
MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON MONDAY 5th JULY 2021 at 7.30 PM in the village hall. *(Note that the agenda incorporated that of the usual bi-monthly meeting scheduled for 24th May which had been cancelled due to Coronavirus regulations).*

Councillors present: Cllr Adrian Waygood, Chairman
Cllr Stuart Norman, Vice Chairman
Cllr Jim Egginton
Cllr Andy Miller
Cllr Michael Stevens

Officer attending: Lorna Ewen, Clerk

Others present: 3 members of the public

21.09 Apologies for absence: Cllr Peace, Cty Cllr Crofton.

21.10 Declarations of interest: None appertaining to matters discussed.

21.11 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held 1st March: Proposed by Cllr Egginton, seconded by Cllr Stevens and adopted unanimously.

To receive the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held 6th April: Proposed by Cllr Egginton, seconded by Cllr Norman and adopted unanimously.

To receive the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 24th May: Proposed by Cllr Egginton, seconded by Cllr Waygood and adopted unanimously.

21.12 Matters arising:

Memorial bench for Chris Dawson: The PCC had applied for a faculty for its siting in the churchyard. Mr Williamson to make and engrave the seat for up to £800: proposed by Cllr Waygood, seconded by Cllr Stevens and approved unanimously.

The clerk reported that the new website is now live. A new domain had to be purchased owing to difficulties in tracing the ownership of the old one.

Ducting has now been laid by Openreach in Moor Green to improve the internet access for Acre Farm. A one-off cheque from Openreach has been received for granting the wayleave and the matter is now concluded.

21.13 Financial report and cheques for approval, as per schedules circulated: clerk's salary and PAYE, litter collection, annual insurance renewal with BHIB, and web domain purchase with an additional cheque for £7 to HM Land Registry to obtain a parish map showing the extent of council land.

21.14 Correspondence: A complaint about School Lane traffic had been received: there had been an incident where someone had narrowly avoided being knocked over.

Cllr Miller proposed that Cty Crofton be approached to ask Highways Department to consider possible solutions with consideration to be given to imposing a 20mph speed limit in School Lane, at their cost. Seconded by Cllr Stevens: carried with 4 in favour and 1 against with no abstentions.

21.15 Planning: To consider current planning applications:

3 Bradcotes: A single storey application, but doubling of the foot print. The proposal changes the character and affordability of the property thereby reducing the low-cost housing stock in the village. Proposed by Cllr Norman: The council opposes the application for reasons given. Seconded by Cllr Stevens. Carried unanimously.

The planning application for Forge View had not been received and was noticed by Cllr Egginton. Clerk to query why council had not been notified; perhaps permitted development?

2 The Close: No objection. Proposed by Cllr Waygood, seconded by Cllr Norman and carried unanimously.

21.16 Highways:

Cromer drainage problems: update.

Water is still running down the road at quite a rate. Cllr Norman to pursue with Cllr Crofton.

Verge erosion outside The Old Vicarage: update. Nothing can be done by the Highways Department. Clerk to write to Mr Cleverly and inform him.

Blind Lane:

A resident had written requesting that the council lobby for Blind Lane to be designated as a Quiet Lane. Discussion took into consideration concerns for the safety issues which would arise by encouraging a wider diversity of road users together with the caveat that a change of status should not be used as a traffic calming measure. Proposed by Cllr Norman and seconded by Cllr Stevens: The council does not support a change of status of Blind Lane to a Quiet Lane. Resolved unanimously.

21.17 Playground: The lawn mower has been serviced and an invoice is outstanding.

A section of the playground fence is in a bad state of repair. Tim Waygood has carried out a temporary repair to stop children getting into Church Farm. Cllr Norman will look at it and obtain quotations for a full repair, to include clearing the brambles in order to allow access.

The next inspection is due in September and any repairs considered thereafter.

The council expressed its gratitude to Mr Calvin Hawes for kindly volunteering to take on the grass cutting of the playground and the churchyard.

21.18 Moor Green: The clerk had received a request for the council to reconsider installing dog waste bins particularly in Moor Green and also in the whole parish.

Following discussion relating to issues of cost and its effect on the precept, together with the need for regular emptying and monitoring, and the apparent lack of demand for such bins in a rural area, Cllr Waygood proposed that the installation of dog waste bins was not appropriate. Seconded by Cllr Egginton and resolved unanimously.

21.19 Wood End: A proposal had been received from the owner of Spring Grange for the clearance and upgrading of the pond opposite. A plan had been obtained from HM Land Registry showing that the pond belongs to the Church Commissioners.

Proposed by Cllr Egginton and seconded by Cllr Norman that the owner be informed that the pond is owned by the Church Commissioners. Carried unanimously.

21.20 Luton Airport: update.

In the absence of Cllr Peace, the liaison councillor for the Luton Airport issues, it was agreed to send a copy of the letter of objection to Mr Vincent, an interested resident who will kindly look into the current situation.

21.21 Urgent matters not previously notified: none.

20.22 Date of next meeting: Monday 6th September at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm. The chairman thanked the members of the public, who were seated in the porch because of the Coronavirus regulations, for attending and expressed the hope that by the time of the next meeting the normal arrangements would be in place again.

A resident suggested a test for chlorine might show the nature of the water that was leaking in Cromer.