

Aylesford Parish Council

Environmental Services Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Capel Morris Centre on 22 June 2021

Present: Councillor Ludlow (Chairman) and Councillors Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Mrs Papagno, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, Sullivan, Winnett and Wright.

In Attendance: Melanie Randall (Acting Clerk)

Apologies: Councillors Hammond, Oyewusi, Walker, and Sullivan.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Hammond (unwell), Oyewusi (unwell), Walker (holiday) and Sullivan (holiday) were received, and the reason for absence agreed.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest additional to those contained in the Register of Members Interests.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 May 2021

It was Agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 May 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. Small Works Programme

No further works have been completed since reporting to the last meeting of this Committee.

5. Parking at the Upper Bell Slip Road

The matter of the lorries parking on this slip road is still an ongoing problem. Members suggested that maybe KCC can erect some signs in the slip road. Acting Clerk to approach KCC Councillor Kennedy with the request. **Ongoing**

6. Highway Improvement Plan

The agreed plan was submitted to KCC on 30 April, there has not been any correspondence received since. **Ongoing**

7. 155 Bus Service

Some discussion took place regarding the current service provided by Arriva and the new second service that should have been implemented via funding from Trenport. Councillor Gledhill reported that at the current time Trenport are not satisfied that there will be enough people to use the new service to be able to implement it. The Acting Clerk suggested she review the paperwork with regards to implementation and report back to members. **Ongoing**

8. Container of Eccles Recreation Ground

The Acting Clerk reported that she had still not yet received a response from the resident to the various questions she has asked. Councillor Ludlow also stated he had not received a response either yet. It was therefore **Agreed** that as this item had been on the agenda since the March meeting of this Committee and no further correspondence had been received that this item be removed from the agenda; however, the Acting Clerk can bring it back to members if a response is received. **Closed**

9. Access Road to Rugby Club – Pot Holes

The Acting Clerk reported that she had obtained three quotes for the repairs to the pot holes for the access road to the Rugby Club as follows:

- A) G & J Steele Plant Hire Limited - £775.00 (inc. vat) + £70.00 to seal the edges
- B) Station Haulage (Rainham) Ltd - £1,345.20 (inc. vat)

It was **Agreed** to accept the quote from G & J Steele

Closed

10. Gap between Ferryfield and Rugby Club

The Acting Clerk informed members that the Rugby Club have a wooden gate that the Council can use, posts would need to be purchased and installation. The Acting Clerk reported that there is another gap a little bit further up, therefore the installation of the gate at this location would not stop people wondering onto the Rugby Club Land/Pitches.

Councillor's Balcombe and Mrs Gadd will go and look with a view to reviewing this issue.

Ongoing

11. Aylesford Football Club – need more space for growing waiting list of children

The Acting Clerk reported that she had made some enquiries as to why K Sports use Ferryfield and not the ground at their own club. The reason is because there is not a 7v7 pitch at K Sports. There used to be two pitches of this size but these were taken out when the management put in the application for houses which was declined and withdrawn, however due to a rearrangement of parking facilities only one pitch can be put back. Members suggested that maybe K Sports could share the pitches at Ferryfield with Aylesford Football Club (AFC) – Acting Clerk to make this suggestion to AFC. **Ongoing**

Aylesford Football Club request for a Family Fun Day

The Acting Clerk sought permission to discuss this under this agenda item due to its late receipt. Members Agreed.

A request has been received for the above on Saturday 17 July 2021, 12pm – 5pm, but would require access from 11 – 6 for setting up and packing away. The activities would centre around sports, mainly football themed competitions, wheel barrow races and bouncy castle etc. Members **Agreed** to the Fun Day, subject to the usual rules when hiring out its ground.

The Acting Clerk will ensure that all relevant insurances and risk assessments are received and will liaise closely with the football club regarding the day and the parking situation as thought needs to be given to the Community Centre if they have bookings on the same day.

Closed

12. Electric Car Charging Points

The Acting Clerk reported that she had made the initial application for funding for both Forstal Road Car Park and Tunbury Hall Car Park.

The initial application suggests that the Parish Council could claim up to £4,000 per site towards the cost of funding, which is based on resident surveys that have been carried out by KCC to identify the need for electric car charging points in each area. This is a guide only as the installation costs of the charging points does vary greatly at each site.

The applications will go in as two separate ones and are not dependant on each other, however the Council can if it wishes put a preference in for which site they would like prioritised and can withdraw the application at any time at one or both sites without it affecting the outcome of the other.

The deadline for the application to be submitted is 15 October 2021, KCC in addition to meeting the guidance/criteria for funding will assess each application mainly on location (distance to local residents), demand (as demonstrated through the resident survey) and number of chargers requested (value for money).

Applications will be assessed and notified between 18 October and 17 December 2021 with installation taking place between 3 January 2022 to 25 March 2022.

It was **Agreed** that the Council proceed with the application for both sites, the Acting Clerk will start the process.

Ongoing

13. Old Scout Hut Demolition and proposed erection of detached dwelling

At the start of the Planning Committee Meeting Councillor Smith requested that this item be moved to there. It was **Agreed** to move this for discussion to the Planning Committee.

14. Planting of Trees/Hedges to act as a screen to the Cemetery for the Netball League's Indoor Court proposal in the Rugby Club

Further to the recent site meeting to discuss the Netball Leagues proposal, they asked for suggestions on which type of tree/hedge the Council would like to see planted. Members discussed this and Agreed that Holly and Hawthorn hedges would be suitable along with some Oak Trees. The Acting Clerk will inform the Netball League.

Closed

15. Recent Tree Maintenance in Old Bridge Gardens

The Acting Clerk informed members that unfortunately a complaint had been received about the recent tree maintenance (copies tabled) and in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice Chairman she had put together a response which was agreed by those members and actioned. The Councils Contractor had also put together a response that the Acting Clerk emailed to the resident as well. A full verbal explanation was given to members regarding what work was carried out and why, the Acting Clerk confirmed that all processes were carried out correctly and where relevant planning permission was obtained, there are copies of the approval notices from TMBC on file in the Parish Office. Members **Agreed** the work carried out was needed and were happy the complaint had been dealt with appropriately. Members thanked

the Acting Clerk for the in-depth response given to the resident and appreciated the time it must of taken. **Closed**

16. Parking Issues – Tunbury Avenue, between Oaks Dene and the corner of Woodbury Road.

Councillor Wright reported that the above area has recently got worse for parking and as it is right near the bend, it makes it very difficult to have a clear view, the Parish feels that it is an accident waiting to happen. Therefore; members have asked the Acting Clerk to enquire about having yellow lines put there, as there currently is not any and to copy in the Borough Councillor Des Keers and Councillor Andrew Kennedy in his role as both Borough and County Councillor. Acting Clerk to report back to this committee with the outcome to the enquiry. **Ongoing**

17. Any Other Business

RBLI Base Camp and Play Area

Councillor Balcombe reported that he had spoken to the RBLI regarding the Base Camp and Play Area and enquired why these much loved and much needed community facilities were still closed. He has been informed that it is still closed because they do not have the staff to run them now so new staff need to be found then trained. The re-opening of these facilities is hopefully going to happen in August 2021.

Tunbury Car Park – White Lines

The Acting Clerk reported that the white lines in the Tunbury Car Park need refreshing and she is in the process of obtaining quotes. She will report back to this committee in due course. **Ongoing**

Tunbury Car Park – Speed of vehicles

The Acting Clerk reported that the Council had received a complaint from a resident about the speed of the vehicles coming out of the car park at school drop off and pick up times. The resident said they do not appear to look right when leaving the car park and there have been some near misses with other vehicles recently. The Acting Clerk informed members that she had sent an email to the school and to the pre-school asking them to remind their parents/carers that they should drive slowly and with care and consideration when entering and leaving the car park and to look right when leaving the car park. **Closed**

18. Duration of Meeting

8.02pm to 8.48pm