

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 15 MAY 2017 AT 7.30 PM

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

Ken Crofton, District and County Councillor

Officer attending: Aimee Lauezzari (Clerk and RFO)
Others present: 18 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

17.013 Adrian Waygood for Church Farm, and Tim Noble stating his son worked at Church Farm in the Easter holidays.

MINUTES OF MEETING

17.014 Minutes of the meeting held 6 March 2017 were signed and accepted as correct.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None

FINANCE**17.015 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.

17.016 Capital Grant

Clerk reported that council is waiting to hear from EHDC for another opportunity to apply for a capital grant that could be added to the New Homes Bonus money reserved for the purchase of a roundabout for the recreation ground.

AGREED: Await such opportunity.

17.017 Transparency Grant

Clerk reported that an application could be made for £732 for 2017-2018 to help with costs associated with the Ardeley Parish Council website.

AGREED: To submit application.

17.018 Audit and Annual Return

The internal auditor had agreed the audit and the annual return and governance statement were signed. The internal auditor would be submitting a report.

PLANNING**17.019 Church Farm Ardeley**

After lengthy discussion of this application and other matters concerning Church Farm, council agreed to return a comment of "no objection." (See minutes of 15 May 2017 Annual Parish Meeting: Council also agreed to comment that Hudson Stoves does not appear to be a cause of increased traffic at Church Farm.) Council also agreed to contact planning officers at East Herts asking for more information about additional planning applications and compliance issues at Church Farm.

COMMON LAND**17.020 Ponds at Moor Green**

Cllr Egginton reported that he and Cllrs Noble and Young and an interested parishioner have visited the sites in question and will be waiting for a report from a survey to be undertaken by Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust. It is agreed that the end of the year will be the best time to undertake the cleaning to restore access and visibility of the two ponds.

HIGHWAYS**17.021 Cromer Drains**

James Vine of Ringway has reported that the problem is a water pipe that was recently installed in the drainage system. The drains in Cromer are on the 2017-2018 schedule of works by Ringway.

17.022 Flooding along C14 (Cromer to Ardeley)

Council reported an obstruction of branches and tree stumps near a concrete bridge over the Ardeley Brook. The Environment Agency has been made aware.

17.023 DriveSafe

Cllrs Cannon and Egginton reported holding one recent DriveSafe session in Cromer, during which they recorded a number of speeding cars. Cllr Cannon reported that at the time of the meeting there was still no further news concerning the grant application for speed indication signs. Previously, Cllr Cannon received a notice that the application passed the first round and the site would be inspected.

17.024 A507 and B1037

Cllr Egginton reported that the Cottered campaign for the change of a portion of the A507 to a B road was going forward. After discussion of the need for a weight restriction on the B1037 (Stevenage to Cottered), as an attempt to reduce lorry traffic, it was agreed that council would make contacts and enquires of HCC and Walkern and Cottered parishes to obtain more information and support.

RECREATION GROUND**17.025 Repairs and Inspection**

Council has agreed to repainting of equipment and work on a new entrance, including a new gate, for the playing field. Work will be undertaken as soon as the equipment (mainly the wooden structures) are dry enough for the painting. Council has been notified of the yearly inspection, and it could possibly take place before this work is completed.

CHURCH FARM

17.026 See above planning minute 17.019. Council agreed that no further discussion was merited at this time.

PADDOCK IN CROMER

17.027 The question was raised concerning a caravan and an improved driveway. Discussion revealed that the owners created the driveway after being asked to park off the road when at the paddock, and the caravan appeared to be for visitors or storage, and therefore nothing of concern.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S REPORT

17.028 Clerk reported that the council will be seeking a new internal auditor. Any interested individuals are asked to contact the clerk.

URGENT MATTERS NOT PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED

17.029 Cllr Noble reported that the Diversion of Footpath 26 in Wood End has received final approval and works are to begin soon.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 24 July 2017, 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8:06 pm

Signed _____

Date _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation was deferred to the open session of the Annual Parish Meeting, directly following this meeting.

Finance Report

Appendix to minutes of 15 May 2017

PAYMENTS – 15 May 2017

£291.20	Clerk's salary (Apr/May)	A Lauezzari
£10.00	Clerk's expenses (Apr/May)	A Lauezzari
£231.42	Litter picking (Apr/May)	D Beasley
£476.51	Insurance	Aon
£120.00	VETS Phone System	Community Heartbeat Trust
£246.94	Subscription	HAPTC
£332.21	Toner for printer	Herts FullStop
£120.00	Payroll services	Carol Willis (Accountant)
£80.00	Reissue of #100522	A Waygood

RECEIPTS (since 6 March 2017)

£3000.00	Precept – first half
£632.89	VAT reclaimed

REQUESTS

£65.00	New defib pads
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Ardeley Parish Council

Finance Report - May 2017

	Budget Year Ending March 2018	Year to Date Year Ending March 2018
Ordinary Income		
Precept	6,000	3,000.00
Interest	0	0.00
Total	6,000	3,000.00
Ordinary Expenses		
Salary (including PAYE)	2,184	364.00
Admin expenses (A)	500	286.84
Insurance (I)	470	476.51
Audit	0	0.00
Legal/Accountancy (LA)	300	100.00
Subscriptions (HAPTC) (S)	250	246.94
Training (T)	120	0.00
Village Hall	800	0.00
Contingencies	0	0.00
Election allowance 2015	0	0.00
Playground (P)	600	0.00
Website (W)	100	0.00
Repairs/maintenance (RM)	600	0.00
VETS Annual	100	100.00
Total	6,024	1,501.49
BALANCE	-24.00	1,498.51

last modified 15 May 2017

Clerk's Report May 2017

The council will be seeking an internal auditor for next year. Alan Herbert has served the parish in this capacity for a number of years, with thanks. Interested persons, please contact the clerk.

The clerk will be taking annual leave from the 25th June through the 9th July 2017.

Correspondence

(details available or can be emailed)

1. East Herts Council
 - Planning notices
 - Flytipping Press Release (18 Apr)
 - East Herts Community Transport Conference 19 May (26 Apr)

2. HAPTC
 - Bulletin 13th March
 - National Living Wage (17 Mar)
 - Bulletin 24th March
 - Bulletin 3rd April
 - Bulletin 12th April
 - Bulletin 28th April
 - Bulletin 11th May

3. Herts County Council
 - Partnership Meeting – 3 July (10 Mar)

4. Hertfordshire Constabulary
 - March crime stats (24 Apr)

5. Other
 - P3 Grant Scheme (10 Mar)
 - CVS Transport Conference 19th May (17 Mar)