

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.30 PM

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

Officer attending Marty Kilby (Clerk and RFO)

Present: 11 Parishioners

### APOLOGIES

13.50 Cllr Ken Crofton

### MINUTES OF MEETING

13.51 The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting and the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 17 July 2013 were signed as a correct record.

### MATTERS ARISING NOT ON AGENDA

#### 13.52 Luton Airport

Cllr Vincent reported on the current planning stage for Luton Airport. No date has yet been given for the application to go to the committee, so letters have not yet been sent because of ensuring correct timing. Cllr Vincent will liaise with the appropriate bodies.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

13.53 Nothing to report that was not already covered on the agenda.

### FINANCE

#### 13.54 Finance report and cheques

The following cheques were approved:

591	Wrights Mowers	£409.00	New mower
592	D Beasley	£223.60	Litter picking Aug-Sept
593	BDO LLB	£36.00	External Audit
594	EHDC	£55.86	Annual playground inspection
595	M Kilby	£39.69	Expenses Aug-Sept 2013
596	HMRC	£72.60	PAYE July Aug Sept 2013
597	M Kilby	£193.60	Clerk salary Aug-Sept

#### 13.55 Audit Report

BDO LLB, external auditors, had concluded the audit for Ardeley and signed off the returns as correct.

### PLANNING

#### 13.56 3/13/1347/FP - Park Cottage, Ardeley

##### Double garage, log store, home office

No objections

#### 13.57 3/13/1429/FP - Park Cottage, Ardeley

##### Construction of manege

There were no objections generally but Cllr Cleverly understood to speak with neighbours and let the Clerk know if there were are objections or concerns, which the Clerk would pass to EHC.

#### 13.58 3/13/1429/FP - The Close, Ardeley

##### Stable block and arena

No objections

#### 13.59 3/1415/LP - Lime Tree Farm, Cromer

##### Replacement of existing windows

No objections

### 13.60 **Neighbourhood Plan**

Details of the Buntingford Neighbourhood plan were noted and it was agreed to consider the implications of neighbourhood planning and have this as an agenda item at the next meeting.

## **HIGHWAYS**

### 13.61 **Drive Safe Campaign - Speed Cameras in Cromer**

Cllr Jim Egginton gave an update on the use of volunteers to operate hand held speed cameras in Cromer. A site had been identified and a list of volunteers has been compiled. The lead volunteers need to be IT literate and after 'vetting' by the Police then training will be given by the Police in October. Agreed that Cllr Jim Egginton will take this forward,

### 13.62 **Flashing Speed Signs**

CC Ken Crofton had reported that he will be happy to support and fund the provision of such signs, including the cost of electricity, the cost of metering, and the cost of the purchase of the equipment as long as Cromer parishioners were in favour. The placement of the signs would be subject to Traffic Management support and might be between Cromer Hall and Cromer Bungalow.

The Parish Council supported this move subject to being funded completely by CCllr Crofton, and would consider placement, and also would want the views of affected residents who would need to be content with the identified site.

### 13.63 **Signs and Road Markings in Cromer**

Ringway has now said that funding was not available. CCllr Ken Crofton is not content with this sudden withdrawal of funding and will be pursuing the matter with Hertfordshire Highways/Ringway.

### 13.64 **Temporary Closure of road from Cromer to Wood End**

It was noted that when this maintenance work was carried out that particular attention will be given to the drainage problems in Moor Green.

### 13.65 **Lodge Hill - felled timber**

The lopped tree branches were still on the verge at Lodge Hill. Cllr Bob Vincent to give the exact location to the clerk.

## **PLAYGROUND**

### 13.66 **Annual Inspection Report**

The inspection report had been received. Only minor faults were noted among which were loose/missing bolts on the newly installed equipment. Clerk to contact Sovereign Leisure and ask them to rectify any problems.

### 13.67 **Bryony in Hedge**

A report had been received that Bryony was growing in the hedge, the berries of which are toxic. Cllr Jim Egginton had removed the berries and will spot spray in June 2014.

## **VILLAGE POND**

### 13.68. **Sycamore seedlings/whips**

Sycamores had sprouted up and were swamping the other plants put in by Countryside Alliance. Clerk to inform Malcolm Amey that arrangements are being made for the removal of the whips. Weeds are encroaching on the pond and Cllr Bob Vincent kindly undertook to clear this during the winter months.

## **CHURCH FARM**

(Cllr Adrian Waygood declared an interest in this agenda item and took no part in the discussions)

### 13.69 **Signs**

In March the Parish Council had agreed that they had no objection to the one moveable sign in Ardeley (at Cromer road junction) or the one sign in Cottered at the Blind Lane junction with the Cottered road. Cllr Jim Egginton said that the signs had increased to three at one point, though there were only the two now. Cllr Jim Egginton said he had receive a complaint from a parishioner who wished to remain anonymous. After discussion it was agreed that the two current signs were not a problem and that any complainants must give their names to Council (though not necessarily in public session).

### 13.70 **Litter**

Cllr Vincent reported that there were litter problems arising from the camping activities at Church Farm. A refuse sack of litter had been left by the roadside, problems had been experienced due to village litter bins being overfilled and surplus sacks being deposited at the side and a considerable number of sacks being put in a skip close to Church Farm entrance. Cllr Vincent requested that Church Farm be asked to provide facilities for campers to dispose of their refuse before leaving the site.

*From the floor Mr Tim Waygood (Church Farm) stated the current policy was to require campers to take their litter off site, but that full rubbish disposal facilities including a skip were located at the Farm for all farm visitors and campers. He also offered to clear all rubbish from the village on a regular basis.*

After discussion councillors noted the response and that Church Farm asked to be informed if there were any litter problems at all within the village in order that Church Farm can remove any litter from whatever source.

#### **NOTICEBOARDS**

##### **13.71 Parish Council Noticeboards**

Cllr Vincent reported he had put a new backing on the notice board on the school corner. Agreed clerk to get prices for replacement notice boards at the Village Hall and also on the school corner.

#### **TELEPHONE BOX**

13.72 A parishioner had proposed to convert the phone box into a book swap, or something similar. BT had said that to disconnect the electricity would cost £500. Clerk to ascertain from BT the precise costing and any other issues relating to the box including whether the Parish Council can undertake maintenance work including weatherproofing and repainting

#### **CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

13.73 Before the meeting and noted.

##### **13.74 Salt provision**

Letter received from EHDC asking for winter salt provision requirements. Clerk to ask for 34 bags of 25kg to be delivered to Church Farm in the first instance.

#### **URGENT MATTERS**

##### **13.75 The Goose, Moor Green**

Owners of The Goose had asked for permission to erect a fence on land administered by the Parish Council in order to protect children from passing traffic. Clerk to take advice from the Council's solicitor regarding the siting of the fence and easement considerations.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 25 November 2013 at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Dave Basley to be asked if there are any litter 'hot spots' in the parish.
2. The Goose - Fence. Concern expressed that if a fence is erected on Council land outside the Goose, then will this set a precedent for landowners requesting easements to erect fences on Council land.
3. Cllr Egginton (with Gordon Terry) volunteered to take a poll of Cromer village about whether parishioners would like flashing slow down signs and if so, where they should be located.

The public session closed at 9.25 pm.