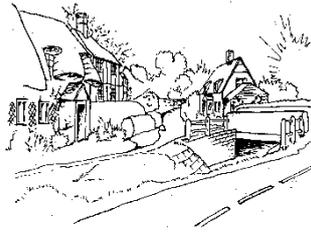


ARKESDEN PARISH COUNCIL



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

Monday 17th February 2020

Present: Rod Higgins (chairman), Chris Coady, Satu Lawrence, Ted Buttlings, Cllr. Edward Oliver and Steve Coltman (clerk) and 4 residents

- 1. Apologies:** Rupert Bull and Robert Patmore
- 2. Public Speaking.**

Mulberry House Appeal

Residents spoke on the issue of the appeal against a non-determination for change of use at Mulberry House. All were concerned that the non-determination would make an approval more likely and was there any further action that could be taken. Edward Oliver relayed information that he had received from Nigel Brown at UDC to the effect that this situation was no different from a normal appeal and that the planning dept. was opposed to the proposed development and would be responding to the appeal inspector with a robust refusal. The Chairman said that the Parish Council would take these comments into consideration when discussing the appeal at item 6.1 but that residents could still send further objections to the appeal inspector and the clerk confirmed that the contact details for the appeal inspector had already been circulated to residents.

Deans Meadow

Although not strictly a Parish Council matter, Tony Robertson wished to inform the council that the disputed ownership of the land behind Deans Meadow and Christiana had now been settled by the Land Registry and that new fencing had been erected by the owners.

- 3. Declaration of Interests** None
- 4. Minutes of the meeting of 20th January 2020**

The minutes were agreed.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of 20th January 2020

5.1 Unauthorised Travellers Briefing

The Chairman and Chris Coady gave a brief summary of the recent briefing they had attended, which had been organised by the EALC and attended by representatives from the Traveller community and the Police.

- An Increase in the staff of the Police unit dealing with Travellers had seen a decrease of 60% in offences.
- Important for the police to be involved quickly, although Travellers settling on their own land is not a police matter but only a planning issue.
- There is still a problem in Essex in that there is no transit site where Travellers can stay for a short time.
- Police have no power to move on Travellers if they are parked on the highway.

5.2 Coffee Mornings/Pilates

The inaugural coffee morning had had 24 people attending and it was hoped that tomorrow's turn out would be as good. The decision to run them once a month seemed to be favourite and the clerk agreed to circulate the dates of the next ones – third Tuesday of the month.

Pilates classes had started and were now fully booked for the next block of sessions starting on 27th February. The organisation of these classes would now be the responsibility of the teacher.

5.3 Speed Watch

The speed gun had been returned for recalibration and the clerk was awaiting dates for training. Two new sites, Quicksie Hill and Poore Street, had sent sent to the police for evaluation.

6. Planning matters

6.1 New Applications None

6.2 Determinations None

6.3 Appeals

6.3.1 UTT/19/1652/FUL New Dwelling at 6 Quicksie Hill Dismissed

6.3.2 UTT/19/1712/HHF Retrospective glazing at Clodmore Hill Farm Upheld

6.3.3 UTT/19/2333/FUL Change of use at Mulberry House

Following the non-determination of this application and the continuing lack of response from UDC, the Parish Council agreed to send a final letter of objection summarising the main points of previous submissions but emphasising the damage that would be caused to the surrounding narrow roads. The clerk agreed to try and get some sort of response from UDC.

6.4 Enforcement

6.4.1 Mulberry House Unlawful use

A reply from the enforcement team stated that no action would be taken over this matter whilst the planning appeal was still in progress.

6.4.2 The Chapel Stream crossing and building work

No update available

7. Report from District Councillor

Edward Oliver reported that following the refusal by UDC of the Stansted Airport expansion proposals and the government's decision for the application to be determined at local level, it was now likely that there would be an appeal by MAG.

Although the inspectors report on the Local Plan had suggested withdrawal and a new start, UDC had decided to seek advice from experts from the LGA (Local Government Association) as to the possibility of continuing with the plan – with amendments – or whether to start again. If withdrawn and a new plan started with all of the associated consultations it would be in the region of another 5/6 years and the housing numbers required will have increased to over 16,000.

A resident had approached the District Councillor on the issue of Broadband and in particular the situation regarding Gigaclear. The clerk stated that the latest situation regarding Gigaclear had been relayed to interested parties.

8. Playing Field Report

The renewal of the lease had been verbally agreed between the MFC and David Forster. The clerk agreed to write formally to Messrs Forster and Pyatt to get the lease amended.

The hedges were still to be cut and the goal posts were to be removed when the hedging work was undertaken. Chris Coady agreed to ask The MFC to at least deal with the goal posts first.

9. Village Hall report

Ted Buttling reported that the new doors to the village hall would be fitted on 10/03 and that suitable quotes had been obtained for the redecoration of the outside of the hall. He also wished to stand down as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.

10. Highways

The clerk had been unable to get a response from Cllr. John Moran with regard to a meeting with the Parish Council.

The clerk reported that all of the previously reported faults had now been inspected and all deemed to be non-urgent. They would be dealt with in Essex Highways rolling programme of repairs.

11. Correspondence As circulated

12. Finance

12.1 Balance

Current Account	£4578.64
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12.2 Invoices

The following invoices were agreed for payment

Arkesden Village Hall – hire	£ 195.00	
Peter Holland – internal audit	£ 152.50	
Clerk's expenses	£ 80.26	inc.VAT
Abercorn plant centre – replacement tree	£ 40.00	inc. VAT

13. Further Discussion Points

13.1 Village Activities

Rupert Bull had circulated a comprehensive report on future activities that could be organised in the village but unfortunately there was insufficient time to consider the proposals.

13.2 Zero Carbon Arkesden

Following the last request for ideas on how to engage the village in a zero carbon project the clerk agreed to write an article for the village news (as a concerned resident!)

13.3 Speeding – 20mph zone?

Ted Buttling raised the possibility of a 20mph speed limit through the village. Clerk agreed to investigate possibilities with the police.

14. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting would be on Monday 16th March at 7.30pm in the village hall. The Chairman sent apologies in advance.