

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE ADVISORY SUB COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 22 MARCH 2016
Commenced 8.10pm

MINUTES

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

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

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs Brooks, Elvy, Hammond, Homewood, Smith

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1. Apologies

Cllr Elvy - Unwell
Cllrs Hammond– Borough Council meeting
Cllr Mrs Brooks – Care of elderly relative
Cllr Homewood – County Council meeting
Cllr Smith – Personal engagement

Apologies and reasons accepted.

2. Declarations of Interests

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

3. Section 137 Donation requests

Eccles Pop In Group – Request for regular donation towards general running costs of approximately £8 per week - £416 per annum. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should discuss this further with the Group and request sight of their accounts. There was some concern amongst Members that the Group were requesting funding towards unspecified running costs as opposed to a donation for a specific purpose as on previous occasions ie. equipment and outings. **Clerk**

Eccles Pre School – Request for financial assistance to purchase new tables and chairs - £765. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Winnett that this be **agreed** in principle. Clerk will clarify exact details with the Pre-School and arrange for the Parish Council to be invoiced directly. To be funded from Eccles Church Hall Grant fund. **Clerk**

4. Hall Grants/Loans

Tunbury Hall – Loan requested to cover cost of unexpected electrical work - £2990. It was proposed by Cllr Balcombe, seconded Cllr Winnett that this be agreed with half repayment in September 2016 and remaining half March 2017. **Agreed Clerk**

5. Section 137 Micro Grant requests

Mackenders Lane, Eccles residents have requested financial assistance to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme following recent burglaries. Proposed leaflet production and distribution costs £79.50. Cllr Gledhill proposed this be funded from his microgrant account. Clerk will also clarify whether the group anticipate any further costs. **Agreed Clerk**

6. 2015/16 Financial Comparison April 2015 – March 2016

Tabled and attached at Appendix A to be bound copy of these minutes. There were no matters raised.

7. Financial Matters arising from Other Committees

Environmental Services – 22 March 2016 – Minute A.7

Following receipt of the survey on the Parish Council’s street lights, ESC have recommended acceptance of the quotes to proceed with:

a) the immediate (April 2016) replacement/repairs identified in the first priority category totalling £32,378;

and

b) acceptance of the quote to proceed with the replacement/repairs identified in the second priority category totalling approximately £9016 in the next financial year 2017/18.

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Balcombe that FASC accept these recommendations and propose to P&R on 5 April 2016 that they be funded as follows:

£50,000 to be earmarked for Special Lighting Projects within the earmarked reserves and vired from existing reserves:

£20,000 Lighting
£10,000 Loans Fund
£10,000 Special Projects
£10,000 Contingency

Agreed unanimously.

8. Business Rates

Clerk reported on his enquiries with TMBC re possible business rates rebate and future reduction. TMBC have agreed that as the Parish Council pay rates on more than one property (Parish Office, Cemetery, Tunbury Hall Changing Rooms) they are entitled to a rebate dated back to 2010/11 and an on-going reduction in future. This was welcomed by Members and the Clerk thanked for his research on this matter.

9. Any Other Business/Correspondence

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.35pm.