

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 1st JULY 2019 AT 7.30PM

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

Officer attending: Lorna Ewen, Clerk
Others present: County and District Cllr Crofton
7 members of the public

19.41 **Apologies for Absence:** None.

19.42 **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Waygood regarding Church Farm.

19.43 **To receive the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th May 2019:** These were received and approved as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Miller, seconded by Cllr Stevens, adopted unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

19.44 **Matters arising:**

Church Farm: Cllr Norman has spoken with Mr Tim Waygood. 3 issues need resolving: Hudson Stoves, frequency of camping and any buildings that should be subject to planning regulations. There has been no response from the Planning Department of EHDC. Cllr Egginton will find the notes of a previous meeting with the Planning Department and circulate to councillors. Cllr Norman will chase up the Planning Department on a monthly basis.

Blind Lane: Cllr Miller noted the poor state of the repairs. Cty Cllr Crofton said that Ringway are responsible for the quality of the work and that it was for them to remedy.

19.45 **Finance:** A financial report to include a bank reconciliation statement and a list of cheques for approval was submitted to the council. Cheques for signing: clerk's salary and HMRC, annual PAYE accounting fee, reimbursement for printer toner, litter picking and annual insurance premium (the latter being subsequently agreed expenditure under Item 19).

19.46 **Correspondence:** Correspondence had been circulated to councillors as and when received. The library box grant claim had been submitted and chased but was still outstanding. Clerk to continue to chase.

Flood Risk Assessments for East Herts: Cllr Egginton will enquire whether these can be made available for publication.

VE Day Celebrations May 2020: In response to a letter from the Forces charity SSFA, the council expressed the wish to encourage the involvement of the parish in some form of celebration. Cllr Miller and Cllr Peace to form a working party to approach local organisations that may be interested. Cty Cllr Crofton indicated his support for marking this important anniversary.

19.47 **Planning Applications:**

Amended application for new dwelling at Bury Grange Farm: Not everyone had had the opportunity to examine the plans in detail as there had been a difficulty in opening the documents online.

Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Egginton to defer the discussion of this to an extraordinary meeting on Wednesday 10th July. Carried 4:2.

Spring Grange Wood End (listed building): The situation is still on-going as the developers have not responded to the objections raised by the planners who recommended refusal of the original scheme. questions raised. Cty Cllr Crofton will make inquiries with regard to enforcement of repairs.

19.48 **Highways:**

The report into traffic calming measures by Daniel Pearman on behalf of EHDC for Cromer, Ardeley and Moor Green had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cromer:

Replacement and augmentation of 'slow' and '30mph' road markings- renewal will be paid for by the Highways Department; cost of further signage not likely to be covered.

There is no land available for siting village entrance gates. Relocation of the existing speed calming device may discourage drivers from speeding down Cromer Hill. There are 2 sockets for a 6-year period; sign to be moved after 18 months. Grants may be available for additional 30 mph signs.

Proposed by Cllr Norman, seconded by Cllr Egginton: The Council to pursue having enhanced village entry signage in Cromer as soon as possible and will fund it if necessary, to a maximum cost of £3000. Carried, 5 in favour. 1 abstention.

Moor Green:

Concerns about speeding were acknowledged; report deemed that existing signs needed legalising prior to implementing additional measures.

Hedge cutting:

Cllr Stevens had been approached by members of the public about overgrown roadside hedges. Quotations for trimming hedges on Parish Council land to be obtained. Private land owners to be approached and reminded of their obligations.

Potholes: Cty Cllr Crofton will progress the repair of potholes in cases of inaction and urged parishioners to report them: 0300 123 4047 for potholes, streetlights, overgrown hedges.

19.49 **Playground:**

The clerk confirmed that the annual inspection has been commissioned and the report is due soon.

Cllr Egginton will approach EHDC to see if grant funding could be obtained for a roundabout; maintenance costs and cost of replacement of current items remain ongoing considerations.

Cllr Peace to speak to Mr Chris Dawson about the nettles encroaching into the playground seating.

19.50 **Litter Collection:**

Mr Beasley tendered his letter of resignation as he will be moving out of the area. The Council thanked Mr Beasley for his longstanding dedication and commitment to keeping the parish free of litter. Mrs Jennie Yates will be taking over from him and will start in August.

The clerk to pursue the renewal of litter picking grant for this year with EHDC.

19.51 **Insurance renewal:**

The clerk reported that the insurance premium for this year had only increased by £10, despite the claim made last year for tree felling.

Proposed by Cllr Waygood and seconded by Cllr Norman to renew with BHIB Councils' Insurance.

Carried unanimously.

19.52 Broadband installation

Cllr Peace was pleased to note the installation of fibre in Ardeley and will enquire with BT when it will be completed.

19.53 Urgent matters not previously notified:

The clerk drew the council's attention to the need to repair and maintain the noticeboards in Ardeley and Wood End.

Proposed by Cllr Waygood and seconded by Cllr Peace: *Local carpenters to be approached to restore/repair both noticeboards.* Carried unanimously. Cllr Egginton noted that Cromer doesn't have a noticeboard and Cllr Norman offered to investigate where the previous one was sited.

Cty Cllr Crofton noted with appreciation that Mr Peter Natt of Luffenhall is working to obtain lottery funding for the Old Bourne Bridleway at Wood End as an asset to the local community.

19.54 Date of next meeting: Monday 2nd September 2019 at 7.30pm.

Extraordinary meeting to discuss planning application as per 19.47: Wednesday 10th July at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.12pm.

Public participation: Wood End broadband comes from a different direction to that of Ardeley and Cromer.

It was reported that there is an oak tree towards Gardners End with a large branch which is being held by the BT cable.

There is a noticeboard on the village hall that Ardeley Parish Council can use.

An open meeting was suggested for VE day, to be advertised in the Forum.