

ARDLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14 MARCH 2016 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Cllr Barrott (Chairman),
Cllrs Talbot, Halsey, Scott-Barrett, Partridge, Brown, Smith, Thompson, Fryer and
Chase-Gardener (from 7.37pm)

IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public, County Councillor Guglielmi and Karen Thompson

298 **Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

299 **Apologies and reasons for absence**

Apologies had been received from District Cllr Stock.

300 **Declaration of Interests** - to receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests
relating to items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

301 **Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other
matters that are of mutual interest**

Two members of the public raised strong concerns about the proposed development of land off Wick Lane for 120 houses. They reported that they were representing many people from the village and that everyone is completely opposed to the proposal. CC Guglielmi advised that it is a speculative approach by Gladman Developments and confirmed that the company specialises in seeking residential planning permission in areas where the Local Planning Authority does not have a new Local Plan in place. CC Guglielmi advised that the site is not included in the emerging Local Plan. It was agreed that the proposal is unsustainable and that many of the claims made in the "public consultation" document are very generic, are inaccurate and in many cases, completely wrong. Queries were raised whether delivering a leaflet to households in the area of the site constitutes public consultation, especially as the company is not prepared to meet with local residents.

The Council agreed to support the objections of the residents to the proposal. CC Guglielmi reported that there had been no complaints of noise in connection with the music event at Little Rabbit Barn, but there had been some vandalism of vehicles.

CC Gulielmi asked for more information about FP49 so that he could pass the matter to ECC officers.

CC Guglielmi advised that the issues relating to HGV's speeding in convoy through the village and using weight restricted rural roads is a matter for Trading Standards to deal with. It was suggested that the four villages that are being affected by this problem get together and apply to the Local Highways Panel to have new signage put in place to emphasise the weight restrictions.

CC Gugliemli also reported on matters at ECC.

302 **Minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on 8th February, 2016**

The draft minutes of the meeting of 8th February, 2016 were agreed as a true and accurate account of the proceedings of the meetings.

303 **Matters arising**

303.1 Appointment of Parish Clerk

Cllr Chase-Gardener reported on the shortlisting and interviewing of the candidates for the position of Parish Clerk. Cllr Scott-Barrett raised concerns about how the matter had been brought to the Council and advised that he would have expected a written report and recommendation to have been issued to Councillors. It was agreed that such a report would be prepared and circulated. The recommendation of the interview panel (Cllr Halsey, Chase-Gardener and Barrott) was that Karen Thompson be appointed Parish Clerk, proposed Cllr Chase-Gardener and seconded Cllr Halsey and agreed unanimously. The Chairman welcomed Karen to the Council and reported that she had already been booked on two training courses.

303.2 Queens 90th Birthday Beacons – 21st April, 2016 at 7.30pm
Cllr Chase-Gardener confirmed the above arrangements.

303.3 Cllr Talbot reported on the meeting that had been held with the owner of The Mill about the condition of the top car-park. He agreed to provide a report on the meeting and advised that the owner of The Mill is to provide a specification and quotation for re-surfacing part of the car park. It was noted that the lease allows only 10 car parking spaces however the owner of The Mill is considering doubling up the cars in the area leased by the Council. Concern was expressed about the number of cars associated with The Mill that are using the top car park, restricting access to the area for people wanting to use the Recreation Ground facilities.

304 **Planning**

304.1 Leaflet from Gladman Development Ltd re proposed residential development of 120 dwellings at land off Wick Lane. It was agreed that there was nothing to be gained by meeting with Gladman Developments and that the Council would deal with the very strong objections to the proposal when the outline application is submitted. It was agreed that the response to Gladman Developments should refer to the fact that there are very strong and substantial objections to the proposal.

16/00263/FUL *Ardleigh Grange, Dedham Road, Ardleigh*
Single storey side extension forming kitchen, WC and boot room
Ardleigh Parish Council supports this application.

16/00275/FUL *Chancery Farm, Park Road, Ardleigh*
Spare parts container for use in connection with solar farm approved by 14/00408/FUL
Ardleigh Parish Council supports this application
It was noted however that the Parish Council has not always been consulted by TDC on applications to discharge planning conditions for this development and that verges have been damaged and not made good or adequately re-instated,

that there is mud on the road and that the construction hour deadlines are not being complied with by the developer.

16/00325/DETAIL *Land at Ingrams Piece, Ardleigh*
Variation of condition 1 of reserved matters application 15/01218/DEAIL to alter the approved materials.
Ardleigh Parish Council supports this application.

16/00111/FUL The Grange, Malting Farm Lane, Ardleigh
Single storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation and replacement of 2 roof lights with new pitched roof dormers
Ardleigh Parish Council supports this application

For info only:

16/00231/TELLIC *Side of 2 Clover Way, Ardleigh*
Installation of High Speed Broadband Cabinet

The Chairman advised Councillors of the fact that ECC's Replacement Waste Local Plan is currently out for public consultation, with consultation ending 14 April. Councillors were asked to review the Plan and to be prepared to discuss the proposals at the next meeting, to enable the Council's comments to be submitted.

Approval - Full:

16/00007/FUL *Morrowood Cottage, Morrow Lane, Ardleigh*
Turn existing dwelling into garage and to replace roof to increase the height (Variation of condition 6 of planning permission 14/00536/FUL)

15/01902/FUL *New Hall Lodge, Station Road, Ardleigh*
Proposed side extension

15/01803/FUL *The Bengal Diner, Fox Street, Ardleigh*
To clad existing container with shiplap wood and roof cover in wood and felt

Withdrawn:

16/00049/FUL *Land adjacent Cypress Cottage, Colchester Road, Ardleigh*
Proposed detached house

305

Churchyard and Cemetery

305.1 To receive reports on condition of area and identify any health and safety risks and consider any decisions for expenditure.
The risk assessments for the areas were received and reviewed. It was agreed that quotations are required for the works deemed to be "urgent" to ensure that where necessary, competitive quotations are obtained. It was noted that the "urgent" items could be carried out by the Council's next meeting

The council discussed what could be done about unauthorised floral displays, vases and other items that are on the graves in the section of the cemetery where only a headstone is permitted. It was agreed that allowing them to remain is setting an unwelcome precedent that others may well follow.
Proposed Cllr Chase-Gardener and seconded Cllr Talbot and agreed by all that

the unauthorised items should be removed and left for collection by the grave owners. Cllr Talbot agreed to assist the Council's contractor in this.

The Chairman suggested that the Regulations for the Cemetery be amended to include for taking a £250 deposit for every burial, to be refunded only once the grave had been levelled and turfed. It was agreed that the Regulations and fees should be reviewed at the next meeting.

305.2 Burial – Green plot B216

306 **Recreation, Play and Open spaces Colchester Road play area**

306.1 To receive reports on condition of area and identify any health and safety risks and consider any decisions for expenditure.

The risk assessments were received and reviewed. It was noted that a post is missing from the tug-boat area.

306.2 Suggestions for new equipment for Colchester Road play area.

The Chairman presented four responses and drawings from children at the Primary School, giving suggestions for the new equipment for the play area. Cllr Chase-Gardener agreed to speak with contractors about getting costed designs which could be reviewed at the Annual Assembly.

306.3 Update on installation of Outdoor Fitness Equipment and maintenance. It was confirmed that the equipment has been installed. The Chairman reported that a number of residents had written to say thank-you for the new equipment. It was agreed that the equipment should now be added to the monthly RA. A resident who was present offered to wipe down the seats each time he passes the equipment.

306.4 It was noted that ECC had recommended that play equipment with timber posts be inspected for decay. It was agreed that this should form part of the next ROSPA inspection.

307 **Environment and maintenance**

To receive reports and consider any decisions for expenditure.

It was reported that there are three areas on Harts Lane where there is running water. It was agreed to ask the water board to check for leaks.

It was reported that the hedges are overgrowing Green Lane. It was noted that this is the landowner's responsibility.

It was reported that the lights on the "no entry" signs by Stewarts Yard are not working.

The Chairman reported that he had attended the Crown Quarry liaison meeting and that it is intended to install a concrete crushing plant on the site. Also there will be an Open Day for residents to have a look round the whole site on 15 October at 10.00am.

The tree survey had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting. It was agreed that costs needed to be put against each item of proposed work.

- 308 **Public Rights of Way**
To receive reports and consider any decisions for expenditure.
No matters to discuss.
- 309 **Parish Council Financial Report**
- 309.1 To receive report on Parish Council accounts as at the 29th February, 2016
The report was received and accepted.
- 309.2 Accounts for payment –Cheques/Bacs payments to be approved for payment
and signed. All were approved for payment.
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| Fresh-air Fitness (50% balance) | £6,344.16 |
| Haward Horological Ltd – maint. of church clock | £250.00 |
| Jill Hamblin, archivist expenses | £149.15 |
- 309.3 VAT Return for period October 15 to February 16 - £2,912.11
- 310 **Village Hall Financial Report**
- 310.1 To receive report on Village Hall accounts as at the 29th February, 2016
The report was received and accepted.
- 310.2 Proposed new Village Hire charges (last reviewed July 2014)
These were approved (proposed Cllr Chase-Gardener, seconded Cllr Talbot). It
was agreed to have a standard charge rather than different ones for residents
and non-residents and to reduce the charges for weekend hiring.
- 310.3 Accounts for payment –Cheques/Bacs payments to be approved for payment
and signed:
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|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Bookings & Cleaning (March) | £401.10 |
| PRS (Music Licence) | £388.78 |
- These were approved for payment.
- 311 **TDALC**
Minutes from latest meeting
No meeting had been held since the Council last met.
- 312 **Correspondence**
Nothing additional.
- 313 **Information for the attention of the Clerk for the next meeting.**
The Agenda specifies the business that it is proposed to transact (Local
Government Act 1972 Sch.12 para 10 (2) (b) and the Council cannot lawfully
decide any matter which is not specified in the Agenda (Longfield Parish Council
v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119).
- 314 **Any Other Business**
Date for Annual Assembly
Agreed as 23 May.
- 315 **Meeting Closure & Date of Next Meeting**
Meeting closed at 9.30pm
Next meeting Monday 11th April, 2016

