

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
At The Church Hall, Bull Lane, Eccles
21 OCTOBER 2014
MINUTES

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

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

Others: 1 Member of the Public

Apologies: Cllr Tiller, Cllr Ambrose, Cllr Mrs Brooks
Borough Councillors Davis, Dalton, Smith, Sullivan

AGENDA ITEM 1

82. Declarations of Interest additional to those disclosed in the Members' Register of Interests

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

AGENDA ITEM 2

83. Apologies for absence – The apologies and reasons for absence received from Cllr Tiller (Moving house), Cllr Ambrose (Holiday), Cllr Mrs Brooks (Caring for Elderly Relative), were accepted.

AGENDA ITEM 3

84. Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Gledhill reported on his attendance at St Peters Church, Aylesford, Community Service on 19 October where he spoke about the role of the Parish Council and answered questions. It was a well attended and enjoyable service. Cllr Homewood was also in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM 4

85. Adjournment of the meeting to allow for public participation (subject to the provisions of Standing Order 1(d))

Mr Ainsworth, resident of Walsham Road updated Members on his continuing communications with Kent Highways in an effort to get all night street lighting reinstated. He acknowledged the efforts of County

Councillor Homewood and Borough Councillor Sullivan who have attended site meetings. However following KCC's meeting in September to review their 'Safe and Sensible Street Lighting' policy, it appears they are still refusing to look at individual areas which are causing concern to residents when lights go off at midnight or 1am depending on the time of year until early morning. He indicated that the police and AA were not objecting to these changes.

Mr Ainsworth reiterated his view that this is a poor decision by KCC which affects people's safety and security, both pedestrians and vehicle drivers. He is aware of a number of other Councils nationally who originally adopted a reduced lighting policy but have now reversed their decision in view of public concerns. Mr Ainsworth will continue to lobby for a similar reversal of policy by KCC and looked for Parish Council support.

County Councillor Homewood stated that KCC have been forced by Government to continue to make substantial annual financial savings and the £1.5m they estimate to save with their S&SSL policy is therefore non-negotiable at this time.

Cllr Elvy commented that new lights recently installed on the path at Tunbury Primary School appear still to be switched on at 9.30 in the morning.

Cllr Gledhill asked the Clerk to write to KCC expressing the Parish Council's concern that KCC are not willing to look at individual sites where their S&SSL policy is causing particular concern to residents.

Clerk

The Chairman thanked Mr Ainsworth for his attendance and report.

There being no other public participation, the meeting was reopened.

AGENDA ITEM 5

86. Law and Order in the Parish

86.1 – Latest crime reports from PCSOs Iantosca (Aylesford) - attached at **Appendix A**.

86.2 – There was no report from PCSO Tiller (Walderslade, Eccles, Blue Bell Hill). Clerk will query this.

Clerk

AGENDA ITEM 6

87. To confirm as a correct record and to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2014.

87.1 – Page 4, 77. Planning – Delete *5 August 2014* and insert *2 September 2014*.

Subject to this amendment, Minutes of the meeting were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Elvy and the actions contained therein agreed.

AGREED

AGENDA ITEM 7

88. Matters Arising from the previous minutes (including those which required Members' action)

There were no matters arising.

AGENDA ITEM 8

89. **To receive the report of the County Councillor Homewood**

Cllr Homewood referred to KCC Community Award Scheme. Nominations for people making a significant contribution to community life in the county are invited. Members elected to nominate the Bluebell Hill School of Dance (Mrs Burnham-Jones) and Aylesford Youth Club organisers. Clerk to confirm names and addresses and nomination procedure. **Clerk**

Cllr Gledhill thanked Cllr Homewood for his report.

AGENDA ITEM 9

90. **To receive the reports of the Borough Councillors**

90.1 - Cllr Balcombe (Aylesford) reported that works in Aylesford village centre on paving and drainage have been completed. Improvements to the standard of surface on footways in Rochester and Forstal Roads have also been undertaken. Cllr Rillie commented that the footways certainly look better but queried whether the correct materials for laying at this time of year have been used. Clerk will raise this with Kent Highways. **Clerk**

Members hoped that improvements to road surfacing in the village will now become a priority. A great deal of patching has taken place over the years and it now requires a top coat to improve the appearance, particularly in view of the likely plans to upgrade the village centre.

90.2 – Cllr Davis (Eccles) has sent apologies but reported to the Clerk that work to alleviate flooding in Mackenders Lane, Eccles will commence on 10 November.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Committee reports/minutes: to consider and adopt minutes, and to deal with any matters arising

91. **Environmental Services Committee –23 September 2014**

It was proposed by Cllr Base, seconded Cllr Wright, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

Matters Arising/Any Other ESC Business

Page 2, 4.3. **Aylesford Highway Matters – Rochester Road.** Cllr Base stated that in addition to the re-profiling of the speed humps, additional measures were required to reduce speeding approaching the village and to prevent HGVs coming through the village. He has approached Kent Highways regarding these issues as a local resident and an article is expected in the Kent Messenger. Cllr Rillie added he would like to see ‘pinch points’ installed at the entrances to the village giving priority to vehicles leaving the village.

Page 3, 6. Public Footpaths – **Creation of Bridleways** – Clerk confirmed that a letter confirming the Council’s objections to the removal of motorcycle inhibitors has been sent to KCC as agreed.

92. Policy and Resources – 7 October 2014

It was proposed by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Elvy that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

Matters Arising/Any Other P&R Business

92.1 – Page 2/3 – **AVCC Lease** – Clerk confirmed the Lease has now been signed, copy received and is now in place.

93. Planning –7 October 2014

It was proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Smith, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

There was no Matters Arising/Any Other Planning Business.

93.1 – Cllr Balcombe reported that the **Upper Bell** appeal against TMBC Enforcement Orders have been rejected. Members welcomed this information.

AGENDA ITEM 11

94. **Accounts for Payment** – Payment list distributed to all Members and attached at **Appendix B**.

94.1 – 18 payments totalling £11,034.64 were checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Elvy and **agreed**.

AGENDA ITEM 12

95. **To consider any other items of correspondence/Any Other Business**

No reports to this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 13

96. **Chairman to move that: ‘The press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as publicity for any confidential aspects of the business identified in agenda items 1 – 12 above would be likely to prejudice the public interest.’**

Not required.

AGENDA ITEM 14

97. **Closure of the meeting at or before 9.30pm**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.