road surfaces – it was agreed that the pothole programme was working well. KHS welcomed advice on any roads surfaced with concrete slabs, which were subject to sub-layers washing out.

1160/08 **Rights of Way**

1. Gates on Bridleways – the Clerk would contact Andy Hutchinson regarding additional fencing and remedial work on the gateway at Coldswood (TR24/25) and Lydden (TR17) to facilitate riders’ opening these gates.

- difficulties were reported when riders met large tractors on tracks such as TR17; it was agreed that both had a right to use a farm track, designated as a bridleway, and normally the tractor would pull over and stop, so that horse and rider could pass, on the edge of the crop if unavoidable. Cllr Goodban agreed to mention this to those frequently driving a tractor on this track.

2. KCC re-organisation of Unit and other matters – a “mini-reorganisation” of the PRoW unit, newly based at East Brabourne nr. Ashford, was noted, with Mr M Twycross being Thanet’s new dedicated Officer. A liaison meeting for Parishes was planned.

3. Maintenance - clearing of rape crop and bordering vegetation through to Elms Grove on TR 31 was requested; the poles had been installed at the stile.

1161/08 **Meeting Accommodation**

The Leys Management Co. had advised that they had several suggestions from their members regarding possible uses of the building in question, and that they wished to investigate and consider these before coming to a decision. It was agreed that some provision should be made in the 2009-10 Budget for accommodation refurbishment and running costs.

1162/08 **Works**

The Clerk reported that:

1. Village Signs - funding was in place from Southern Water for these, and from KHS for new posts, and an order had been placed.
2. Heritage Board display - ongoing
3. Noticeboard Repair – Greenbarnes’ estimate was £575.00, inc. one new post and carriage, and approval was awaited from Allianz. It would be re-installed on the same site, and Cllr Fletcher agreed to suggest installation of protective bollards at the next Committee Meeting.
4. Honours Board – the Clerk had discussed this with the Methodist Church Officer who had still to remove it from the building, and this would be followed up.
5. Bus shelter - Cllr Denyer agreed to inspect it and identify any work needed. Some graffiti needed painting over and the Clerk would look into the need for a “No Smoking” sign.

1162/08 **Manston Park**

1. Report on maintenance and Work Schedule – the Clerk reported that this was almost complete and work done included:
  - dog area entrance paved, nettles sprayed, fence repaired
  - elder tree cut down (and tree on E side removed)
  - gate to Leys still to be adjusted; overhanging tree cut back
  - fence at S. end of W side retensioned (and had a likely life of 3-4 years)
  - car park pothole filled; access improvements and kerb painting were outstanding
  - the bolts on Ausplay equipment had been checked by the TDC Leisure Officer and Record Manager who agreed they were satisfactory; a weld was to be applied to the base rail to fix the flexible rubber “jail bars”.
  - TDC Leisure Dept. were arranging the professional Annual Inspection of equipment, when the District Parks were inspected in the Autumn.
  - the Clerk had discussed mowing with Serco, whose team had had difficulties with rapid grass growth and wet grass, so that mowing was sometimes not completed in one day.
  - bin emptying was regular and adequate, although there might be a buildup after weekends.
2. Report on improvement projects and grant applications - the Clerk reported that all grant funding had been received for the Record equipment. At a site meeting of some Councillors with Record’s Contract Manager on 9<sup>th</sup> June, a site south of the old Bark Pit was identified, and agreed with other Councillors after they visited the site. The installation was scheduled for w/c 16<sup>th</sup> June.
  - the Clerk had hand-delivered a letter to residents whose properties bordered the Park, explaining the project and also advising of events scheduled in the Park.

1163/08 **Manston Park (cont.)**

3. Report on Tree Planting

Funding had been received from Southern Water for site preparation (by AH Gardening) and supply and planting by Marleybrooks Nursery. The Clerk would circulate a list of tree species proposed by the Nursery, for Councillors' approval and other suggestions. Planting sites had to be identified and a supply of manure arranged.

4. Use of Park for Events :-

Dog Show on 8<sup>th</sup> June – visitors had commented very favourably on this event.

Draft Letting Agreement - a model draft from ACRK had been circulated and Councillors would advise the Clerk of the numbered clauses they felt should be included or deleted.

15 **Finance**  
1164/08

1. Payment of Accounts - it was proposed by Cllr Denyer and seconded by Cllr Fletcher and resolved to pay the following accounts:

Vchr.01145	Clerk's May Salary and Exps. incl. quarterly allowances	£628.31
01146	Manston Village Hall Rent – 13.06 Meeting	22.50
01147	Truprint Litho Ltd. June "News"	75.79
01148	E Fewkes – Int. Audit Fee	135.00
01149	Pettmans Removers – packing damaged noticeboard	82.25
01149	Serco – mowing April & May '08	410.90

2. To receive Internal Auditor's Report and to approve Return to the Audit Commission for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 - it was proposed by Cllr Carmody and seconded by Cllr Fletcher that the Report (sect.4) should be received and that the Accounts in sect. 1 of the Report and the Annual Governance Statement in sect.2 should be approved and this was agreed unanimously, and the document was signed accordingly by the Chairman and Clerk.

- it was agreed that the property insurance valuations and items covered should be reviewed before the end of the current financial year.

1165/08 **Other Reports**

1. Chairman's Report - the Chairman reported:

- at the KAPC TAC Annual Meeting, Cllr Maud Kinsella had been elected Chairman and Cllr Dennis Neville Vice-Chairman. The views of this Council regarding the China Gateway proposals were shared by the Meeting. The Meeting supported this Council's resolution being put forward to the Association AGM, regarding negotiation of s. 106 Agreements. The inactivity of the KIACCtee had been noted.

- the Report of consultations regarding the matching of development and demand for various types of housing, presented to the E Kent Districts Forum, on which the Chairman represented the FSB, was being circulated to Councillors.

2. Newsletter Report - the Clerk reported that invoices had been issued for advertising up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 08

- it was agreed that Councillors would advise the Clerk of the roads and isolated properties where they delivered the "News", so that any gaps could be identified.

1165/08 **Other Reports** (cont.)

3. Report on Meetings attended

- Rural Regeneration Gp., - a presentation on the Thanet Community Transport Trust
- NHS Service Provision Seminars on PolyClinic proposals – Cllr Huckle would circulate notes.

4. Clerk's Report – the following actions were agreed:

- to research the possibility of registering the Park as a Village Green, under new legislation
- with Councillors, to review insurance provision and obtained an alternative quote from Came and Co (insuring through Norwich Union).
- to identify future grant-funded projects in conjunction with Councillors
- to check swing supports for signs of rust

1166/08 **Other Matters to report**

There were none

1167.08 **Date of forthcoming Meetings**

Parish Council Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2008

**Signed as a true record, subject to any hand-written amendments**

**Chairman** ..... **Dated** .....