

Ardleigh Parish Council

Hello from your Parish Council! See below for a quick overview of current activities. Full details of the services provided by our Parish Council, meeting agendas and minutes plus contact details and campaign updates are available on our website www.ardleigh.website.

Our former Essex County Councillor, Cllr Carlo Guglielmi stood down at the election earlier this month. He has been instrumental in many projects over the years and the Parish Council would like to thank him for his longstanding support for Ardleigh.

We welcome our newly elected Essex County Councillor, Cllr Pat Murray, and look forward to working with him in the future.

Infrastructure Projects and Planning

- The Norwich to Tilbury project and related windfarm and substation proposals remain a major concern for Ardleigh. Hearings began in February and continued with further Issue Specific Hearings in late April. Ardleigh and Little Bromley Parish Councils have been represented throughout, both in person and online, alongside Tendring District Council and Essex County Council. Our barrister, Simon Bell, was appointed to attend key hearings in person alongside Councillor representatives.
- Our Planning Infrastructure Working Group, made up of Councillors and members of the public and working closely with Little Bromley Parish Council, continues to review large volumes of technical material and prepare responses. Recent work has included submissions on National Grid documents, responses to the Examining Authority's first written questions, and input on other major infrastructure consultations. Our consultation responses and submissions to the Examining Authority can be found here <https://ardleigh.website/pylons-and-substations>
- Thanks to generous public support we have continued to obtain legal and planning advice where needed. Legal representation from Simon Bell has now been formally confirmed for the next hearings, and the Council has also been working with planning consultants where appropriate. It remains possible to contribute <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/ardleigh-legal-fund-against-pylons-substations> or email legalfund@ardleigh-pc.gov.uk.
- The Flying Trade warehouse development at Old Ipswich Road and Wick Lane also remains under scrutiny. During March and April, the Council considered further applications and amendments linked to the scheme, sought additional time for consultation where needed, and agreed to continue taking legal and planning advice. Concerns include access arrangements, hedgerow removal and the wider planning implications of linked proposals.

- There is still no decision on the proposed asphalt plant close to the intended new Country Park at Crown Quarry. Our concerns include odour, traffic and environmental impact. If the Tendring District Council (TDC) planning officer recommends approval, the application will go to TDC's Planning Committee and is likely to be heard in July.
- Other strategic matters under review include the Anglian Water Ardleigh to Great Horkesley pipeline project, expected to commence in spring 2027, the Tarchon Interconnector Project, mineral planning applications where the Council intends to raise concerns about the cumulative effect on Ardleigh, and the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community planning application.
- We continue to review planning applications and comment to TDC, who is the decision maker. During March and April, the Council commented on a wide range of planning applications, including proposals for new dwellings, extensions, outline housing proposals, lawful development claims and tree works, continuing to refer where appropriate to Ardleigh's Neighbourhood Plan and Tendring District Council's Local Plan.

Highways & our Environs

- Essex Highways completed clearance work along the Colchester Road pavement, with thanks recorded for our former Essex County Councillor, Carlo Guglielmi, for his support in getting this done.
- Highways and anti-social driving issues were raised by residents. These included dangerous parking on Aveline Road and at the junction with Colchester Road. Residents, Councillors, our former Essex County Councillor and TDC's North Essex Parking Partnership representative met on site to work towards resolving this issue.
- Recurring car meets on Old Ipswich Road entailing noise and unacceptable driving behaviour received complaints. Councillors have been working with Essex County Council, Essex Police, the letting agent and the site landlord to press for action, and photographic and video evidence has been passed on. Measures are being implemented to prevent the car meets taking place.
- Residents are encouraged to report highways issues direct to Essex Highways <https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us>
- At the March meeting, a representative from SRC Group attended to explain works intended to capture landfill gas responsible for recent odours from Slough Lane. In April, further Environment Agency information was shared with Councillors, and a site visit has been offered so Councillors can better understand the position on the ground. Residents are still encouraged to keep reporting odour concerns.

Please keep reporting concerns to the Environment Agency

Phone: 03708 506 506 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm)

Email: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Online: <https://report-an-environmental-problem.service.gov.uk/>

Village Hall & Amenities

- A new licence has been prepared for Yellow Brick Rd Nursery Ltd at the Village Hall. They will begin providing Early Years care at the Hall from September 2026. New gas and electricity contracts for the Hall have been signed, and trustees continue to review ongoing Village Hall matters.
- Following consultation on the churchyard yew trees, the Parochial Church Council agreed to fund the removal of six trees near the lych gate, with replacement planting likely to be a hedge. The Parish Council agreed the PCC should seek planning permission so that Tendring's tree officer could formally review the proposed work. The related planning application was later shared on Council social media for residents' information.
- The new defibrillator has been fitted in the phone box on Colchester Road and registered with The Circuit. The Council has also bought waterproof cabinets for bleed kits so they can be made available with the village defibrillators. These will be installed in May.
- New litter and dog waste bins purchased using Section 106 funds have now been installed.
- Repairs to the Village Hall car park have now been completed and were funded by the Parish Council. The Village Hall and Recreation Ground car park are for users of these facilities, and for the Mill's long-term leaseholders. Those using the Hall, please park in the Hall car park, with overflow into the Recreation Ground car park if needed. Those using the Recreation Ground and Millennium Green please park in the Recreation Ground car park.

We kindly ask local residents and businesses not to use either car park while at home or work.

- The Council has agreed that Millennium Green play equipment should be included in annual Council play area inspections.
- Following the recent tree survey, contractors have carried out recommended tree works at Council sites including the Village Hall and cemetery.
- The Council decided not to run its own stall at the Family Fun Day on 27 June but continues to support arrangements where appropriate, including previously agreed Village Hall hire costs. Councillors will be present on the day to discuss future ideas for the community with residents.

Land for Community Use

- The proposed purchase of protected Local Green Space at Harwich Road is still under discussion. Following legal advice, the Council's current position is that any purchase should only proceed with vacant possession. Further discussions with the vendor are planned.

Vacancies

- The Council advertised a Facilities and Maintenance Officer vacancy and has appointed an Ardleigh resident to the post. We welcome Charlene Michaels to our Staffing Team.
- We continue to welcome interest from residents who may be considering becoming a Parish Councillor. www.bit.ly/Become-a-Councillor

How You Can Get Involved

- Join us! Whether it is litter picking, contributing to APACE activities, helping with community projects, volunteering with local initiatives or becoming a Councillor, we would love to hear from you.
- Our meetings remain open to all, with time for public participation at the start. The next scheduled meeting is the Parish Council Meeting on 8 June 2026 at 7pm in Ardleigh Village Hall, with a remote link available.
- Please note the start time for Parish Council meetings is 7pm at the Village Hall with Teams option. 2026 dates are – 8 June, 13 July, no meeting in August, 14 September, 12 October, 9 November and 14 December.

Contact us

Email: info@ardleigh-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.ardleigh.website

Tel: 01206 414989

Follow us: Facebook @ardleghpc Instagram @ardleighnp

Quick Links

Report a highways issue: www.essexhighways.org/tell-us

View planning applications: www.tendringdc.gov.uk/planning

Our website: www.ardleigh.website

Become a Councillor: www.bit.ly/Become-a-Councillor