



Aylesford Parish Council

23 Forstal Road, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7AU
Tel: 01622 717084 Email: mel@aylesfordparishcouncil.org.uk
www.aylesfordparishcouncil.org.uk

To All Members of the Environmental Services Committee

Agenda for the Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee to be held on Tuesday 15 December 2020 via a Zoom meeting link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81978212697> commencing at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 24 November 2020

4. Aylesford Village Square – The work being done in the Village Square is in 4 stages and stage 1 the felling of the trees was completed on 9 December and stage 2 the grinding of the stumps and the removal of the block paving will take place on 11 December.

5. Street Light in Forstal Road – The Committee agreed to go ahead with the repair but no date for this work has been agreed with UK Power Networks.

6. Aylesford Car Parks – The Council never received a reply to its objection to the proposals to introduce charges at the car parks and in particular its offer to TMBC to lease the car parks off them and for the Parish Council to operate them. It was agreed that the Clerk should follow up on the offer to operate the car parks with TMBC. The Clerk has written to TMBC but no reply has been received.

7. Traffic Speed and the new Sandpit Entrance on Rochester Road Aylesford – It has previously been reported that the Council had received a reply from KCC which indicated that as there had been no recorded personal injury crashes at this site in the last 3 years they would not plan to undertake any improvement works at this location. The Committee expressed their disappointment at the response from KCC regarding this new entrance in Rochester Road and the speed of traffic highlighting that it would be impossible to have 3 years of data as the junction had only just been completed. It was felt that KCC needed to act now before a fatal accident happened at this site. Councillor Rillie expressed some further concerns regarding the condition of the speed humps in the vicinity of this junction and also that the speed limit should be reduced from 40mph to 30mph. KCC have indicated that there was nothing that they could do as this was not a safety critical site with no patterns of crashes

that relate to speeding. The Clerk has taken the matter up with County Councillor Homewood who is pursuing it with the County Officers..

8. Kits Coty Slip Road Lights and Parking at the Upper Bell Slip Road – KCC have indicated that the Kits Coty slip road lights have now been repaired and are working. The matter of the lorries parking on the A229 at the bottom of the slip road potentially blocking the emergency access down this redundant slip road and the actions of the parked drivers has been taken up by Borough Councillor Kennedy with the KCC Cabinet Member.

9. Play Area Inspection Report – It has previously been agreed to seek quotes for resurfacing the Forstal Road Recreation Ground Play Area and quotes were being sought from a number of companies. However, the prices within these quotes were high and therefore the Clerk was seeking additional quotes from other companies and was looking at a number of different options. Quotes are still being returned. It is intended that these quotes will be reported back to the next meeting of the Committee.

10. Ferryfield MUGA Quotes for Renewing Lines – Quotes are being sought from Wicksteed and Mackledens for this work. A quote has been received from Wicksteed and Mackledens was being pursued for their price.

11. Request to park in the Area of Land within the Ferryfield accessed via the Little Preston Gate – At the last meeting it was reported that the Hospital Trust were looking to move a number of staff off the Maidstone Hospital site and were looking to relocate them locally. They had identified a site, Shannon House, which borders the above area of land. While the building itself fits the operating requirements of the Trust there was a shortage of parking on site and few alternative options nearby. The Trust had indicated that the move was being driven by the reduction in staff desk space due to hospital 2m distancing rules and the need for more clinical space within the hospital. The staff being relocated were non-clinical non-patient facing staff who would still require access to a desk for some or all of their working time. The move was being described as temporary though there was no time set on this but the Trust would not expect any agreement with the Council to be anything but time limited and not for an indefinite period. They have not indicated the number of cars that they were seeking space for as the number of vehicles was not set and also discussions were still ongoing with Gallagher's re the number of spaces that they would be able to supply.

The Trust were asking the Council to consider in principle whether they would be able to utilise this land for additional parking with any conditions that the Council would wish to apply. Any necessary improvements and costs for security etc. would be solely borne by the NHS Trust.

The Committee agreed that the request to park in the area of land within the Ferryfield via the Little Preston Gate from the Hospital Trust be deferred to allow the Clerk to obtain further information and to report back to the Policy and Resources Committee on 1 December. The Clerk asked the Trust for this further information for that meeting and it was not received so it was agreed that this matter be considered at this meeting. No response to the request for further information has been received at the time of despatch of this Agenda.

12. Eccles Car Park, Belgrave Street - In September 2015 the Council signed a lease with Trenport to lease the land for this car park. It was a 10-year lease and the first 5 years were rent free after which a market rent would be charged. The rent for the year will be £2000 and the invoice for the first 6-month payment of £1000 has been received.

13. Christmas Card Donation – Each year the Council makes a donation to a charity of its choice in lieu of sending Christmas cards. This year the Chairman of the Council is suggesting a £100 donation to the Heart of Kent Hospice.

14. Brassey Centre Food Bank Micro Grant – The Chairmen of this Committee and Policy and Resources Committee have agreed that an item could be placed on this Agenda for a request from Councillors Beadle and Ludlow to make a Micro Grant contribution to the Food bank at the Brassey Centre.

15. Recent Bereavement of Valerie Sullivan – The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee has asked that an item be placed on the Agenda of this meeting to consider a donation to be made to nominated charities of the RNLI and the Salvation Army in memory of Valerie Sullivan, Councillor Sullivan's late wife.

16. Any Other Business/Correspondence

Neil Harris
Clerk to the Council

Date: 10 December 2020