

Ardleigh Parish Council Report

Our Parish Council usually meets on the second Monday of most months at Ardleigh Village Hall with a remote option for members of the public. Our meetings are open to the public, and there is a slot at each one for 'public participation' where residents can speak for up to three minutes. Outside this slot, members of the public are only permitted to speak if invited by the Chair. **The next meeting will be Monday 11 March 2024, 7.30pm.**

The February meeting was attended by Cllr Carlo Guglielmi, our Essex County Councillor and Cllr Zoe Fairley our Tendring District Councillor. Members of the public also attended both in person and online. The proposed Minerals Plan from Essex County Council was raised. This will be discussed in detail at a public **Minerals Plan Drop-In Workshop on Friday 1 March**, more details below. Other matters raised related to overgrowth blocking pavements, ditches, flooding and drainage and fly-tipping.

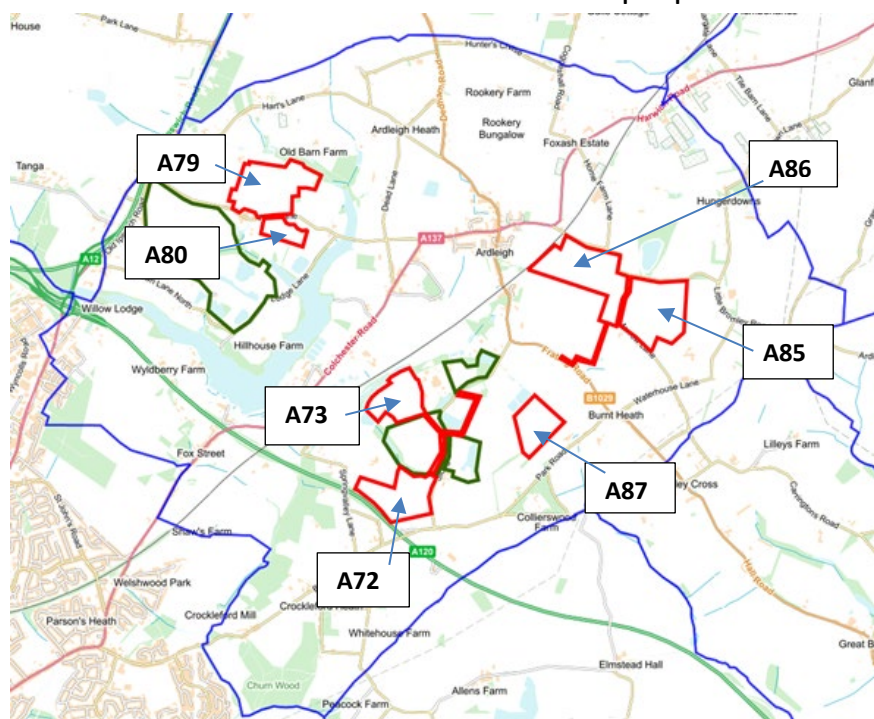
Budget and Council Tax 2024-25 The draft budget (and associated Council Tax/ Precept requirement) for 2024-25 agreed at an earlier meeting considered both the need to keep any increase low due to the continuing cost of living crisis, while meeting the needs of the Parish. The Council managed to set a balanced budget and agreed to a Precept of £81,077, which will cost a Band D household £70.13 per year, up £3.34 per year on last year, less than 7p extra per week.

Minerals Plan

New Mineral Extraction sites proposals in Ardleigh. An Essex County Council review includes 7 new potential sites (total 124.82ha) around Ardleigh, in addition to the 4 existing quarries.

Green shows the existing sites.

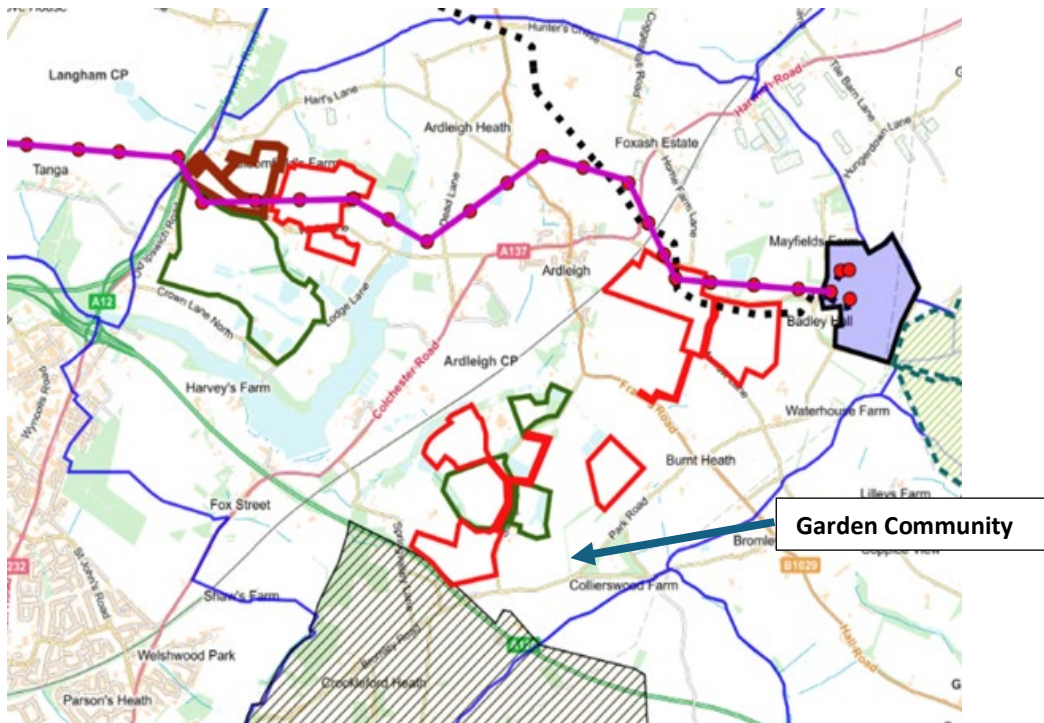
Red shows the proposed sites.



The map below includes other current proposals which are affecting the Parish of Ardleigh:

- **Purple line** is the proposed pylons route
- **Black dotted line** is proposed undergrounding route
- **Mauve block** is the proposed substation for National Grid
- **Light green block** is the proposed substation for Five Estuary / North Falls
- **Brown** is the proposed site for the Surya Warehouse

The cumulative impact of all of these developments would be enormous!



For more information on the mineral extraction sites and to have your say on-line see Essex County Council information on their website <https://www.essex.gov.uk/replacement-essex-minerals-local-plan-review-2025-2040>



You need to click on: ‘**Submit a comment on our consultation portal**’ <https://www.essex.gov.uk/replacement-essex-minerals-local-plan-review-2025-2040/tell-us-your-views> and then find the link to **Assessment of sand and gravel sites report** here <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/planning/rmlpr-2024/>

For more information from Ardleigh Parish Council including updates following the **public drop-in session on Friday 1 March** see <https://ardleigh.website/news>

Judicial Review The process to challenge the Tendring District Council planning decision to approve the huge food storage and distribution facility adjacent to Wick Lane (20/00594/FUL) continues. Our specialist Planning Barrister, Simon Bell, will represent us at an oral permission hearing which will have happened by the time you read this. Several Ardleigh Parish Councillors will be in attendance. There will be an update in the next magazine.

Should permission be granted for a Judicial Review at the conclusion of the oral hearing, then more funds will be needed to argue our case at a full High Court hearing. We are grateful for the substantial donations which have enabled us to proceed to this position and are continuing to appeal for pledges of further support. Please email us if you can assist or would like more information.

Ardleigh Neighbourhood Plan The further consultation on matters which the Examiner had raised that needed addressing before the Examination could continue closes at **5pm on Monday 4 March 2024**. See <https://tendringdc.oc2.uk/>. Once this is complete our Parish Council should be given a further two weeks to respond to any comments received. Our main concern with the changes proposed by the Examiner is the proposal to remove the Garden Community development area (ie Crockleford) from the plan. This means that any additional protection or clarification afforded by the Neighbourhood Plan would not apply to our Crockleford residents.

Tendring/Colchester Borders Garden Community. Latimer, the developers of the Garden Community have indicated they will submit the first of their planning applications this summer. The design and number of dwellings in the initial phases may change from earlier proposals. You can view the latest documents and consultation boards via <https://www.latimer.community/feedback>.

The next stage will be a Stewardship Model for the area. We will aim to ensure that Crockleford remains within the Ardleigh Parish boundary and that all residents (old and new) have access to representation through a local council and not only residents' associations and management committees.

Although issues relating to the Compulsory Purchase orders for the new Link Road are ongoing, we understand that the route of the road has begun to be staked out around Allens Farm.

Pylons, Substations, Windfarms Action continues to fight against these plans coming to fruition. Many councillors attended the recent Five Estuaries webinar and subsequent consultation at Lawford Venture Centre. This was also attended by numerous members of the public. An Ardleigh History & Heritage Survey has been compiled to mark historic assets detailing the relationship to the planned siting of both pylons and substations.

Our MP Sir Bernard Jenkin remains publicly confident that an offshore option can be found and continues to meet with other Members of Parliament and the Electricity System Operator to discuss this.

More leaflets are being printed by the Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons Campaign. If you would be able to help with their distribution, please email info@ardleigh-pc.gov.uk For those who haven't already done so, please sign up to this campaign www.pylonseastanglia.co.uk and/or you can sign up for updates from Sir Bernard Jenkin MP. You can visit <https://ardleigh.website/pylons-and-substations> to download our responses so far to all the relevant consultations etc.

National Grid have announced that we need to re-register with them to continue to receive email updates direct. To register again, email contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com with your First Name, Last Name and Email Address.

Planning See <https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications> for current applications. A summary of recent and ongoing applications and extracts from our comments can be found below, excluding tree works. Where appropriate, our responses to TDC include reference to the emerging Ardleigh Neighbourhood Plan Policies and updated Village Design Statement. Full details are available by searching here <https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications>

[24/00016/LBC](#) Erection of new timber gable due to structural failure. Boxley House, Colchester Road, Ardleigh CO7 7NR. *The Council had no objection.*

[24/00035/FUL](#) Proposed one dwelling in lieu of (approved) 22/00359/COUNOT (Barn A). Resubmission of 23/00773/FUL. Barn A to The rear of 5 Hunters Chase, Ardleigh, CO7 7LW. *The Council wished to object.*

[24/00105/FULHH](#) Single storey rear extension. The Orchard, The Street, Ardleigh, CO7 7LD *The Council had no objection.*

[24/00074/WTPO](#) and [24/00076/TCA](#) Tree work to cherry trees, lime trees, sycamore and fir tree. Little Court, Harwich Road, Ardleigh CO7 7LB. *The Council had no objection.*

[24/00062/FUL](#) Conversion of agricultural barn to residential dwelling, new access driveway, parking bays and garden. Agricultural Barn, Harveys Farm, Old Ipswich, Ardleigh, CO7 7QS. *The Council wished to object.*

[24/00119/FUL](#) Demolition of existing buildings and construction of new storage warehouse, associated yard, parking and ancillary storage. Ardleigh Oaks, Old Ipswich Road Ardleigh CO7 7RQ. *The Council wished to object.*

[24/00109/COUNOT](#) Prior Approval Application under Part 3, Class Q, of the Town and Country Planning Order 2015 for change of use of agricultural buildings to five dwellings. Pole House, 36 Harwich Road, Lawford, Manningtree. *The Council wished to object.*

[24/00122/ADV](#) Consent to display 6 Illuminated Signs and 2 Silver Fascia Signs B,C, Glyn Hopkin Limited, Ipswich Road CO4 9TF. *The Council wished to comment on the brightness of the signage.*

[24/00164/FULHH](#) Retrospective planning application for construction of single storey outbuilding ancillary to and for the use of Kalm Oaks. Kalm Oak Nursery, Hunters Chase, Ardleigh, CO7 7LW. *The Council wished to object.*

Community Speedwatch If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Cllr Helen Fontaine at helen.fontaine@ardleigh-pc.gov.uk for more details.

Village Hall and Recreation Ground Car Park A meeting was requested to try to alleviate parking issues following reports of problems parking at the Hall and Recreation Ground, as well as along the road and pavement by the Hall. At this point, we are not able to update you, however, the Parish Council continues to ask residents and businesses to ensure that cars are parked in suitable authorised locations with full regard to the safety of residents and road users.

The Street Essex County Council were contacted about the surfacing works due to take place in The Street last year and queried whether the drainage problems in The Street could be rectified at the same time as the surface patching. Pictures were supplied by our Clerk. The request was put through by our County Councillor to the County Council maintenance team but unfortunately the engineer in charge advised the works were delayed due to other priorities. No alternative date has been announced. When the Council is updated with new dates, we will update our social media.

Dog Waste It has been reported by a member of the public, and by a councillor, that a significant amount of dog waste is being left on the playing fields and Millennium Green. **Please clear up after your dog.** There are a number of waste bins provided; this is not a dog problem, it is an owner problem! Please take note of what your dog is doing and **Bag It and Bin It.**

Maintaining Hedges/ Clearing Ditches It was mentioned previously that the Parish Council had received several complaints about footpaths being obstructed by hedges and hedges growing into roadways. This causes safety issues for both pedestrians and motorists. The Council sent a letter to householders/ landowners to request action be taken by them to mitigate these problems.

Thanks to those who received this letter and have subsequently cut back overgrown verges and hedges.

Complaints about overgrown hedges causing problems to footpaths or roadways should be reported to Essex Highways via <https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us> ***Please cut your hedges back as this helps keep roads and pavements safe for residents and road users.***

The Council has also received complaints about flooding from several residents with ditches being blocked. ***Please clear ditches as necessary. Local floods are preventable if landowners keep on top of ditch and hedge maintenance.*** Flooding should also be reported to Essex Highways via <https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us>

Village Hall A survey has been done recently at the Village Hall in respect of whether there is RAAC present. An update will be given once the Council has received the results of the survey, but we are led to believe there is no obvious RAAC. We are also looking into options and potential grant funding for energy efficiency measures (including solar panels and roof repairs)

We use Community Halls in Partnership (CHIP) to manage the bookings of the village hall and promote the hall to a wider audience. For hall booking enquiries get in touch with the CHIP team on 01206 870266 or email ardleigh@community-centre.org.uk

Dates for your diary The next Council meeting is **Monday 11 March 2024, 7.30pm at Ardleigh Village Hall.** All meetings take place there with a remote option for most meetings.

Agendas for Parish Council meetings are posted on the noticeboard at the entrance to the Village Hall, and on the website, at least three days before each meeting. All **Minutes** are also on the website and we provide a summary within the Ardleigh Advertiser each month.

Contact us Email us info@ardleigh-pc.gov.uk Write to us Ardleigh Parish Council, PO Box 12865, Colchester, CO7 7EZ. Telephone (answerphone) 01206 414989 (please leave a detailed message). We are on social media. Website www.ardleigh.website Facebook (@ardleighpc and @ardleighvh for the Village Hall) and Instagram (@ardleighnp).