
MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 20TH NOVEMBER AT 7.30 PM

Councillors present: Cllr David Young, Chairman
Cllr Adrian Waygood, Vice Chairman
Cllr Andrew Cannon
Cllr Jim Egginton
Cllr Tim Noble

Officer attending: Laura Brooks-Payne, clerk
Others present: 5 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

District Cllr Ken Crofton

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Waygood for Church Farm

3. MINUTES OF MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September were signed and accepted as correct.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair passed over to the clerk who reported that she had circulated an email round to councillors on village gateways. These are prominent 'gates' which indicate you are coming into the village. There was some interest from councillors, but it was decided that we did not have the funds for such items at the current time and noted there are approx. 9 routes into the village from different directions so could be very costly.

5. FINANCE**5.1 Financial report and payments for approval**

The finance report was noted and signed by Cllr Young and the cheques before council were signed at the end of the meeting.

5.2 Approval of Clerk working from Home allowance

Approved unanimously

5.3 To discuss and approve paying invoices online and 'dual authorisation'

The clerk had researched how we can do this and still be safe online. Cllr Noble explained the procedure and the meaning of 'dual authorisation' meaning the clerk will put a payment in and a fellow councillor will then approve it.

ACTION; Clerk to organise setting on online banking, and the procedures that need to be followed.

5.4 To sign another letter to enable change of details to the new clerk on the Barclays accounts; clerk reported that after much time and many phone calls to Barclays Bank since the agenda was published, it is hopeful that we have sorted this out without the need for another letter.

6. PLANNING

The clerk had circulated the current planning application list before the meeting. The council agreed to submit 'NO objections' to EHDC for the following 2 applications;

3/17/2668/OUT – Mill House, Mill Lane
3/17/2576/FUL – Lime tree farm, Whitehill, Cromer

ACTION – Clerk to email the NO objections to EHDC.

7. HIGHWAYS

7.1 To receive updates on the A507 Campaign and the B1037 issues

A507

An evaluation and possible implementation of changes to the A507 with regards to weight restrictions will be carried out over the coming three years, during which time there will be an opportunity to present the B1037 as a related concern.

ACTION: Cllr Egginton has chased this again and will update the PC with any new information.

SID'S (Speed Indicator Devices)

Cllr Cannon reported that these are due for installation and there had been some progress in that foundations for one of the devices has been laid.

8. RECREATION GROUND

8.1 To receive an update on repairs

Cllr Egginton had contacted the original company who the PC were waiting on to complete the work. They cannot do this work now due to workload. Another quotation has been received for the installation of metal gates (apparently wooden gates do not now comply with playground regulations). It was decided that the PC needs to obtain two more like for like quotes to do a comparison as it is policy to obtain 3 quotes for any works.

ACTION: Cllr Egginton to obtain two additional quotes. Clerk to advise names of two different companies.

9. CONSERVATION AREA SURVEY

9.1 To receive an update on the conservation area survey (EHDC) for Ardeley Parish

Cllr Noble reported that flyers have now been distributed to residents within the conservation areas of Moor Green, Ardeley and Wood End with a meeting being held at Ardeley Village hall Thursday 23rd November for public consultation by East Herts District Council. This is to discuss the character and boundary changes of the three areas and receive comments from the public.

Moor Green Ponds

Cllr Egginton reported that a survey had recently been completed by Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT) and recently attended a meeting with them. There was little management advice in the report. On the pond that they surveyed, they reported that there are various amphibian inhabitants living in the pond and within Moor Green some smaller ponds have dried up. HMWT suggested cutting back some of the scrub/blackthorn, reducing the tree canopy slightly and cutting back some vegetation but this is also all good habitat for birds and small mammals. Cllr Noble noted that the pond that we asked them to survey had been overlooked and the pond that they had surveyed in fact did not belong to the parish council and suggested that the PC contact HMWT again to ask them to survey the pond on Moor Green that the parishioner had previously asked the PC to uncover.

ACTION: Cllr Egginton to contact HMWT again and research possibly involving Countryside management.

10. CHURCH FARM

10.1 To receive an update on ongoing issues raised concerning Church Farm

Cllr Noble reported that District Cllr Ken Crofton had recently sent an email with the most recent planning application information at Church Farm. In brief; 5 static caravans for residential use and change of use to a beauty parlour was granted permission in June this year. A certificate of lawful development for portacabins is still pending consideration. Pre-application advice has been sought for use of fields for camping, sheds and tents.

11. CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

HAPTC renewal for annual subscription cost

East Herts Draft for Physical Activity Strategy 2017-2022, Clerk to put onto the website.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be agreed and to discuss and/or approve set meeting dates bi-monthly

It was agreed to set the meeting dates as the 1st Monday of the month bi-monthly, unless that day falls on a bank holiday, in which case the meeting will take place on the first Tuesday. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 8th January at 7.30pm.

ACTION: clerk to publish the dates on the website.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed _____

Date _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. A resident asked if the gullies on the road from Bury Grange to Cromer are going to be cleared in the near future. Cllr Young explained that we have been chasing this for two years, many agencies being involved and that our requests seem to get passed onto others, ignored or signs erected instead stating 'road liable to flood'. The resident also reported that the dyke is always overgrown and blocked and when there is heavy rain the primary school in Ardeley has to close because teachers and pupils cannot get through.

ACTION: clerk to investigate what stage the PC got to, trying to resolve this problem approx..18 months ago. Clerk to contact Highways again and also Cllr Ken Crofton for his advice.