

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2015

Commenced 8.pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Gledhill (Chairman), Ambrose, Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, and Wright

In attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs Base, Mrs Brooks, Hammond, Walker, and Winnett

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1. Declarations of Interest - There were no declarations additional to those contained in the Register of Members Interests from Councillors.

The Clerk disclosed an interest in the Minutes of the Staffing Committee held on 27 October 2015.

2. Apologies

Apologies from Cllrs Base (TMBC Meeting) , Mrs Brooks (care of elderly relative), Hammond (TMBC Meeting), Walker (TMBC Meeting) and Winnett (Holiday) were noted and reasons accepted.

3. Finance Advisory Sub Committee

Minutes of meeting held on 27 October 2015. Attached at **Appendix A.**

Matters Arising

3 – Section 137 Micro Grant Requests – Cllr Gledhill – Eccles Football Club – Funding for grounds maintenance works at the football club cost £119. **Agreed.**

4. Accounts for Payment

Payment list attached at **Appendix B.**

46 payments totalling £33,704.97 were checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Elvy. **Agreed.**

The Clerk reported that he had received a further invoice from RDR Pest Management in the sum of £32 for pest control work at the cemetery. It was **agreed** that the invoice be paid.

5. Law and Order - No report to this meeting.

6. New Eccles Car Park

Work has been completed and the new car park has been well received by local residents.

7. **Rugby Club/Netball League** – Councillor Rillie reported that he would be attending Refresher Flood Warden Training on 16 November.

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

9. Council Vacancies

9.1 - Current vacancies: 2 Aylesford South 1 Eccles

9.2 – Clerk to report to a future meeting of the Committee on a social inclusion policy

10. Development Programme Scheme Update

The Clerk updated the committee on the current position on the schemes within the Development Programme - report attached

11. Staffing Committee held on 27 October 2015

Minutes attached at **Appendix C** and the recommendations agreed as set out below

11.1 Staff Salaries 2015/16

(1) That the salaries for 2016/17 should be set as follows:-

Clerk - £34746

Deputy Clerk - £17279

Finance Officer - £9860

Maintenance Supervisor - £23603

Environmental & Grounds Maintenance Operative - £17318

(2) That any nationally agreed adjustments to the salaries for Local Council Clerks be reflected in the salary levels set out above and be implemented in April 2016. .

Agreed

11.2 Christmas 2015

(1) That an additional day's leave of Thursday 24 December 2015 be granted to the staff

(2) That a Christmas bonus of £200 be given to the staff in view of their outstanding performance during the year.

Agreed

11.3 Holiday Pay

That the request from Mr Lee Randall that he be paid for 5 days holiday thereby reducing his holiday entitlement this year by 5 days be approved. **Agreed**

12 **Kent County Council 2016/17 Budget Consultation**

The Consultation explains that KCC is proposing a small increase in Council Tax (up to the amount permitted without having to arrange a formal referendum - e.g. 1.99%) to contribute towards the additional demands being placed on council services and to provide some protection for local services. The Consultation question asks “How much Council Tax would you be willing to pay towards the financial challenge the authority faces next year?” and provides 3 options:

- I'd accept the small proposed increase without the need for a referendum e.g. 1.99% (The KCC element of the Council Tax charge on a band C property would increase by £19.36 per year or 37p per week).
- I'd accept a larger increase requiring a referendum e.g. 5% (The KCC element of the Council Tax charge on a band C property would increase by £48.40 per year or 93p per week).
- No increase (leave the KCC element of the Council Tax charge on a band C property at £966.88 per year or £18.59 per week) and make equivalent cuts to services (of around £11m per year) on top of the estimated £80m already needed to balance the budget).

The Committee **agreed** to submit no response to the consultation.

13. **Any Other Business/Correspondence**

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Leybourne Grange Riding Centre for the Disabled inviting Parish Councillors to their Annual Christmas Nativity and Blessing on Friday 11 December 2015.

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.30pm.