

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ARDELEY HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2015 COMMENCING AT 8.08 PM**

Present: Cllr David Young (Chairman)  
CCllr and DCllr Ken Crofton  
Officer attending Marty Kilby (Clerk and RFO)

Present: 8 members of the public

**1. APOLOGIES**

None

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 19 May 2014 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr David Young gave the following report:

Welcome to our Annual Council Meeting, we are always glad to welcome parishioners to our meetings and are pleased that you are interested in the work of the Council. This is my report of activities of the past year. We'll be happy to deal with any comments that you may have at the end of the report. The Council has met six times this year and I will itemise under headings the main subjects discussed.

**Finance**

Our internal Auditor, Mr Alan Herbert, keeps a friendly eye on our accounts and activities for us and we are very grateful to him for this. It was agreed that our Precept for the year 15/16 should again not be increased and held at £3,000.

**Highways**

The condition of the roads has diminished over the year but there is not much the parish council can do except keep bringing the problems to the attention of Ringways. It is not easy to talk to Ringways - everything has to be done either on the fault reporting website or an automated fault reporting phone line. It is no longer possible to talk directly to a live person and we rely more and more on our District Councillor Ken Crofton for help on highway matters. Ken is currently supporting our concerns about problems along the whole length of the C14 road from Cromer to Wood End, as well as taking active steps to help repair the problems with the drains through Cromer on the B1037.

**Byways, Bridleways and Footpaths**

Groundworks, the Herts County rights of way department, have helped with reinstating the surface of some footpaths and byways in Moor Green and with clearing blocked bridleways.

**Village Pond**

Once again we are grateful to Bob Vincent for keeping the village pond tidy which is a focal point in the village.

**Easements**

No easements have been requested over last year.

**Playground**

We are grateful that Dave Mansfield has kindly said he was willing to continue to oversee the playing field and would report to the Council any necessary repairs etc. We have also had the hedges trimmed and many thanks are due to Chris Dawson for keeping the grass tidy.

**Litter**

Dave Beasley regularly patrols the parish removing any litter and keeping our village tidy. We are very grateful to Dave for carrying out this task.

**Planning applications**

During this year we have received and commented on the following applications:

Date	Application No.	Property	Reason for application	Planning result
5.2.15	3/14/2142/CM	Buttermilk Hall Farm, Baldock Road, Cottered	Change of use to provide a waste materials recycling and transfer facility	Awaiting decision
4.2.15	3/15/0143/FP	Marvells, Moor Green	Demolition conservatory and porch, new rear extensions	Granted
17.5.14	3/14/0703/LB	Chequers, Cromer	Secondary glazing, conversion 2 open fires to wb stoves new flues and pots	Granted
9.4.14	3/14/0573/LB	Chapel Farm, Wood End	Remove cement render 1 <sup>st</sup> storey front elevation replace with lath and lime render	Granted

### Defibrillator

Last year Jacquie Hayward suggested that the old telephone box in Ardeley be used as a base for a community defibrillator. Thanks to her enthusiasm this project is nearly complete. It would not have been possible without Cllr Ken Crofton helping with a large grant which, when added to the New Homes Bonus payment meant this could be afforded. Several others need particular thanks. The first is Chris Bates who lives in Walkern. He replaced a door panel and hinges giving his time free of charge. The other is Mark Haywood who is cleaning and repainting the phone box. BT have given free paint to help and will fund the electricity costs for 7 years. So very soon the defibrillator will be installed and ready for use in emergencies.

### "Thankyous"

Finally, thank you to my fellow Councillors for their support during the past year. It is sad that Bob Vincent and David Cleverly will not be parish councillors for the coming year – their contribution to the village has been a major help to the parish during their time as councillors. The parish have two new councillors, Andrew Cannon and Tim Noble and I welcome them to the parish council. I also thank the parish clerk, Marty Kilby, for all the work she does for the parish. Ardeley is very lucky to have many parishioners that do much for both villages, and I thank them all, particularly Dave Beasely, Dave Mansfield and Chris Dawson.

### 4. FINANCE

The unaudited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2013 were before the meeting and noted. It was agreed to put these on the website, having regard to Data Protection regarding individual payments.

### 5. OPEN SESSION

In answer to a question it was noted that the parish boundaries and rights of way map was on the web site.

It was agreed to write to David Cleverly and Bob Vincent thanking them for all the hard work they had done for the parish during their time as parish councillors.

County and District Councillor Ken Crofton was thanked for giving grants for the Defibrillator and for the Village Hall notice boards. Ken Crofton asked whether the parish had any plans to improve the play equipment as there was space and funding might be available. Agreed to put on the agenda for the next parish council meeting. It was suggested that Watton at Stone be asked about their latest equipment.

Ken Crofton also reminded the meeting that School Lane was scheduled for repair in the 2015-2016 schedule.

Jim Egginton asked that the Hundred Parishes be put on the next council agenda so a proper update can be given.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_