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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ARDELEY PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.30 pm in the village hall.**

Councillors present: Cllr Adrian Waygood, Chairman  
Cllr Stuart Norman, Vice Chairman  
Cllr Jim Egginton  
Cllr Simon Peace  
Cllr Tim Noble  
Cllr Jackie York

Officer attending: Lorna Ewen, Clerk

Others present: 1 member of the public

**24.38 Apologies for absence:** None.

**24.39 Declarations of interest:** None.

**24.40 To receive the minutes of the last meeting** held 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Proposed by Cllr Waygood as a correct record, seconded by Cllr Peace and approved unanimously with the exception of Cllr Norman who was not at that meeting.

**24.41 Matters arising:** An update about the Village Hall since the fire, from Cllr Peace: The insurance claim will be paid within the next fortnight. The hall has been cleaned and painted and fireplace will be improved. New electricity sockets have been installed. The ovens have been removed by the school and replaced. New curtains and new lampshades will be purchased. Cllr Peace has taken over as treasurer from Mr David Young who has held the post for 43 years. Mrs Marion Young and Mrs Joy Dawson have also retired from the committee. The council expressed its gratitude to all of them for their efforts over the years and also thanked Mrs Jackie Hayward and Mrs Aimee Lauezzari for their recent input.

**24.42 Correspondence:** East Herts District Council Village Hierarchy Study has produced a profile of the village and comments are invited, especially as to whether each service or accessibility provision has been correctly identified. Comments regarding Ardeley, to be forwarded to the Study, were agreed as follows:

The farm shop is not a convenience store, but a farm shop selling fresh food. The barber's shop has moved to Walkern. Church Farm is an employment provider. There is no car servicing garage. There is a children's play area.

**24.43 Financial report** and cheques for approval: Proposed by Cllr Peace, seconded by Cllr Waygood and approved unanimously. The BACS form for the payment for the wayleave over Moor Green was signed off by Cllr Waygood.

**24.44 Planning:** To consider current planning applications. None.

**24.45 Highways:** 1) To propose second speed indicator in Cromer and consider funding.

Cllr Egginton has applied for grants but has not been successful, being the end of the financial year, and the Police and Crime Commissioner has only just been elected. Cllr Egginton has carried out 3 drive-thru sessions and drivers are speeding in one direction which is down the hill.

Proposed by Cllr Norman, seconded by Cllr Egginton: This council agrees to spend up to two thirds towards the cost of an additional speed camera, conditional upon donations for the rest. Carried with 5 in favour and 1 abstention.

Proposed by Cllr Norman and seconded by Cllr Egginton: That a letter be sent to all houses in Cromer and Luffenhall asking for donations towards the new speed indicator, the wording to be agreed. Carried 5 in favour, 1 abstention.

2) Horse rider warning signs: Mr Natt had written asking that 10 signs be requested for the parish. Proposed by Cllr Peace, seconded by Cllr Waygood: The chances of obtaining 10 signs at £600 per sign is highly improbable and therefore this council will not pursue this further. Carried with 5 in favour and 1 abstention.

**24.46 Ardeley:** 1) Litter collection report and update: Mrs Yates has reported that the bin outside the phone box needs to be emptied more than once a week. Cllr Waygood is aware of this and is campaigning for a bin that is double the size of the present one and urges villagers to report problems. Cllr Waygood is also opposing the proposed complete removal of the bin outside the village hall and has raised this with Cllr Tim Hoskin who concurs.

2) Playground: There had been a report of damage to the playground gate; Cllrs Waygood and Peace will look at it to assess it. No action required as a result of the March inspection report.

3) Telephone box repairs and library box: update. Cllr Peace said that further leaks in the library box had been reported. The telephone box door will be removed and repainted shortly.

**24.47 Parish council land:** 1) Leaning tree at Wood End: A quotation to be obtained from a tree surgeon to make this safe. Carried unanimously. Cllr Noble to speak to Mr Oakley.

2) Tree risk assessment process: Cllr Noble had approached an Arboricultural Consultant about a tree survey. It would be a long process entering the trees on a computerised mapping system. The cost of this would be out of proportion with the current precept. The council already responds to parishioners' concerns about any dangerous trees and takes swift action.

Cllr Waygood proposed that the council raises awareness in the parish for reporting dangerous trees for the council to deal with. Seconded by Cllr Peace and resolved unanimously.

**24.48 Neighbourhood Policing Priorities April Meeting:** Cllr York had attended this meeting and reported that speeding, car thefts, fly tipping and the use of anti-social vehicles had been selected by the police for attention. Cllr York had raised the problem of speeding in Cromer but was told that the police do not receive many complaints and there is a serious lack of police resources.

**24.49 Urgent matters not previously notified: Community Governance Review.** A report will be going to Full Council at East Herts on 24 July 2024 to ask for approval to start the review and parish councils will then be approached to submit comments and proposals.

Proposed by Cllr Peace, seconded by Cllr Waygood: The residents of Luffenhall currently located in Clothall civil parish to be approached to ask their views on being included within Ardeley civil parish. Resolved unanimously.

**24.50 Date of next meeting:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Public Participation: It was suggested that the council's insurance policy be checked to see if there is any requirement for a regular review of the condition of the trees on council land. Ardeley Parish Council has no power to resolve road issues. Councillors can only talk to the Highways Department to highlight problems.