

# Arkesden Parish Council

The Village Hall,  
Arkesden,  
Saffron Walden,  
Essex,  
CB11 4HB  
<https://arkesdenvillage.com/>



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## Annual Parish Meeting

### Pothole report

Provided by Mark Newey

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The state of the roads around Arkesden have deteriorated badly over the last 12 months for 3 reasons:

- The huge increase of delivery vans serving internet shopping
- The road closures in surrounding villages
- Essex Highways short-term fix solutions

Given the background of Essex Highways having their budget reduced vs. last year and whilst acknowledging that Arkesden still has some serious pothole issues, we have actually done quite well. After some serious campaigning by myself and our very dedicated County, Councillor, Paul Gadd, we got the serious issues at Clanver End remedied...albeit a short-term fix. Unfortunately, the roadsides are being worn away and holes are appearing at the side; but this is not such a high priority for Essex highways as potholes in the road, so it is very difficult to get them to focus on this. However, as the floods develop down by the bridge, I can see this becoming a big problem during the winter. Rest assured we'll keep on top of it.

Again, after much campaigning by myself and Paul, some of the potholes on Newlands End were filled, but again there's still a lot of work to do and the runoffs on the side of the road are particularly bad. Almost as though they knew that Arkesden's Parish Council AGM was today, Essex Highways are shutting Poore Street today and tomorrow, and Calver End/ Arkesden Hill on 23<sup>rd</sup> May for 2 days; unfortunately, we have no access to find out what the work is.

Finally, we have hopefully got to the bottom of the flooding in the road opposite Quicksie Hill. There are 2 pipes in the embankment on the entry into Newlands End which are intermittently gushing water into the 2 grates in the road. We are questioning why the pipes are above ground, and suspect that there must be some blockage in the drains which causes the water to run down the road. This has been reported to Essex Highways via Paul Gadd and we are awaiting further news.

So, in summary, whilst there is undoubtedly a lot of work still to be done with regards to Arkesden roads, please rest assured that your Parish Council and County Councillor are doing everything they can to keep on top of things.