

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2015
MINUTES

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

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

Apologies: Cllrs Ambrose, Mrs Brooks, Homewood, Winnett

* * * * *

1. Declarations of Interest

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

2. Apologies

Apologies from Cllrs Ambrose (holiday), Mrs Brooks (holiday), Homewood (holiday) and Winnett (another meeting) were noted and reasons accepted.

3. Finance Advisory Sub Committee

Minutes of meeting held on 25 August 2015. Attached at **Appendix A**. Agreed for accuracy and recommendation.

Matters Arising

5. Section 137 Micro Grant requests – Cllr Base – Churchyard wall repairs. Clerk reported that this may not be appropriate for Section 137 (donation) money as the Council may have a responsibility to maintain the churchyard as a whole. This will be clarified when quotes are received and if it is agreed the work should proceed, the correct form of funding will also be agreed.

4. Accounts for Payment

Payment list attached at **Appendix B**. 45 payments totalling £23,058.78 were checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Elvy and **agreed**.

5. Law and Order

A number of items have been reported missing or stolen from graves in the cemetery. To be reported to local PCSO.

6. New Eccles Car Park

Still awaiting formal approval from TMBC. Initial drainage concerns have been resolved by the contractor with TMBC with the inclusion of a French drainage system at an additional estimated cost of £4000. This additional expenditure was **agreed**. TMBC Environmental Department have now raised concerns re hydrocarbons in the surface drainage water possibly affecting the allotments. The Parish with the Contractor is seeking to resolve their concerns. Signing of the lease by Trenport was due to be done today (1 September) – awaiting confirmation of receipt from solicitor. Once all received and if received in time contractor will be given go ahead to commence work on planned date of 8 September, though it is quite likely that the start will be delayed.

7. Rugby Club/Netball League

The Rugby and Netball Clubs have been advised of the rent review due to take place in August. The Clerk reported that since the last rent increase 5 years ago the Retail Price Index had increased by 15.65% and therefore the rent needed to be increased as follows:

Quarterly rent: Rugby Club – Increase from £647 to £748.26
Netball League – Increase from £363.50 to £420.59

Increases were unanimously **agreed** by Members. Clerk to advise both Clubs. **Clerk**

8. **Flood Defences** - No report to this meeting.

9. Council Vacancies

Current vacancies: 2 Aylesford South 2 Eccles

Applications received for co-option from:

Amanda Neimer – Eccles resident. Ms Neimer's application was considered by Members (available in the Parish Office) and it was unanimously **agreed** that she be co-opted to the Council as a Member for Eccles and be invited to make her Declaration of Acceptance of Office before or at Council on 15 September. **Clerk**

Anna Morrell – Eccles resident. Ms Morrell's application was considered by Members (available in the Parish Office). Members expressed concern at the requirement of Ms Morrell to bring her 4 year old child to meetings. After careful consideration of all options it was unanimously **agreed** with regret that Ms Morrell's co-option could not be accepted at this point in time as there are no adequate provisions within the Parish Office for child care during meetings.

10. TMBC Local Centres Fund Budget

Village square enhancement - Awaited suggested designs from Fitzpatrick Woolmer have not been forthcoming and the Clerk is now seeking alternative suppliers and has further site meeting arranged for next week.

11. Social Media – Facebook/Twitter

Clerk is considering the advantages/disadvantages. Members favour facebook over twitter, whilst recognising that any social media outlet must be used positively and with caution. Clerk will make a more detailed report to P&R in October.

12. Any Other Business/Correspondence

12.1 - **Reminder** - Cllr Walker arranging in conjunction with TMBC a **litter clearance** initiative for Hermitage Lane on Wed 2nd September. Meet at Sainsburys 6.00pm. Volunteers welcomed.

12.2 - **Tunbury Avenue** parking restriction proposals – Item deferred from ESC 25 August 2015. Local Walderslade Members agreed the following comment to be passed to TMBC:

‘Objection based on the fact that there is no suitable short term alternative parking in the immediate area and the restrictions would in fact create more congestion and inconvenience for local residents.’

12.3 – **Eccles Memorial Clock** – Local resident request to place flowers for her late husband around the Clock following the funeral on 11 September. **Agreed.** **Clerk**

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.50pm.