

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 17 JULY 2013 AT 7.30 PM

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

Officer attending Marty Kilby (Clerk and RFO)

Present: 11 Parishioners

APOLOGIES

13.29 Cllr David Cleverly; CCllr Ken Crofton

MINUTES OF MEETING

13.30 The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting and the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20 May 2013 were signed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING NOT ON AGENDA

13.31 Luton Airport

Cllr Vincent reported on the current planning stage for Luton Airport. It was noted that the planning application did not take full note of the effect of the knock-on effect on neighbouring areas, particularly regarding over-flying. It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to Central Government asking that the application be called in and any decision made by Central Government rather than the Local Authority, and also that all implications on neighbouring areas should be considered. Cllr Vincent agreed to draft a letter and pass it to the Clerk for sending on.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

FINANCE

13.33 Finance report and cheques

The Parish Council is now registered for PAYE to comply with the new rules demanded by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC). The monthly amount is £121 before tax. Tax payable is £24.20. The pay is every two months, so the previous payments to the Clerk have been for £242. From 1 April 2013 these two monthly payments will be £193.60 to the Clerk, and £48.40 to HMRC (meaning the cost to the Council remains unchanged at £242 every 2 months). Because tax has not been deducted for April and May, this tax will be deducted from the June-July payment to the clerk, as well as the tax due for June. This will mean that the Parish Council will need to pay £72.60 to HMRC for the period ending 30 June 2013. A cheque for this amount is included in the payments for July. Payments to HMRC have to be made at 3 monthly intervals, whereas the Parish Council meetings every 2 months. So some payments will have to be allocated in advance. The dates that HMRC need returns are the 19th of July, October, January, and April.

The following cheques were approved:

585	Sovereign Play deposit	£438.31	New play equipment
586	Sovereign Play final	£1,753.25	New play equipment
587	D Beasley	£223.60	Litter picking June-July
588	M Kilby	£61.00	Expenses June-July 2013
589	HMRC	£72.60	PAYE April-May-June
590	M Kilby	£145.20	Clerk salary June-July

13.34 Litter Payment

The litter grant for 2013-2014 had been received in the sum of £1341.60. This sum would be paid to the litter picker for work over the next 12 months.

13.35 Ardeley Leisure Club

Ardeley Leisure Club started in 2004 following the closure of the Over 60s club. It is a social walking club, open to everyone. Membership numbers between 22 and 30 people with visiting members. Membership comprises of retired people, people working from home, and sometimes mothers with babies. The club

meets twice per month and has three walks (1, 3, and 5 miles) to suit all abilities. Membership is £10 per year and £1 for visitors. The subscription doesn't cover costs of the village hall contribution or providing refreshments, but an increase in fees would discourage the most needy members. The Ardeley Leisure Club provides regular exercise and most importantly friendship and social intercourse.

The Leisure Club is applying for a grant from East Herts Small Community Grants, and is seeking an endorsement letter from the Parish Council for this application. Any funding from the Parish Council would be gratefully received.

After discussion it was agreed to write a letter to East Herts District Council supporting the Ardeley Leisure Club. The Clerk to liaise with the Leisure Club Chairman to agree the wording of the endorsement. It was regretted that this year there were no funds available.

PLANNING

13.36 3/13/0844/LB - Rose Cottage, Cromer

Replace cement render with lime render, rebuild upper chimney

No objections

13.37 3/13/1036/FP - Cromer Hall, Cromer

Extension to garage building and link to thatched stable

Because this was a larger application the plans had been circulated beforehand. No objections

13.38 3/13/1188/LB - Sandfords, Wood End

Demolish outbuilding replace with disabled toilet and wetroom plus glazed link

No objections

HIGHWAYS

13.39 Signage and Road Markings

Ringway had said on 5 July that they would carry out this work under the Route Strategies Budget, but no date had been given. During the public session at the end of the meeting it was agreed that not only would Cllr Egginton follow up the request with Ringways, but that the Clerk would contact CC Ken Crofton asking for his help and requesting that if the funding was not found from the Route Strategies Budget, then the Parish Council would ask that this be funded from the Cllrs Locality Budget. It was understood that the total cost was in the region of £200-£300.

13.40. Speed Cameras

Cllr Egginton had contacted Sgt Duncan Wallis who advised that Cromer residents needed a petition highlighting concerns about speeding in the village and also the names of at least 3 volunteers willing to be trained to handle the equipment and carry out the speeding surveys. Cllr Egginton had set up the petition and obtained the necessary names. It was agreed Cllr Egginton would take this forward and submit the petition to the Police.

Later in the meeting it was noted that an email from a parishioner had been received advocating that the solution to the problem of speeding was enforcement, regular speed traps, and preferably fixed speed cameras. The Clerk was asked to write to the parishioner assuring him that his concerns had been raised and discussed.

13.41 Temporary Closure of Mill Lane

Noted Mill Lane would be closed from its junction with the B1037 south eastwards to junction with Blind Lane some time between 1 August - 9 August 2013 for tree cutting works.

13.42 Temporary Closure of A507 Buntingford to Baldock

Noted the A507 would be closed in parts at differing times between Buntingford to Baldock at some time during the period 17 July 2013 to 14 January 2014 for road surface repairs.

13.43 Temporary Closure of road from Cromer to Wood End

Ringway had notified the Clerk that the road from the 1037 (Cromer) to Wood End - Mentley Lane, would be closed at various times in various sections over the next eighteen months to deal with problems on the road including flooring issues on Lodge Hill from Ardeley down to Cromer, and the bends along the road from Ardeley to Wood End. Blocked gulleys were a problem. The Clerk to contact Ringways and ask that the mount of rubble and detritus near the Armco barrier along Lodge Hill be removed.

RIGHTS OF WAY**13.44 HCC Ardeley 34 - Diversion Order 2013**

Noted that the Diversion Order has been made and relates to the footpath running from TL3117 2710 (point A on the Order Plan) at the public highway north east for 35 metres to the field boundary at TL 3119 2712 (point B on the Order plan) onto a new line commencing TL 3115 2711 (point C on the Order Plan) at the public highway north along track beside western boundary of Chirchfield to TL 3116 2714 (point D on the Order plan) then south east on northern boundary of Chirchfield for 40 metres to footpath 34 at TL 3119 2712 (point B on the Order Plan).

PLAYGROUND REPAIRS**13.45 Replacement equipment**

The replacement activity equipment had been fitted and was now in use.

GRASSCUTTING MOWER**13.46 Purchase of new mower**

The existing walk-behind mower was more than 20 years old and needed replacement. The mower was used for cutting round the play equipment, the churchyard and the memorial garden, where the ride on mower was unable to access. Eight prices had been obtained for replacement mowers and it was resolved to purchase the 18" AL-KO 470 BR Premium from Wrights Mowers at £409 which included VAT. Cllr Paul Andrews agreed to organise the purchase and delivery.

STANDING ORDERS**13.47 Adoption of Standing Orders**

The model standing orders had been discussed and circulated for some 4 months. It was proposed to adopt the Model Standing Orders, and after a vote with 4 in favour and 1 against (Cllr James Egginton objecting to the adoption) it was

Resolved: To adopt the Model Standing Orders

NOTICEBOARDS**13.48 Parish Council Noticeboards**

It was suggested that the noticeboard on the green to the south of the village hall be removed and the noticeboards on the wall of the village hall be removed and a larger board affixed which could take more notices for the vparish council and village interest. Concern was expressed that the village hall was a listed building and the change of notice boards might not be automatic. Preference was expressed that the parish council notices and village notices be kept separate, where possible. Agreed that the Chairman would ask the Village Hall Committee if a bigger notice board on the wall of the village hall wa something that the committee might support. Cllr Robert Vincent committed himself to refurbishing the current parish council board on the green to the south of the hall before the next parish council meeting. It was noted that a grant for any improvements or replacements of notice boards might be obtainable from the District and this would be pursued. Costs of any work entailed to be given to the clerk by Cllr Vincent and Cllr Young before any grants could be applied for.

CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

13.49 Before the meeting and noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 16 September 2013 at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed _____

Date _____

PUBLIC SESSION

A number of parishioners expressed concern about speeding through Cromer. Suggestions were made that the funding of the previously suggested signs and road markings in Cromer could be funded from the County Councillor's Locality Budget, and the Clerk to add these comments to the letter to CC Crofton previously agreed.

It was stated that the Police operated any cameras in the quieter parts of the day, early afternoon, and it was suggested that the Clerk should write to Hertfordshire Constabulary suggesting that speed cameras might be better operated during rush hour times.

Noted that the school bus picked up children from the bottom of the driveway to Whipsiderry rather than Buckles and that often cars overtook the parked bus at too great a speed.

The subject of speeding to be on the next parish council agenda.

The public session closed at 8.50 pm.