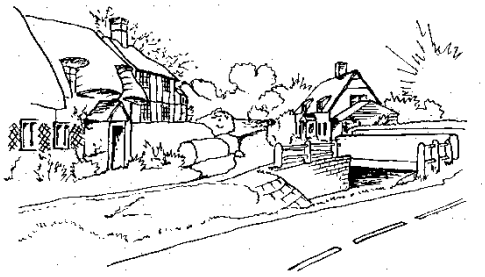
Arkesden Parish Council

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



Arkesden Parish Council Meeting
Meeting date: 20 July 2026
Meeting time: 7.30pm
Meeting location: Arkesden Village Hall

Chair brief

1. **Apologies for Absence / Election of Meeting Chair**

   Present: Sophie Garrod, Mark Newey, Holly Greenhow and Wendy Dyce

   Apologies: Alistair Mclean, Jonathan Boon, Beth Savory (Clerk), Cllr Ray Gooding and Cllr Edward Oliver

   Chair: The Council voted Sophie Garrod in as Chair (Mark proposed; Holly seconded)

   Minutes: Beth Savory (via recording)

2. **Public Speaking**

   No residents were present at the meeting.

3. **District councillor's report**

   No report was received for the meeting.

4. **County councillor's report**

   No report was received for the meeting.

5. **Declaration of interests**

   NTR

6. **Minutes of 22 June 2026 meeting**

   Minutes from the June meeting were approved and will be signed at the September meeting.

7. Matters arising from 22 June 2026 meeting

- Stream clean

  The stream clean was confirmed as Thursday 6th August. It was agreed that a note should be sent round via WhatsApp to request volunteers.

  Action: Jonathan or Alistair to send a note around to the village

- Quicksie Hill noticeboard

  Mark updated that due to the hot weather, the board hasn't yet been removed, but that it will be removed before the September meeting during cooler weather.

  Action: Alistair and Mark to remove the Quicksie Hill noticeboard in cooler weather, prior to the September meeting.

- Church mast – mobile signal

  Holly updated that conversations with Elmdon remain outstanding due to difficulty in making contact with the correct person/finding the relevant details.

  Action: Wendy to check the Elmdon noticeboard for contact details

  Action: Holly to follow up with Elmdon

- Replacement dog waste bin

  Sophie confirmed that the clerk had looked into costings and that the what3words location has been noted.

  Action: Sophie to follow up with Beth about next steps

8. Ongoing Matters – Cllr Areas of Focus Updates

- Website (JB)

  NTR

- Potholes (MN)

  NTR

- Speed Limits (SG)

  NTR

- Tree review (HG)

  Councillors discussed which trees should be within remit of a tree review and decided to focus on trees that are on the verge side. Holly highlighted complications around establishing land ownership due to non-standardised guidance on where is/isn't highways land.

  Action: Mark to ask Chris (tree surgeon) for guidance on applications to add TPO's

Action: Holly to speak to Beth about establishing if land is Highways owned

- Neighbourhood Watch

  NTR

9. Planning Matters

- New Applications

  - **UTT/26/0702/FUL -** Part retrospective and part full planning application to convert an agricultural barn into three residential dwellings - Building To The Rear Of Mulberry House, Wenden Road – Comments due 22 July

    Following conversations by email, Councillors agreed to object to the application due to concerns regarding the current proposal being materially more substantial than the original development that was approved under Class Q and how it effectively achieves, through incremental alterations, a scale of development that extends beyond what was previously accepted. Comments also included concerns about sustainability, road safety, proximity to a listed building and protected lanes.

- Determinations

  - **UTT/26/1209/HHF and UTT/26/1210/LB** - Replace existing Conservatory with extension on existing site - Shepherds Cottage Hampit Road – **Approved with conditions.**

- Enforcement

  NTR

10. Playing Field report

NTR

11. Village Hall report

Mark updated that the committee have scheduled repairs to be completed in the next couple of weeks.

12. Highways and road closures

- Temporary Traffic Regulation Order of Hampit Road/Main Street/Clatterbury Lane, Church Hill & Wicken Road, Arkesden due to commence on 8th August 2026 for 1 day. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Openreach undertakes cabling and jointing. https://one.network/?tm=GB150618689

- Temporary Traffic Regulation Order of Arkesden Road, Wendens Ambo due to commence on 14th August 2026 for 4 days. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Openreach undertakes pole replacement and cabling works. https://one.network/?tm=GB150556679

  Action: Mark to send out message via WhatsApp to inform the village

13. Finance

- Balances

  The balance on the 20 July was £9,595.32. Payments since the last meeting include the Clerk's salary, Microsoft 365 subscription for the year, our bank account fee, grass cutting costs and the playing field (ROSPA) inspection fee.

- Invoices/Expenses

  - B H Grounds Maintenance - £276

- 25/26 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) and audit

  The 25/26 AGAR was submitted at the end of June, prior to the deadline. As previously updated, we were selected for an intermediate review with any queries actioned by the Clerk.

  Action: Beth to provide a round up at the September meeting

14. Residents' Concerns / AOB

- Footbridge – Holly provided an update on the Footbridge where the black treads have been replaced with cream ones. Work remains outstanding for joining the new railings to the existing ones as the workers were unable to establish how to do this without removing the oak posts, which was discouraged. The workers confirmed that they would be feeding back to the central team to establish next steps.

  Action: Beth to follow up with engineer to request when the next stage of works will take place so a member of APC can be present

15. Date of the Next Meeting – 21 September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed:

Date: 21 September 2026