

ARKESDEN PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES of the MEETING of ARKESDEN PARISH COUNCIL held in Arkesden Village Hall on

Monday 17th June 2019

Present: Rod Higgins (chairman), Robert Patmore (vice chairman), Chris Coady, Satu Lawrence, Ted Buttling, Cllr. Edward Oliver and Steve Coltman (clerk).

1. **Apologies:** Rupert Bull
2. **Declaration of interests:** None
3. **Public Speaking:** None
4. **Minutes of the meeting of 20th May 2019**

Comments had been received from Rupert Bull and the clerk had agreed to alter the voting count to more accurately reflect the abstentions. With regard to item 9, the parish council agreed that the minutes reflected the discussion that had taken place. The minutes were then agreed and signed.

5. **Matters arising from the minutes of 20th May 2019**

5.1 The stream

5.1.1 Clearing – There had been a fairly low turnout for the annual village stream clearing although with the help of residents that had already cleared their “patch”, the work was still completed in reasonable time. Thanks to all who helped.

The autumn clearing will be subcontracted out to a new contractor as Robert Patmore is unable to do the work as usual. Clerk will make enquiries.

5.1.2 Sediment – Ted Buttling had noted the build up of sediment in the stream. Clerk agreed to make enquiries as to who is responsible for clearing.

5.2 The Village Plan

The parish council agreed to revisit the Village Plan (2005 – 2009) to see what still needed to be done. The Plan had been divided into five sections and the parish council agreed to action the following points

5.2.1 Community

- a) Encourage feedback to both the Village News and to the website.
- b) Investigate the possibility of forming a history society and to display archive material.
- c) Monitor the progress of the working group looking into the re-ordering of the church for increased use – possible village events.
- d) Investigate the possibility of a Village Sign – location, design and costs.
- e) Collaboration with other village organisations re village event e.g. fete.
- f) Explore the possibility of rekindling the mother and toddler group.

5.2.2 Environment

All of the items in this section had previously been addressed.

5.2.3 Traffic and Transport

- a) A footpath from Quicksie Hill to the church would be a requirement of a planning approval at Pebblings Field according to the planning dept. and if the

current application is approved the parish council will be pressing for this to be implemented.

- b) A car sharing scheme to be encouraged through the Village News and possible Whatsapp groups.
- c) Investigate the possibility of a speed check on Quicksie Hill in the 40mph zone.
- d) Address the parking problems at Quicksie Hill. Send a note to residents at Quicksie Hill to discover the reasons for parking on the front rather than at the rear.

5.2.4 Housing and Development

- a) A housing survey had been completed, which had resulted in the affordable housing scheme.
- b) The possibility of a Village Design Statement (VDS) had been investigated although these have now been replaced by Neighbourhood Plans, which are more suited to larger villages.

5.2.5 Recreation

- a) Several new clubs had been formed since the publication of the Village Plan.
- b) The parish council agreed to talk to the MFC to see if greater use of the Millennium Field by young people can be encouraged.

5.3 Village Hall usage

This had been discussed in the Village Plan item. The Village Hall is very well used with only Saturday mornings free.

6. Planning matters

6.1 New Applications None

6.2 Determinations

6.2.1 UTT/19/0830/HHF Waterlaide Front single storey extension. Approved

7. Playing Field

The Chairman of the MFC had been unable to attend and as there were still items that needed clarifying the parish council agreed to invite the chairman to the next meeting. The council agreed that it was important for the equipment to be properly maintained, including cleaning.

8. Highways

8.1 Parking at Quicksie Hill

The parking problems at Quicksie Hill had already been discussed at item 5.2.3 (d)

9. Correspondence – As circulated

10. Finance

10.1 Balance £7320.09

10.2 Invoices

The following invoices were agreed for payment:

S Lovegrove – strim graves	£ 60.00	
EALC training days (x4)	£ 432.00	inc. VAT
BH Grounds maintenance	£ 192.00	inc. VAT
Clerk's wages (3 mths)	£1050.00	
Axe and Compasses (refreshments)	£ 45.90	inc VAT

11. Further Discussion Points

11.1 Work at 5 Acres

The clearance work at 5 Acres had been reported to enforcement and they had agreed to visit the site. At present they can take no action against the clearing work and can only intervene if other works start. The clerk had emailed the village to make everyone aware of the situation and to be vigilant about any other work that might take place.

11.2 Benches and noticeboards

Clerk confirmed that the re-treatment of the benches was on the list for the Highway Rangers. It was agreed to try and involve some younger people in looking after the benches re cleaning – a possible 2 bench rota each week on a monthly cycle.

With regard to the noticeboard, the clerk would contact the contractor to see if a better backing board could be provided.

11.3 Best Kept Village competition

It was decided to canvass the village via the Village News and email list to see if there is any interest in putting the village forward.

11.4 Defibrillator code

This will be entered into the Village News

11.5 Late night vehicles in the village

Further reports had been received about vehicles meeting at night on Clodmore Hill. The police had previously been informed, but there is little action they can take if no apparent crime is committed. A vehicle number had been taken and this would be forwarded to the police.

11.6 Crop spraying

Satu Lawrence asked if some information on crop spraying could be obtained from the local farmers. It was recognised that farmers subcontract this work and do not always know when the spraying will take place. It was agreed to explore the possibility of a whatsapp group to inform concerned residents as to when crop spraying is taking place.

11.7 Outdoor gym

The possibility of outdoor gym equipment was considered but the siting of the equipment would present a problem.

12. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 15th July 2019. Apologies received already from Robert Patmore and Chris Coady.

Rod Higgins (Chairman)

Steve Coltman (Clerk)