

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 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: 2 members of the public

19.59 **Apologies for Absence:** County/District Cllr Ken Crofton, although not obliged to attend, sent apologies.

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

19.61 **To receive the minutes of the meetings** held on 1st July and 10th July: Amendment proposed by Cllr Egginton that Cromer used to have a noticeboard and that Cllr Norman would investigate where the previous one was sited.

Proposed by Cllr Peace that amended minutes be approved as a correct record of the meeting of 1st July, seconded by Cllr Waygood, carried unanimously and amended and signed by the chairman.

Proposed by Cllr Peace that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 10th July be approved as a correct record, seconded by Cllr Waygood, carried unanimously and signed by the chairman.

19.62 **Matters arising**

Church Farm: Cllr Norman reported that he had written to East Herts District Council regarding enforcement procedure and has not as yet received a reply. Cllr Norman indicated that he wished to consult Cllr Crofton with a view to arranging a possible meeting with EHDC.

All councillors had been invited by Mr Tim Waygood to a fact-finding tour of Church Farm on 9th September to see for themselves how the farm operates.

The British Horse Society's application for lottery funding to improve public access and bridleways in the River Bourne area:

Cllr Miller had emailed information to councillors and attended the public meeting in the village on 15th August.

Proposed by Cllr Peace and seconded by Cllr Norman that a letter in support of the project be sent on behalf of Ardeley Parish Council. Carried unanimously.

The council also wished to formally record its appreciation to Mr Peter Natt of Luffenhall for his enthusiastic efforts with regard to this project.

Hedges: The chairman reported that the relevant local landowners had been spoken to and reminded of their responsibilities in ensuring that hedges abutting the highway were kept appropriately trimmed.

Due to the issues of cost, it was agreed that the current hedge cutting contractor be changed.

Proposed by Cllr Waygood and seconded by Cllr Miller that Paul Andrews be instructed to cut the council hedges in future- carried unanimously.

19.63 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, EHDC election charge and councillors' training fees to HAPTC. An invoice was awaited from Mrs Yates for litter collecting services. It was agreed that a cheque could be issued in advance of the next meeting once the invoice had been received.

19.64 Correspondence not covered under agenda items:

Seat next to the pond: A parishioner had emailed regarding its condition; Cllr Peace would consider and advise whether it would be better to repair or replace it.

Emails had been received from Mr Richard Hudson informing the council about the trees close to his property which have now been felled at his own expense.

Email notification about the speed restriction in Cromer had been circulated prior to the meeting. Signs proposed will be in the same position as they are now.

Village hall insulation: Shortcomings of the heating system were mentioned but the council already contributes to the village hall annually.

19.65 Planning applications:

6 Bradcots: The application was felt to be disproportionate to the size of the terrace; the impact of the extension to the row would be significant, especially to the adjoining property.

Proposed by Cllr Waygood and seconded by Cllr Miller: That the council object to the application. Agreed unanimously.

Churchfield/Chirchfield Ardeley:

Proposed by Cllr Waygood and seconded by Cllr Norman: No objection to the application, carried unanimously.

Enforcement re. 5 Redbrick Cottis: Discussion took place regarding the concrete fence posts which were not permitted and the layby area which is now surfaced with chippings which were considered not aesthetically pleasing, also the requirement for a dropped kerb. Cllr Miller would raise these points with EHDC and also Cty Cllr Crofton.

19.66 Highways: It was noted that the repairs to Blind Lane are degenerating. Cllr Miller to approach EHDC and Cllr Cty Cllr Crofton.

19.67 Playground: The inspection report had been received. Cllr Peace has looked at the slide step which is said to be low risk. Mr Chris Dawson has kindly trimmed all the nettles under the benches. Cllr Egginton will speak to EHDC regarding the availability of grant funding for a roundabout.

19.68 Litter Collection: During the course of the meeting a letter was presented by Mr David Beasley who has now handed over his duties to Mrs Jennie Yates as of 8th July, which is earlier than he originally envisaged, hence he has been overpaid for some 3 weeks as the cheque signed at the last meeting was for payment up until the end of the month. It was therefore agreed to adjust this accordingly by cancelling the original cheque and issuing a replacement; the council agreed unanimously to pay £5 towards the cost of replacement of his pannier bags.

19.69 **VE day celebrations 2020:** Cllr Miller does not now have sufficient time to liaise, therefore Cllr Waygood agreed to assist Cllr Peace. Cllr Egginton has already mentioned it to the WI and the Leisure Club. The clerk is to provide a list of contacts for village organisations that could be encouraged to form a committee to take this forward.

Cllr Waygood suggested that the dead trees on Moor Green could be replaced to mark the anniversary; also seeding poppies on the verges and wild flowers on common land.

It was felt that the celebrations should involve the whole parish and not just Ardeley.

19.70 **Noticeboards:** Cllr Waygood had received quotations for the repairing the noticeboards and will seek further estimates.

Cllr Norman will speak to the owners of the site of the old noticeboard in Cromer.

19.71 **Urgent matters not previously notified:** The clerk will attend a HAPTC training course in finance for councils in October, to assist her in her role as Responsible Finance Officer.

19.72 **Date of next meeting:** Monday 4th November 2019 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Public participation: Regarding 5 Red Brick Cottages, the council agreed to visit the site on Monday evening prior to the tour of Church Farm.