

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

TMBC Proposal to transfer Public Conveniences in Aylesford Village to the Council

TMBC approached the Council to see whether it would wish to take transfer of the public conveniences in Aylesford Village from them starting in April 2021. Following discussions TMBC came back with an offer of a one-off payment of £9000 which includes £8000 towards transitional costs (our figure show that this could be a cost of £8779 based on their costings) and £1000 towards legal costs (this could be less than the final amount)

Following further discussion, the Council wrote to TMBC in the following terms:-

“ The unique circumstances of the position regarding the public conveniences provided by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council in Aylesford village is that they are provided, maintained and operated by the Borough Council on land leased to them by the Parish Council. When the lease runs out in May 2021 there is an obligation on the Borough Council to continue to provide the public conveniences or if no longer providing to then act in accordance with the lease which would be to remove the building and reinstate it to its former condition.

However, the Parish Council, in order to continue the provision of these public conveniences, would be happy to enter into a Community Use Agreement with the Borough Council which would commit it to providing and maintaining this facility for a period of 5 years for a payment of £8000 to be made at the outset of taking on this responsibility. This would be subject to a condition that, if both parties agree, that the public conveniences could be closed at an earlier date.

This agreement would be in addition to any payments proposed in the original offer made by the Borough Council for taking on the responsibility for providing these public conveniences.”

The Council had to wait a long time for a reply and the TMBC reply stated that they stood by their original offer of £9000 as detailed above. They also stated that if the Parish Council rejected that offer then the Borough Council would honour the intention of the current agreement and remove the building upon transfer of the land back to the Parish Council and reinstate it to its former condition.

Members need to agree their response to the TMBC offer.