

**AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
AT AYLESFORD FOOTBALL CLUB PAVILION
18 MARCH 2014**

AGENDA

Present: Cllrs Mrs Gadd (in the Chair), Ambrose, Balcombe, Elvy, Homewood, Rillie, Smith, Tiller, Winnett, Wright

In Attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk
4 Members of the Public

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs Brooks, Gledhill, Smith, Ms Hurley
Cllrs Dalton, Davis, Smith, Sullivan

AGENDA ITEM 1

163. Declarations of Interest additional to those disclosed in the Members' Register of Interests

There were no other declarations of interest additional to those listed in the Members' Register of Interests.

AGENDA ITEM 2

164. Apologies for absence - Noted.

AGENDA ITEM 3

165. Chairman's Announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements.

AGENDA ITEM 4

166. Adjournment of the meeting to allow for public participation (subject to the provisions of Standing Order 1(d))

Mr Kahl and Mr Friend, residents of Laurie Grey Avenue, Blue Bell Hill

166.1 - Both referred to the **Upper Bell** and the continued concerns of residents of Blue Bell Hill at the apparent building works going on without planning permission. They also asked Cllr Homewood if he was aware of why the tarmacing and kerbing had been undertaken by KCC which now allowed the Upper Bell owner easy access on to his site to carry out these works.

Cllr Homewood stated he had not been consulted by KCC about the works.

Cllr Balcombe stated he was aware that there are still enforcement issues going through TMBC and that no further planning applications for the site have been received. The local Borough Councillor for the ward Cllr Sullivan is closely monitoring the situation.

Mr Kahl and Mr Friend felt strongly that not enough was being done at any local authority level to prevent the unauthorised development of this site. They have been raising the matter with the Parish Council for over three months and there have still been no positive actions by any party.

Members instructed the Clerk to write to KCC, TMBC and Tracey Crouch MP urgently to seek clarification on all aspects of this site. Cllr Homewood also undertook to raise the apparent co-operation of KCC with the site owner. **Clerk**

166.2 – **KCC Safe and Sensible Street Lighting Scheme (SSSLs)**

Mr Friend reported that Kent Highways have not returned to complete the maintenance/cleaning of street lighting in Laurie Grey Avenue. He continued to query the fact that the turning off of street lights in the area at midnight was not acceptable to residents. Cllr Homewood stated that he now had a direct KCC link for complaints and comments on the SSSLs.

The Clerk referred Members and members of the public to Appendix A of the ESC minutes of 25 February which detailed KCC's consultation process and reasons for the decision to reduce the lighting period of 70,000 of their 120,000 lights. KCC are not prepared to change their policy and criteria for the SSSLs but will consider applications from members of the public for review of individual roads.

Mr Ainsworth, Walsham Road, Walderslade

166.3 – Mr Ainsworth informed Members of his recent communications with KCC re SSSLs which he considers leaves **Walsham Road** in unacceptable darkness after midnight. He has been informed by a KCC Officer that his only method of expressing his view is via his County Councillor (Cllr Homewood). Cllr Homewood stated this was not correct. Although he is happy to consult with Mr Ainsworth, members of the public can use the link referred to above (166.2). Mr Ainsworth invited Cllr Homewood to visit Walsham Road just before midnight to witness the change when the lights go off at midnight. Cllr Homewood agreed to to this.

There being no further public participation, the Chairman thanked residents for their attendance and reopened the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5

164. Law and Order in the Parish

No police attendance.

Crime reports for Aylesford for February 2014 distributed to Members and attached in the bound minutes at **Appendix A.**

AGENDA ITEM 6

165. To confirm as a correct record and to sign the minutes of the meetings held on 18 February 2014.

The Minutes were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Elvy and the actions contained therein **agreed.** **AGREED**

AGENDA ITEM 7

166. Matters Arising from the previous minutes (including those which required Members' action)

166.1 – Page 3, 153.2 – **Tree Survey.** Clerk confirmed this has now commenced.

166.2 – Page 3, 153.3 – **Parking restrictions, Maidstone Road, BBH.** The exact site being referred to requires further investigation as there appears to be a discrepancy. **Clerk**

166.3 – Page 3, 153.6 – **Freedom Bus Passes** – Cllr Tiller welcomed this change of heart by KCC.

AGENDA ITEM 8

167. To receive the report of the County Councillor Homewood

Cllr Homewood just confirmed that he would be taking up residents' concerns re the Upper Bell and KCC Safe and Sensible Street Lighting Scheme issues.

AGENDA ITEM 9

168. To receive the reports of the Borough Councillors

Cllr Balcombe (Aylesford) – Flooding and Drainage Issues

Aylesford Village surface water has been investigated with Kent Highways who are looking at solutions. Clearance of gullies has been arranged and other works are planned for later in the year.

Station Road/Hall Road – Kent Highways have informed the Clerk that works should take place by the end of March. Clerk to pursue exact starting date. **Clerk**

Opposite Brassey Centre – Kent Highways will carry out remedial works at this site when the road is closed for level crossing works.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Committee reports/minutes: to consider and adopt minutes, and to deal with any matters arising

169. Environmental Services Committee – 25 February 2014

It was proposed by Cllr Tiller, seconded Cllr Rillie, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

Matters Arising

169.1 – Page 5, 17.3 – **Podkin Meadow Boulders** – Resiting of boulders will be done this week.

170. Policy and Resources – 4 March 2014

170.1 – Appendix A – FASC Minutes 25 February 2014. Delete ‘Cllrs Tiller (Chairman)’ and insert ‘Cllrs Mrs Gadd (Chairman)’. Delete ‘Mrs Gadd’, insert ‘Tiller’.

Subject to these amendments, it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Balcombe that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

Matters Arising/Any Other P&R Business

170.2 – Page 2 – 6. New Eccles Car Park – **Belgrave Street** – Temporary repairs to Belgrave Street rear access being carried out this weekend.

170.3 – **Staffing Committee** have met this evening and will recommend to the next P&R meeting confirmation of Neil Harris’ appointment as Clerk following the successful completion of his six month trial. Agreed and noted.

171. PLANNING – 4 March 2014

It was proposed by Cllr Elvy, seconded by Cllr Balcombe, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

There were no Matters Arising

AGENDA ITEM 11

172. Accounts for Payment – Cheque list distributed to all Members and attached at **Appendix B.**

172.1 – 22 payments totalling £8577.00 were proposed for payment by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Tiller and **agreed.**

AGENDA ITEM 12

173. To consider any other items of correspondence/Any Other Business

There were no other items or correspondence or business.

AGENDA ITEM 13

174. Chairman to move that: ‘The press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as publicity for any confidential aspects of the business identified in agenda items 1 – 12 above would be likely to prejudice the public interest.’

Not required.

AGENDA ITEM 15

175. Closure of the meeting at or before 9.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.07pm.