

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 28 JUNE 2016

Present: Cllrs Base (Chairman), Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, Walker

In attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs Brooks, Hammond, Homewood, Winnett, Wright

* * * * *

1. Apologies

Apologies as below were noted and reasons accepted:

Cllrs Mrs Brooks (care of elderly relative), Hammond (working), Homewood (KCC meeting), Winnett (holiday), Wright (holiday).

2. Declarations of Interests

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

A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS

1. General Highway Report - No report to this meeting.

2. Eccles Highway Matters

2.1 - Proposed **pedestrian crossing** in Bull Lane. Cllr Homewood reported to Council on 17 May that he hopes KCC will commence this project in August 2016.

3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters

3.1 - Milestone – Work completed. Awaiting installation by KCC.

4. Aylesford Highway Matters

4.1 - **Old Bridge Lighting Project** – Contractor has suggested upgrading lights at both ends of the bridge to LED which can be adjusted to the required lighting strength and installation. Clerk has confirmed hire costs are appropriate for the work and **order placed**.

4.2 - **Aylesford Village Square** - Meeting held Wednesday 22 June with County Councillor Homewood, KCC representatives, Cllr Balcombe and the Clerk re moving this project forward. Productive meeting at which it was agreed KCC will proceed with the safety audit and when this is completed the Clerk will proceed as follows:

Organise a consultation period for local High Street residents to view and comment on plans.

New street furniture will be purchased to match existing 'Heritage' lamp posts.

Look at including permanent fittings for a Christmas tree

Look at including permanent fittings for a noticeboard

Look at including replacement benches on the south side of the High Street

KCC agreed the purchase of benches and tables from Gallaghers and were also agreeable in principle to using Gallaghers to install whole project. Clerk will therefore discuss this further with Gallaghers to gauge their interest. **Clerk**

4.3 – **A20 congestion between Larkfield and Aylesford** – Clerk reported on the meeting held with other parishes, TMBC and KCC on 7 June at which the Amey report on the A20 was considered. The report contains detailed factual information on the problems faced and particularly identifies the junctions of A20/Hermitage Lane and A20/Quarry Wood. There are however no specific solutions to any of the problems included.

4.4 – **Hall Road** – Resurfacing and road closure to take place on 3 Sunday afternoons commencing 26 June 2016.

4.5 – **Hall Road Motorway Bridge Fencing** - Concerns re condition of fencing and littering have been followed up again. Local (Kings Hill) Highways England inspector has promised inspection week commencing 20 June. No further information received to date.

4.6 – **Elm Walk, Aylesford** – Closed from 25 July for 4 weeks for installation of new drinking water main.

5. Walderslade Highway Matters - No report to this meeting.

6. Public Footpaths

6.1 – **River Medway Towpath** – Commencement of work between Aylesford and Allington awaited.

6.2 – **MR 474 Towpath** – Proposed diversion of public footpath MR474 at Aylesford. An application has been made by the landowner to divert part of this footpath which is partially obstructed by housing in the Mill Hall area on a housing development known as Friars View. No objection. **Clerk**

7. Street Lighting

Following the recent survey of all lights, a number of replacement columns are being installed during the next two weeks.

8. Car Parks – No report to this meeting.

9. Any Other Business/Correspondence – No report to this meeting.

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - **Local history signs** – Clerk will be looking at this following on from the Aylesford Village Square enhancement project.

1.2 – Grass Maintenance – All Sports Sites

Order has been placed with Landscape Services for increased grass maintenance as agreed at last meeting.

2. The Hollow – No report to this meeting.

3. Ferryfield

Hire of part field for overflow carparking for dog show event at Rugby Club – 23/24 July.

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground – No report to this meeting.

4.1 - **Disabled Children’s Play Equipment** – Bucket style seat at Forstal Road recreation ground is now in place.

5. Allotments

5.1 - Shed security and tool marking events to take place at both sites being led by PCSOs. Parish Council just to supply paint - £25.

5.2 - Improved boundary fencing to deter rabbits to be investigated following pest control expert visit. **Clerk**

6. Eccles Recreation Ground

7. Tunbury Recreation Ground, Changing Rooms and Car Park

8. Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground

9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site

10. Cemetery

No report to this meeting on 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

11. Churchyard

There have been concerns raised regarding the lack of maintenance of the ashes interment area of the churchyard this year. Clerk has now discussed with the Church who have indicated they have made other arrangements but the Clerk has offered assistance if required.

12. Old Bridge Gardens

13. Mill Hall (Beside Rose Cottage/Old Bridge)

14. Yoakley Land

15. Walderslade Open Spaces

16. St Marks Square, Belgrave Street car park, New car park

No report to this meeting on 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.

17. Podkin Meadow

Quote awaited from the grass maintenance contractor to undertake a long term bramble clearance exercise in order to revert more of the site back to a traditional meadow. Brambles at the rear of properties will be retained together with small trees growing within the brambles as far as is practical. Dew pond areas to be looked at and assessed.

Cllr Smith reported problems with dog fouling. Signage to be increased.

Clerk

18. Summer Playscheme

Publicity received from TMBC for playschemes to be run by Premier Sports at St Peters Primary School, Aylesford and Tunbury Primary School, Walderslade. Clerk is awaiting a response to the questions he raised with TMBC on how the Parish Council's potential donation of £2500 would be allocated.

19. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence

Kent Trust for Youth Sport – Applications for sports grants invited from Clubs and Community Organisations. Details available from the Parish Office. Details already passed to Aylesford Football Club and other youth teams known to the Office.