

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 12 JANUARY 2015 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: 2 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Ken Crofton

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

MINUTES OF MEETING

14.148 The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24 November 2014 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

14.149 The Chairman had nothing additional to report at this stage.

FINANCE**14.150 Finance Report and payments for approval**

The finance report was noted and the cheques before Council were signed at the end of the meeting. The list of payments is an appendix to these minutes. Noted that the grant funding arranged by Cllr Ken Crofton for the community defibrillator and the village hall notice board had been received. Noted that the New Homes Bonus for 2015-2016 had been increased by £489 to £2,344.

14.151 Village Hall notice board

The notice board will hopefully be ready by April.

14.152 Precept and Budget

It was agreed that the budget discussed at the November meeting be adopted. The precept demand in the sum of £3,000 was approved.

Resolved: That the Precept for 2015-2016 be Three thousand pounds (£3,000)

14.153 Financial Regulations

The model financial regulations had been previously circulated. With some minor amendments to be finalised at the March meeting, it was

Resolved: That the new Model Financial Regulations be adopted with minor amendments to be approved at the March 2015 meeting.

PLANNING**14.154 Current planning applications**

There were no new planning applications for Ardeley. The planning list was before the meeting and noted.

14.155 3/14/2142/CM – Buttermilk Hall Farm, Baldock Road, Cottered, Hertfordshire

Change of use of existing redundant farm building and aprons, erection of one new building and extension to existing building, all to provide a waste materials recycling and transfer facility.

This application was in the parish of Aspenden, but the access road is off the A507 between Cottered and Buntingford and the additional heavy traffic that will be generated will affect all parishioners. There was also a concern about air pollution. Clerk to send objection letter.

14.156 – 3/14/2200/OP –Froghall Lane, Walkern

Residential development for up to 98 houses including site access, public open space and landscaping.

This application is in the parish of Walkern, but will result in greatly increased traffic on the B1307 through road from Buntingford to Stevenage, and will cause even more traffic hazards to Ardeley parishioners. Clerk to send objection letter.

14.157 District and Neighbourhood Plans

No further update

HIGHWAYS**14.158 Ardeley Brook and River Beane**

The landowners on either side of Ardeley Brook had been contacted and asked if the brook could be cleared of vegetation and silt. Neither landowner had replied. Clerk asked to write again. Ringways to be asked to remove the road signs.

14.159 – Cromer B1037

Cllr Jim Egginton reported that the contaminated surface water in Cromer had been reported to Thames Water as a public health issue and Thames Water had agreed to carry out remedial action. This had not happened. The sewage problem was an environmental health issue and clerk asked to report this to East Hertfordshire Environmental Services. The problem seemed to be outside The Cedars, Cromer.

14.160 DriveSafe Update

Cllr Jim Egginton reported no sessions had been held since Christmas. Lead volunteers were needed for training on the new system (Stratrak).

RIGHTS OF WAY**14.161 – Shed on BOAT 4**

The shed on BOAT 4 had been removed completely. The litter picker to be asked if he could do a litter pick in the area now the shed has gone. Hertfordshire Rights of Way to be asked to move the footpath pole to a more suitable location.

DEFIBRILLATOR

14.162 The telephone box had been purchased from BT. The grant via CCllr Ken Crofton towards the defibrillator had been received. The defibrillator and case would be delivered by Community Heartbeat. The governance arrangements had been previously circulated to Councillors and were noted.

Agreed that a community meeting be held asking for volunteers and having a presentation from Community Heartbeat. Agreed to publicise in the parish magazine for volunteers, then invite volunteers to attend the meeting.

The telephone box was in a poor state of repair and missing two panes of glass. BT to be asked if they might help with the provision of paint and glass and the refurbishment.

PLAY EQUIPMENT

14.163 The cost of refurbishment of the cradle swing was £215 plus VAT.

RESOLVED: To accept the estimate of £215 plus VAT from CPM Playgrounds for repair of the swing

VILLAGE HALL

14.164 The cost of an audio induction loop for the village hall was £950. A small capital grant had been applied for from EHDC, and the result should be known by end January.

CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

14.165 The Clerk's report and correspondence list was before the meeting and noted. The December Electoral Roll had been received and clerk to email to all councillors. Council reminded that the Roll was for their use in their role as parish councillors and was not for publication or use by others.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 23 March 2015 – 7.30 pm Ardeley Village Hall.

NOTE: The Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will now be held on Monday 11 May 2015 at 7.00 pm – not 18th May as previously notified.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed _____

Date _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A parishioner was concerned about the pond next to The Goose, Moor Green, flooding into his property. He had reported this to Hertfordshire Highways and to Environmental Health because he said there were large numbers of rats in the area.

Reportedly there is a 2" drain running along the verge beside the highway and this could be blocked. The parishioner reported that Highways had visited the site and agreed that this was a Highways problem and they would clean out the pipe and possibly the pond. He had heard nothing since that visit some 10 days previously and no work had been carried out.

The parishioner agreed to let the clerk have contact details of the Highways personnel who had attended. In the meantime the parishioner was registered a claim for damage to his property.

Public participation closed at 8.45 pm