

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 14 JULY 2014 AT 7.30 PM

Councillors: David Young (Chairman) Robert Vincent;
Paul Andrews James Egginton;
David Cleverly; Adrian Waygood

Officer attending Marty Kilby (Clerk and RFO)
Present: 1 member of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

14.74 None

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

14.75 None

MINUTES OF MEETING

14.76 The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17 March 2014 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

14.78 The Chairman had nothing to report at this stage.

FINANCE

14.79 Finance Report and cheques for approval

The finance report was noted and the cheques before Council were signed at the end of the meeting

The following payments were approved:

622	D Beasley	£239.04	Litter picking June-July 2014
623	M Kilby	£193.60	Clerk salary June-July 2014
624	M Kilby	£20.30	Expenses June-July 2014
625	HMRC	£72.60	PAYE April-May-June 2014

14.80 Mandate Forms

Clerk to ask Barclays Bank again for mandate forms.

14.81 New Homes Bonus and Litter Grant

The new homes bonus will be unchanged from the previous year at £1,855. The Litter Grant had been increased to £1,374.88 per annum and the payment to the litter picker had been increase pro rata.

14.82 Village Hall notice board

Cllr Bob Vincent had obtained quotations for the notice board. It was agreed that a second quotation be obtained and to attempt to obtain secure funding before any order was placed. Cllr Kent Crofton to be asked if funding were available for the replacement notice board. Daystyle to be thanked for his quotation.

14.83 HAPTC

The cost for joining the HAPTC would be £133.45 until 312 March to 2015. The ongoing annual cost would be £213.44. It was agreed to wait and consider at the next meeting in September.

PLANNING

14.84 Current planning applications

The planning list was before the meeting and noted.

14.85 Planning outcomes

3/14/0415/FP - Old Barn, Lime Tree Farm, Cromer - Approved

Clerk to report what approval statement was made.

14.86 District and Neighbourhood Plans

East Herts Council will be discussing the District Plan on Thursday 17th July. The neighbourhood grouping had not changed.

HIGHWAYS**14.88 River Beane and Ardeley Brook update**

Cllr David Young had sent details to the clerk of what needed clearing and this information had been passed to the Environment Agency.

14.89 Armco Barrier

Noted that the location details had been passed to Cllr Crofton, who had informed Ringways of what needed repair. Cllr Crofton was thanked for his help.

14.90 School Lane

Noted that Cllr Ken Crofton had reported the very bad condition of School Lane. Clerk to enquire how the complaint was progressing.

14.91 Drive Safe

Cllr Jim Egginton reported on the update figures for the Drive Safe campaign in Cromer. At the times traffic surveys were carried out, a third of the vehicles travelling through Cromer exceeded the 30 mph speed limit. 65 police cautions had been issued. The majority of the speeding vehicles are local, and police cautions would be sent out. More publicity to highlight the problem will be effective. The report to go on the website (Cllr Egginton to send report to the clerk for uploading).

RIGHTS OF WAY**14.92 Diversion of part of FP35**

No formal notification had been received from Herts County Council, but Cllr Ken Crofton had sent details of the proposed diversion that he had received. After discussion it was agreed to object to the application which is considered to be too large a diversion and without any real necessity indicated.

14.93 Parish Boundary Map

The parish boundary map was before the meeting and noted. Agreed Clerk to ask for this to be scanned and put on the Parish Council website.

TELEPHONE BOX**14.93 Cost of Defibrillator installation**

The cost for installing the defibrillator through Community Heartbeat is £2,000. Clerk to enquire about grants from East Herts Council, Cllr Ken Crofton, and also to enquire of parishioners and parish associations whether donations might be possible. Noted that previously it is known that BT will provide paint so the telephone box can be repainted and will also underwrite the electrical fee for 5 years if this was being used for a defibrillator. Cllr Ken Crofton had indicated that grants might be available up to £500.

CROMER WINDMILL**14.94 Refurbishment**

Cllr Jim Egginton reported on the proposed refurbishment of Cromer Windmill, which was wholeheartedly approved.

RECREATION GROUND**14.95 Replacement suggestions**

The annual safety report had not yet been received. The Head of Ardeley Primary School had said the children had commented on possible replacement equipment that the general consensus was something the children could climb on - a climbing frame, climbing wall or something similar. Then the children said if there was any money left over they would like a new, bigger slide like the one at Cottered.

Cllr Bob Vincent agreed to inspect the fence between the 2 gates on the road side to see if it needed repair.

14.96 White Bryony

Cllr Jim Egginton said he will be spraying the white bryony with Roundup very soon and would put up notices stating that spraying was in progress.

NURSERY PROVISION**14.97 Jumping Jacks**

The Jumping Jacks private nursery at Cottered is due to close at the end of this term. Ardeley School states there is an identified need for pre-school places in the area as Jumping Jacks

served local villages, Buntingford and the Great Ashby estate in Stevenage where there is a severe shortage of spaces for pre-schoolers. Ardeley School Governors have made the decision to go out to consultation to close the gap that will be created by this closure. The consultation is about lowering the age of admission to include a nursery year as well as the current reception. The school are obliged to consult with current parents and with the other providers of nursery age schooling in the area. They felt it would also be good practice to advise the parish council of our thoughts and, whilst no decision has yet been made regarding this issue, the deadline for formal consultation is 11th July after which Governors will meet to discuss the outcomes and make a decision regarding the way forward.

After discussion it was agreed to ask the Head for an update because if the intention is simply to add a further year then at 15-20 new intake there is no problem.

VILLAGE HALL

14.98 Induction Loop

A visitor to the Village Hall had been unable to take part in an event and had to leave because of personal profound deafness, and there is no induction loop provided in the village hall. Agreed to ask Chris Dawson about possibilities of providing such a loop, and to ask Cllr Crofton about possible grants.

CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

14.99 The Clerk's report and correspondence list was before the meeting and noted.

URGENT MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

15.00 Drainage in Cromer

Cllr Jim Eggington reported that drainage in Cromer was blocked because of roots in surface drains. The problem had been reported to CCllr Ken Crofton who was investigating and reporting back.

15.01 Cumbernauld Green Recycling Unit

Concerns were raised that the area round the recycling unit seemed to be subject to nauseous smells. Clerk to ask HCC to comment.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 15th September 2014 at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.57 pm

Signed _____

Date _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A question was raised concerning the possible spend of £2,000 on the defibrillator. It was noted that any proposal to pursue the installation of a defibrillator would have to be agreed by a further parish council meeting.