

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 13TH MAY 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: 10 members of the public

19.29 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Cty Cllr Ken Crofton, albeit that he was not obliged to attend the meeting.

19.30 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Waygood regarding Church Farm (agenda item 19.39).

19.31 To receive the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th March 2019: These were received and approved as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Norman, seconded by Cllr Waygood, adopted unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

19.32 Matters arising

Gresley Park: The Clerk read out the letter sent to East Herts Planning Department, referring to the reservations about the layout of the development and the effect that this would have on the view from the Beane valley.

19.33 Co-option: Cllr Waygood proposed that Simon Peace be co-opted to serve as a councillor, seconded by Cllr Miller and carried unanimously.

19.34 Finance: A financial report to include a bank reconciliation statement and a list of cheques for approval was submitted to the council. There were 8 cheques for signing: clerk's salary and PAYE, annual subscription to HAPTC, purchase of postage stamps and litter picking.

19.35 Correspondence:

Conservation:

An email had been received from a parishioner which had been responded to by Cllr Noble and it was agreed for this to be an agenda item for future discussion.

Blocked on road between Moor Green and Wood End:

Cty Cllr Crofton has been following this up. As a result, major remedial work has been planned which will form part of the 2019/20 planned road maintenance programme and Cllr Crofton will be informed when a date has been fixed.

19.36 Planning: To report on planning applications. The Clerk confirmed that no planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

19.37 Highways: Repairs to Blind Lane: update

County Cllr Crofton has visited the site and has notified the highways officers and the contractor and has requested photographs. Cllr Miller agreed to follow this up.

19.38 Litter picking: It was agreed to postpone discussion of this item until the next meeting.

19.39 Church Farm: update.

Enforcement: East Herts District Council appears to have taken no action to date. Apparently, the officer concerned, Paul Dean, has now left the council.

Cllr Egginton proposed that a letter is written again to see if the matter has been exhausted. Seconded by Cllr Stevens and resolved unanimously.

Cllr Norman therefore agreed to make contact with the current enforcement officer and find out what the position is and whether there is likely to be any action taken or not.

19.40 Training: to approve expenditure for future training courses.

Expenditure for HAPTC training sessions for new councillors, the chairman and the clerk at £40 per course were proposed by Cllr Egginton and seconded by Cllr Norman and approved unanimously.

19.41 Urgent matters not previously notified: All councillors who had been recently elected were reminded to return their nil election expense forms as soon as possible.

19.42 Date of next meeting: Monday 1st July 2019 at 7.30pm.

Public Participation:

A member of the public expressed his gratitude to Cllr David Young for his dedication to Ardeley in 42 years of service to the parish as a councillor and the meeting voiced its appreciation.

A resident mentioned his concerns about the lack enforcement of the camping restrictions on Church Farm to date which he wished Ardeley Parish Council to continue to pursue. The proprietor, who was present, said that he was always willing to discuss the situation with individuals should they wish to contact him and that if there were any need for enforcement it should be balanced by a degree of recognition for the employment opportunities and village amenities offered by Church Farm.

On behalf of the Council, Mrs Wendy Waygood presented the clerk with an orchid in appreciation for her efforts during her first year in post for which the clerk expressed her delighted thanks.

The meeting closed at approximately 8.30pm.