

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES

TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2015

Commenced 7.55pm

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Present: Cllrs Wright (Chairman), Balcombe, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Rillie, Smith, Tiller, Winnett

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

Apologies: Cllrs Ambrose, Base, Mrs Brooks, Fielder, Homewood

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1. **Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest additional to those contained in the Register of Members' Interests.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies from Cllrs Ambrose (work commitment), Base (work commitment), Mrs Brooks (care of elderly relative), Fielder (ill) and Homewood (KCC business) were noted and reasons accepted.

3. **Finance Advisory Sub Committee**

Minutes of meeting held on 24 February 2015 attached at **Appendix A**.

Matters arising

3.1 – **Hall Grants**

St Albans Church have requested a grant payment of £2615.24 (excluding VAT) to install grass protection mesh to enable parking on the grass throughout the year.

Whilst agreeing the project in principle, in view of the amounts involved local Members asked for sight of quotations sought and a plan of the area involved before formally agreeing payment. **Clerk**

Walderslade Baptist Church have requested a grant payment towards a new kitchen – total cost £5500. Clerk has received information about quotes and discounts obtained by WBC. To be funded by £1000 from a KCC grant, £1000 Parish Council local members microgrants, £2084.69 2014/15 Parish Council grant, leaving a short fall of £1415.31. They have requested a one year interest free loan of £1500 to cover this. It was **agreed** that the Clerk

should discuss with WBC whether they would prefer to take this amount from their £2000 2015/16 grant. Either option was **agreed** in principle in addition to payment of the 2014/15 grant and microgrants. **Clerk**

4. **Cleaner and Gatekeeper Rates for 2015/16**

Currently – Cleaner £8.00 per hour (2 hours a week)

Gatekeeper - £5.50 per day

Proposed by Cllr Tiller, seconded Cllr Winnett, that in view of the increases given last year these rates of pay should remain for 2015/16. **AGREED**

5. **Accounts for Payment**

Payment list attached at **Appendix B**. 46 payments totalling £24992.29 (including late payments) were checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Elvy and **agreed**.

6. **Law and Order** - No report to this meeting.

7. **New Eccles Car Park**

Clerk reported on the current position following his meeting with professional advisor. Clerk has met with Sara Fletcher, a Consultant Highways Engineer who is currently working with Kent Highways. She has gone through the quotes and specifications and with some minor amendments has approved the Council decision to go with Kent Turf Care. Meeting between Sara, the Clerk and Kent Turf Care has been arranged to go through the fine detail of the project. Sara has also agreed to oversee the project during construction. Expected fee approximately £1000. Noted and **agreed**.

Planning permission awaited.

Lease in the hands of Trenport and Parish Council solicitors is close to completion.

It was **agreed** that a height barrier will not be included in the project at this stage. When the car park is in use it will be monitored to ensure its condition is not being adversely affected by large vehicles.

8. **Council Policy on Recreation Ground Use**

Signs for Tunbury, Forstal Road, Eccles and Ferryfield should all be installed this week.

9. **Rugby Club/Netball League**

Parking in Ferryfield previously agreed for Festival on 22 March 2015.

10. Flood Defences

Cllr Rillie's report on CPRE Flooding Conference – 6 February 2014. Notes attached at **Appendix C**.

11. Council Vacancies

1 Walderslade; 3 Aylesford South; 2 Eccles.

Application for co-option received from Mrs Susan Dorrington, resident of Aylesford South distributed to all Members and attached to the bound copy of these minutes at **Appendix D**. Co-option proposed by Cllr Balcombe, seconded Cllr Mrs Gadd and **agreed**. **Clerk**

12. TMBC Local Centres Fund Budget

Works planned for Aylesford village centre using £7000 grant from TMBC. Site meeting being held on 11 March re village square enhancement. Representatives from KCC, TMBC, Parish Council and Clerk to attend.

Planning application made for the welcome sign at the entrance to the village advertising local businesses.

13. Fees review for 2015/16

Overall 10 % increase for all charges agreed at last meeting. It was further **agreed** this evening that the Council policy to waive charges for junior pitches (less than 11 a side) continue for the 2015/16 season.

14. Elections 2015

Clerk report on guidance received from TMBC Elections Team will be circulated to all Members. **Clerk**

Election day – 7th May. Borough Council count will take place on Friday 8th May. Parish Council count will take place on Monday 11th May.

15. Any Other Business/Correspondence

15.1 – Cllr Rillie reported the restrictions currently being put in place to prevent parking by HGVs on the Old Chatham Road Maidstone bound direction and the possible knock on effect this may have if vehicles seek alternative parking places. Noted.

15.2 – The Clerk reported that he has investigated the works taking place in fields off Bull Lane. This is being used by UK Power Networks as a training site for maintenance of telegraph poles etc. No development is involved. Noted.

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.45pm.