

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ARDELEY HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 20 MAY 2013 COMMENCING AT 8.05 PM

Present: Cllr David Young (Chairman)
Officer attending Marty Kilby (Clerk and RFO)

Present: 7 parishioners

APOLOGIES

Mr David Mansfield

MINUTES OF MEETING

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 21 May 2012 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr David Young gave the following report:

Welcome to our Annual Meeting, we are always glad to welcome parishioners to our meetings and are pleased that you are interested in the work of the Council. I am giving this report as Vice Chairman of the Council due to the sad death of Roger Waygood earlier this year who had been a parish councillor and Chairman of the Council for a great number of years. Roger gave freely of his time to the village and the parish, and was an active member of the Council until his recent illness. We will greatly miss him and his great knowledge of the parish. 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 Accounts were approved by the external auditor. 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 13/14 should not be increased but will be decreased by £1,000 and be for £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 – the new highways maintenance team. The Chairman of Hertfordshire County Council, Jane Pitman, has said "The standard of the highway network is the area that most people understandably feel most concerned about despite increasing the funding every year there is still an unacceptable high backlog of work. The new contract with Ringways is saving over £1m a year, I only hope they will manage to reduce the number of potholes, damaged surfaces and broken drains. This is one of the highest priorities for County Councillors to see improvements."

Possible solutions to help improve pedestrian safety in Cromer have been started by Jim Egginton and Roger Waygood. The practical solutions all involve finance, and Jim is carrying on discussions with Hertfordshire Highways.

Byways, Bridleways and Footpaths

Countryside Management, the Herts County body that carries out work on the rights of way, and works with the parish councils, has now been disbanded. The new Herts County management company is Groundworks Hertfordshire and they have been in touch about our area.

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.

Our annual safety inspection has been carried out. We had to remove the timber frame play unit as it had rotted at the bottom – thanks go to Roger Waygood for doing this free of charge, we

had a quote for £300 so Roger's offer of asking his son Adrian to do this was gratefully received. We've got prices for a replacement play unit and we'll be discussing this replacement as soon as possible.

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 the following applications:

Date	Application No.	Property	Reason for application	Planning result
28.11.12	3/12/1770/FP	Woodside Cottage, Moor Green Road, Ardeley	Erection of oak framed 2 bay garage and store	Granted
19.11.12	3/12/1819/LB	Woodside Cottage, Moor Green Road, Ardeley	Secondary glazing to existing windows	Granted
	3/12/1813/FP	Gardeners, Ardeley	Rear extension	Granted
3.9.12	3/12/1435/FP	Kingswick, Cromer	Extensions and replacement garage	Withdrawn
7.6.12	3/12/0833/FP	The Maples, Cromer	Cattery boarding unit	Withdrawn
7.6.12	3/12/0937/FP	Vicarage, Ardeley	New tennis court	Granted
20.1.12	3/12.0023/FP	3 The Heath, Cromer	side extension	Granted

Website

The Parish Council website is now established on line. Or should I say 'is now live'. We've decided not to put the minutes of the parish council meetings on the site until they have been approved by Council, so won't be available immediately. But when planning applications are received then these will be available on the site, as will any news from the Parish Council. All comments and suggestions for improvement of the site are really welcome – please do contact any of the councillors or Marty, the clerk, with your ideas.

Finally, thank you to my fellow Councillors for their support during the past year and for the help from all parishioners, particularly Dave Beasley, Dave Mansfield and Chris Dawson.

And I thank you personally for the support that you have given to me as Vice Chairman of the Council particularly in recent weeks following the sad death of Roger.

FINANCE

The unaudited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2013 were before the meeting and noted. The mower used for grasscutting was in need of replacement and Chris Dawson would obtain two quotations for replacing the hand mower.

OPEN SESSION

On the suggested right of way on the Bourne, it was noted that nothing had happened so far. Alan Herbert thoroughly endorsed the contribution made by Roger Waygood to the parish and council during his term of office. Parishioners were extremely grateful for what he did for the village. Thanks were expressed to the Chairman and all the councillors for their work on behalf of the parish.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Signed _____

Date _____