

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2014 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

14.127 The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 September 2014 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

FINANCE

14.129 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 following payments were approved:

631	M Kilby	£193.60	Clerk salary October-November 2014
632	D Beasley	£239.04	Litter picking October-November 2014
633	M Kilby	£22.66	Expenses October-November 2014
634	BT	£1.00	Purchase of phone box
635	Giles Scrivener	£60.00	Hedgecutting recreation ground and hedges

14.130 Village Hall notice board

An estimate for the renovation of the existing notice board at approximately £120, plus making another notice board to match the existing at £300 had been received. The total cost will be in the region of £600. Cllr Ken Crofton had allocated a maximum of £1,000 towards the cost. Cllr Bob Vincent said he would let the clerk know the final cost by 27th November. Clerk to confirm with Cllr Crofton so he could finalise his budget. Cllr Jim Egginton asked that it be recorded that the WI had spoken with him and said they thought the current notice board was an eyesore.

14.131 Budget for Precept

A draft budget was before the meeting. Agreed to finalise budget at the January meeting so the precept may be set for 2015-2016.

PLANNING

14.132 Current planning applications

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

14.133 Planning outcomes

3/13/1347/FP – Park Cottage, Ardeley

Double garage, log store, home office - **Approved**

14.134 District and Neighbourhood Plans

Possible location of traveller sites within East Herts District had been suggested by EHD advisors. No final decision had been reached.

HIGHWAYS

14.135 Ardeley Brook and River Beane

The recent rains had caused the roads to flood with surface water at Ashtree Corner in Ardeley. It was noted that the Environment Agency had said that any clearing of watercourses was the responsibility of the landowner. Ardeley Brook was overgrown by vegetation it was considered that clearing this could help. The landowners either side on Lodge Hill were Highways and the local farmer and the clerk to ask again from both landowners if the Brook could be cleared of vegetation and silt. CCllr Ken Crofton to be copied in.

14.136 – Cromer B1037

Cllr Jim Egginton reported that he had received complainants that the surface water running down the B1037 contained sewage. Cllr Egginton to advise the complainants to contact EHC environment directly. Noted that the surface water drains along Cromer road B1037 had been cleared and that particular problem appeared to have been overcome.

14.137 – Luffenhall

The road at the southern end of Luffenhall outside Barker Turkey Farm flooded at regular intervals. The road was within East Herts, but the properties were in North Herts. Agreed to inform Highways that the road from Luffenhall to Cromer is impassable during heavy rain, and to ask what suggestions they have for resolving the problems.

14.138 Ditches along C14 – Ardeley to Wood End

Highways (Ringway) had cleared a number of ditches either side of this road. Parishioners had reported that the part of the ditch that ran under the gateway/entrance to Moorwood House was not piped, and therefore flooding took place at that spot. It was further commented that the landowners of the southern drains at Wood End appeared to have not yet cleared their ditches.

14.139 DriveSafe Update

Cllr Jim Egginton reported that traffic speed recorders were happening approximately once a month. Speeding had not changed, about one third of vehicles travelling through Cromer exceeded the speed limit. It was noted that in Hertfordshire drivers did not get any penalties. The letter issued from the DriveSafe scheme was simply a letter from the police, it was not a caution nor could it be used in evidence. The decision for this ruling was made by the Police Commissioner for Hertfordshire.

14.140 Armco Barrier

The Armco barrier at the bottom of Lodge Hill had been removed.

RIGHTS OF WAY

14.141 Proposed Diversion of Footpath 35

The owners of Gardeners Farm, Ardeley, have applied to HCC for the diversion of part of Footpath 35 Ardeley. A full statement had been received from the applicants which was read to the Council.

Resolved: To suspend Standing Orders and open the meeting for representations to be made by the public.

The applicant gave verbal reasons for the application for diversion.

Resolved To resume Standing Orders

During discussion it was agreed and noted that every application for diversions of rights of way should be taken as individual cases and no decision would create a precedent for any other further application wherever this occurred in the parish.

After a full discussion it was agreed by a majority decision that:

Resolved Ardeley Parish Council have no objections to the proposed diversion of part of Footpath No. 35 Ardeley as identified in the letter and papers received from Birketts LLP dated 25 September 2015.

14.142 – Shed on BOAT 4

Agreed to remove the tin shed that currently was erected on Boat 4 near The Crescent and School Lane. Agreed to ask Giles Scrivener for a quote to dismantle and dispose of this shed. HCC Julian Thornton had agreed and suggested that it be removed.

DEFIBRILLATOR

14.143 Agreed to purchase the telephone box from BT for the sum of £1, and allow this box to become a Community Defibrillator station. The contract was agreed and would be signed after the meeting. The purchase of the defibrillator would be handled through the Community Heartbeat Trust scheme and the registration would be completed after the meeting. Cllr Ken Crofton had generously agreed to donate £500 towards this £2,000 cost. Cllr Ken Crofton had also donated a further £75 that had been collected during his charity stint as Landlord of The Jolly Waggoners in October and the Council gave much thanks for this. At least 10 volunteers were needed and clerk to ask for help in the parish magazine and on the website. Cllr Jim Egginton said he was a registered first aider, and it was noted that Jacqui Waygood who had initiated the original suggestion was also medically qualified.

PLAY EQUIPMENT

14.144 The clerk to obtain quotes for the replacement of the swing chains.

VILLAGE HALL

14.145 The Parish Council annual grant of £800 for general upkeep to the Village Hall to be signed at the January parish council meeting.

The next Village Hall meeting was on Thursday 27 November when the possibility of installing an induction loop will be discussed by the Village Hall Committee.

CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

14.146 The Clerk's report and correspondence list was before the meeting and noted.

MATTERS RECEIVED AFTER THE ISSUE OF THE AGENDA**14.147 Herts Parish Conference**

Councillor Jim Egginton gave a full report on the recent Hertfordshire Parish Conference meeting. Issues discussed were fly posting A boards, overhanging vegetation, Highways matters including possible service standards being piloted when Highways fail to report back, Highways risk Assessments, Conflicts on hedges next to highways. Cllr Egginton agreed to send a summary of his report to the clerk for circulation to councillors.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 12 January 2015 – 7.30 pm Ardeley Village Hall.

Because 2015 is an election year, there is a legally limited time for the first meeting after the elections on 7 May 2015. Therefore it was agreed that the May 2015 meeting would be held on Monday 18th May 2015. This meeting would also include all the annual meetings.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed _____

Date _____