

MINUTES OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ARDELEY VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 9 MAY 2016 AT 7.15 PM

Councillors: David Young (Chairman) James Egginton
Paul Andrews Tim Noble
Andrew Cannon Adrian Waygood

Ken Crofton (County and District Councillor)

Officer attending Aimee Lauezzari (Clerk and RFO)
Present: 4 member of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

MINUTES OF MEETING

16.012 The minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2016 were signed as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

16.013 The Chairman reported that the new notice board has been collected and the Chairman will arrange to have it put up outside the Village Hall.

FINANCE**16.014 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.

16.015 Bank Mandate

The clerk reported progress in changes to the bank mandate. Information from Cllrs Young and Andrews were accepted by Barclays. Additional forms are now needed to add the clerk as authorised person on the accounts and to receive communications from Barclays; to add Cllrs Noble and Cannon; and to remove former Cllr R Waygood. Forms were signed. Cllrs Noble and Cannon to return personal detail forms to the clerk, at which time all forms will be posted to Barclays.

16.016 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.

16.017 Hedgecutting

RESOLVED: Council will receive a second quote for hedgecutting from Moor Green to Wood End and will accept the lower of the two quotes.

16.018 Electronic Payments

Council discussed options for sending money or paying for purchases other than with a cheque, with reminder the council's financial regulations call for two signatures for payments and payments not to be authorised by the clerk. Council agreed that Cllr Noble would approach Barclays about options. It was noted that the clerk was booked for a financial training course 11 May at HAPTC.

PLANNING**16.019 Current planning applications**

The planning list was before the meeting and noted.

16.020 Cherry Park Ardeley

Council had no objections.

16.021 2 Sunnyside Wood End

Council had no objections.

16.022 Bury Grange Ardeley, appeal

Council had no objections.

16.023 Cottage White Hill Cromer

Council had no objections.

HIGHWAYS**16.024 Drive Safe Update**

Cllrs Egginton and Cannon reported that two recent sessions found 25-30% of motorists were exceeding 36 mph. The procedure for reporting those exceeding 36 mph is now automated, councillors forward a list to Drive Safe admin and the letters are produced. Andrew has talked to new PCSO, Karen Broad, about keeping the speed check equipment and sharing access with Walkern, as Cromer and Walkern are the only communities using this equipment.

Cllr Cannon was aware of a grant that could be used for an electronic speed feedback sign offered by the Police and Crime Commissioner, but the most recent deadline has passed. Cllr Cannon agreed to follow up on future application openings, as Cllr Crofton (HCC and EHDC) stated that there are now solar powered signs that are more practical for areas like Cromer, and that communities are being encouraged to install them. Cllr Crofton encouraged the council to find the funding and pledged to assist as he is able.

16.025 Cromer Drains

It was reported that the drains have been cleared and inspected with a CCTV camera to determine if more work is needed. The results from this investigation are not yet known, but Cllrs Egginton and Cannon reported there are still undesirable smells along the roadway, possibly septic drainage tank leakage into road drains.

16.026 Flooding along C14 (Cromer to Ardeley)

Following a discussion of the responses Sir Oliver Heald forwarded from the Environment Agency and Ringway, it was understood that while there is now some clarity as to responsibility for the waterways and flood management, neither agency is willing to commence work on an area where flooding is not affecting properties. Cllr Crofton further clarified that Hertfordshire County Council is the lead flood risk authority, in title, but without power. In addition to the inconvenience of the flooding itself, council also expressed concern for the condition of the roadway as a result of repeated flooding. Council agreed that the clerk is to respond to Sir Oliver Heald with thanks for his efforts, and to contact HCC Highways about the deterioration of the road, due to repeated flooding.

RIGHTS OF WAY**16.027 Benches for BOAT 10 picnic area**

The clerk reported the benches have been ordered and will be installed by volunteers.

16.028 Proposed Diversion of FP26

After discussion of the correspondence received from Helen Denton at HCC and the solicitor for the land owner, and the legal points of objection, including invited comments from members of the public present at the meeting, the Chairman proposed that the council withdraw its objection and the proposal passed 5-1 in favour of withdrawing the objection.

RESOLVED: Council to withdraw its objection to the diversion of FP26

RECREATION GROUND**16.029 Repairs to play equipment**

Cllr Cannon reported that he and his son inspected the playground repairs and found it to be to a high standard.

PROPOSED BOOKSWAP (renamed from MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE)

16.030 Further to the proposal of a book swap in the Village Hall, Ardeley Leisure Club is proposing to put a screen in place over the books on the shelves, to eliminate the hazard of possible falling books and therefore, also, the need for insurance. The proposed bookswap would be overseen by Cllr Egginton and Rita Beasley, member of a local book club. While there was correspondence that indicated permission from the Village Hall committee, they have not met, and so it was agreed to wait to hear from the Village Hall committee meeting before proceeding.

TRANSPARENCY**16.031 News and announcements on website and in the Ardeley Forum**

Council agreed that a summary of meeting news and items are to be submitted to the Forum and added to the website following meetings. Cllr Egginton asked for better maps on the website to clearly define the Ardeley parish boundaries. Cllr Egginton agreed to work with the clerk to find new maps and update the website, perhaps with detail maps of each village in the parish, along with the complete parish map.

16.032 Transparency Grant Spending

Council agreed to purchase of computer and printer/scanner, and to apply for further grant money for software for the computer.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S REPORT

16.033 The correspondence was noted and the report is an appendix to these minutes. Clerk was encouraged to post flyers from Herts & Essex Air Ambulance, as received by Council.

URGENT MATTERS NOT PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED

16.034 Chairman presented a summary of correspondence from a parishioner. The parishioner raised the question of appropriate planning permission and raised concerns about the varied activities at Church Farm Ardeley. Cllr Waygood left the meeting, and it was noted that the clerk is employed by Church Farm Ardeley.

Cllr Crofton was asked to comment, and shared that the matter is before the planning office as other complaints have been received. Most complaints are expressing concern about the scope and range of activities at the farm, including traffic, music, and other businesses. Cllr Crofton confirmed that a planning officer has visited Church Farm and a meeting between East Herts CC and Church Farm is being arranged.

Council agreed to put this on the agenda for July and wait for any further news from planning.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 18 July 2016 at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8:25 pm

Signed _____

Date _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Noted in 16.028

APPENDIX TO MINUTES OF 9 MAY 2016

PAYMENTS – 9 MAY 2016

£291.20	Clerk's salary (2 months)	A Lauezzari
£30.61	Clerk's expenses (2 months)	A Lauezzari
£182.00	PAYE 10-12	HMRC
£275.67	HAPTC	Annual subscription and clerk's training
£465.86	Aon	Insurance renewal
£231.42	Litter picking	D Beasley
£120.00	Accountancy service	Carol Willis
£1278.00	Playground repairs	Broadmead Leisure Limited
£1057.58	Benches for BOAT 10	Glasdon UK Limited
£420.00	Village Hall notice boards	R Foxcroft