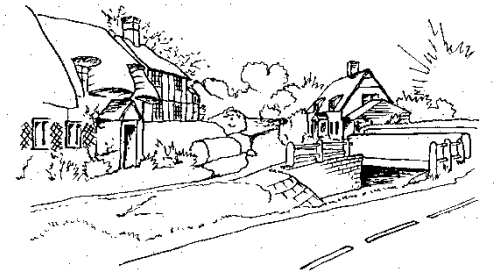


Arkesden Parish Council

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



Arkesden Parish Council Meeting

Meeting date: 18 May 2026

Meeting time: 6.30pm

Meeting location: Arkesden Village Hall

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence / Election of Meeting Chair

Present: Alistair Mclean, Jonathan Boon, Mark Newey, Holly Greenhow, Wendy Dyce, Beth Savory (Clerk) and Cllr Edward Oliver

Apologies: Sophie Garrod

Chair: The Council voted Alistair Mclean in as Chair (Wendy proposed; Mark seconded)

Minutes: Beth Savory

2. Public Speaking

NTR

3. District councillor's report

NTR

4. County councillor's report

NTR

5. Declaration of interests

NTR

6. Minutes of 20 April 2026 meeting

Minutes from April meeting were approved and signed alongside the minutes from the March meeting. A copy of the April minutes will be posted to the village notice board.

7. Matters arising from 20 April 2026 meeting

- Main street bridge

Councillors discussed the latest update from Highways which outlined:

- The new bridge installed is a PROW style bridge, which APC was informed of.
- The rails have now been painted white to match the previous rails.
- The only part of the bridge that has changed is the deck.
- The wooden parts of the bridge will darken over time and blend in with the surrounding landscape.
- The anti-slip surface at either end of the bridge is a temporary measure until Buff coloured anti slip boards are delivered and installed. They are premade sheets, so the sizes are sometimes inconsistent from the factory.
- The railings must be installed at a certain height but when the replacement anti slip boards are installed, they shall arrange for the railings to be extended and connected to the existing railings.
- The surface the tarmac connects to is unmade so there is nothing to tie into.
- No assessment was undertaken as a bridge was removed and a bridge was put back in the same place.
- When they spoke to our structures department they told us no repair works had been done on the bridge.

Separate to this, Edward contacted Nigel Brown at UDC but to date we haven't been copied into a response.

Action: Clerk update our new Councillor, Ray Gooding about the bridge, highlighting concerns around repairs not being required due to previous work.

- Quicksie Hill noticeboard

Councillors agreed to remove the noticeboard, rather than maintaining APCs previous decision to maintain an open board for laminated posts.

Action: Mark & Alistair to remove the board.

8. Ongoing Matters – Cllr Areas of Focus Updates

- Website (JB)
NTR

- Potholes (MN)
NTR

- Speed Limits (SG)
Councillors discussed the final version of the traffic survey report and approved it for posting on the website, alongside AGM documents.

Action: Clerk to upload report to website with AGM documents.

- Neighbourhood Watch
NTR

9. Planning Matters

- New Applications

NTR

- Determinations
 - **UTT/26/0629/PAQ3** - Prior Notification of change of use of agricultural building to 3 no. dwellings - Barn At Poore Street – Prior approval refused
 - **UTT/26/0612/FUL** - S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans), 12 (Biodiversity Enhancement Plan and Layout) and 13 (Biodiversity Lighting Design Scheme) of UTT/22/0577/FUL (Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings along with access, landscaping, associated infrastructure and revised access arrangements for Crathie) – Crathie, Hampit Road – Approved with conditions
- Enforcement

NTR

10. Playing Field report

NTR

11. Village Hall report

NTR

12. Highways and road closures

NTR

13. Finance

- Balances

The balance on the 18 May was £12,345.83. Payments since the previous meeting include the Clerks salary, quarterly HMRC payment, grass cutting costs, EALC/NALC fees and our website hosting costs. We have also received the first half of our precept for the year (£7,800).

- Invoices/Expenses
 - B H Grounds Maintenance - £274
 - Parish Council Insurance - £790.44 + VAT

14. Residents' Concerns / AOB

- Mobile signal – church mast

Following on from a residents idea raised in the village WhatsApp group, Councillors discussed the concept of a mobile signal mast, to be installed at the Church. It was agreed that feasibility would be explored with the Church.

Action: Holly to enquire with the Church about feasibility and speak to contacts in Elmdon to see process/final look.

- Stream clean –

The date for the next stream clean was set as Thursday 11th June at 7pm

Action: Jonathan to send note in village WhatsApp group to inform them of the date and time, requesting volunteers.

15.Date of the Next Meeting – 22 June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Signed:

Date: 22.06.26