

**AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
AT ECCLES CHURCH HALL, BULL LANE, ECCLES
15 OCTOBER 2013**

MINUTES

[To be accepted as a correct record at the next Meeting]

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

Others: Borough Councillor Davis

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

Apologies: Cllrs Ambrose, Base, Mrs Brooks, Ms Hurley, Homewood, Smith
Borough Councillors Smith, Sullivan, Dalton

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 - Noted.

AGENDA ITEM 3

84. Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Gledhill reported on the Aylesford Bulls Rugby Club lunch on 12 October at which the formal presentation of the defibrillator to the Club by the Parish Council in memory of Andrew Flindell was made. The Club expressed their gratitude for the donation and made the representatives of the Council and Andrew's family very welcome.

AGENDA ITEM 4

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

There were no members of the public present and the meeting was reopened.

AGENDA ITEM 5

86. Law and Order in the Parish

86.1 **Crime report for September** was distributed to Members and attached in the bound copy of the minutes at **Appendix A**.

Page 2 – Eccles Belgrave Street parking – This has a relevance to the proposal to provide a new car park in Eccles in the future. Noted.

Cllr Elvy informed Members that a blue transit van with a trailer and no official number plate has been regularly parking on double yellow lines in Walderslade. It has been reported to the police. Noted.

86.2 – **Crime Report for August** - The Clerk reported that following Members comments on the statement at the top of last month's report, he had spoken to our PCSOs Negus and Iantosca. They informed him that this statement was issued by their superiors when the new reporting system was introduced. They gave the Clerk their assurance that all crimes (apart from those of a personal nature or those for which reporting details may affect on-going investigations) were included.

Regarding Members query concerning the traveller invasion at Podkin Meadow not appearing on the report, PCSO Negus stated that whilst she had been aware of the invasion, as there was no on-going investigation she had not included it. She appreciated Members concerns that there was no reference to it and undertook to ensure any similar situation in the future is included.

86.3 – **CCTV** – The Clerk referred to the Parish Council's mobile CCTV camera, currently situated at The Hollow. This was paid for by the PC but installed and managed by the Police. There was a lap top required to monitor the camera but this was last in the hands of the Police and the PC office staff are not aware of where it is now. Our current PCSOs are investigating if the police still have the lap top and will also enquire whether the current camera is the most appropriate and up to date system, together with appropriate costs. Clerk will report back to Council after receiving this report from the PCSOs and consideration will then be made on whether to bring the existing camera back into use or whether an upgrade is appropriate.

Clerk

AGENDA ITEM 6

87. To confirm as a correct record and to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2013

The Minutes were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Elvy and **agreed**.

AGENDA ITEM 7

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

88.1 – Page 3, 74.2 – Borough Councillor Smith has informed the office that Kent Highways have agreed to repaint the Hall Road zebra crossing lines. Noted.

AGENDA ITEM 8

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

Apologies received from Cllr Homewood. No report.

AGENDA ITEM 9

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

Borough Councillor Davis

90.1 - Cllr Davis referred to the Parish Council's discussions relating to **parking in Belgrave Street** and surrounding roads in Eccles. He is aware of the potential dangers relating to emergency vehicles not being able to gain access but the Borough Council were not proposing any changes to the parking restrictions (yellow lining) until the new car park is operational.

90.2 - Cllr Davis then referred to a **KCC consultation document on Tonbridge & Malling Cycling Strategy** produced by KCC. This document has not been circulated to Parish Councils for comment but Cllr Davis considered it was important that APC had an opportunity to support additional routes for inclusion in the Strategy as any proposals for the future not included are unlikely to attract funding. After considering a map of the Snodland area which takes in Wouldham, Burham, Eccles, Blue Bell Hill and Aylesford, the following routes were **agreed** to be passed to KCC with a request for inclusion in the strategy:

Registration of the proposal by Trenport to include cycle routes in their Peters Village development which run from the junction of Court Road and Rochester Road in Burham. The opportunity exists within this route to cross the new bridge over the Medway to link into cycle ways on the west bank of the river.

Rochester Road/Bull Lane – From the Court Road junction on Rochester Road to the Bull Lane junction there will only be a footpath construction which is also part of the Peters Village Development plan. Inclusion of a cycle route within the proposed footway as a later project may be possible.

Bull Lane (Stokes Way) – Existing footway could include a new cycle route

Eccles to Aylesford – Inclusion of a new cycle way alongside the existing footpath/footway along Bull Lane

Cllr Davis will provide the Clerk with the KCC contact details.

Davis/Clerk

90.3 – **Flooding** – Cllr Davis reported that following recent heavy rain it appeared some long standing flooding issues in the Eccles/Burham/Wouldham area have been improved following recent works ie. Alex Hill. However there are still issues in Mackenders Lane and Bull Lane at its junction with Cork Street and Hawkes Road which he will continue to pursue with Kent Highways.

Borough Councillor Balcombe

90.4 – **Flooding** – Cllr Balcombe reported that he is aware Kent Highways are dealing with flooding issues on the A20 (Homebase bus stop area) and Hall Road (cemetery area). The Clerk advised that he has also reported flooding in Station Road (opposite the Brassey Centre) and Firs Close (adjacent to Hall Road) to Kent Highways.

The Chairman thanked Borough Councillors for their attendance and reports.

AGENDA ITEM 10

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

91. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – 24 September 2013

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

Matters Arising/Other ESC Business

91.1 – Page 1, 4.3 – **Level Crossing Closure Dates** – Some extra dates have been added. Information added to website or available from the parish office.

91.2 – Page 2, 1.1 – **Annual Play Equipment Inspection** has reported some non urgent major works required to the Alien at Forstal Road recreation within the next 12 – 18 months – approximate cost £7000. To be considered in more detail and alternative quotation from original supplier to be sought. Further report to next ESC. **Clerk**

91.3 – Page 3, 3.2 – **MUGA Ferryfield** – Cllr Balcombe and the Clerk reported that a site meeting had been held earlier today with local councillors, the Clerk and representatives of Wicksteed. Site agreed is between the existing fenced play equipment and the railway line. There might be a slight cost implication as levels in this area are not straightforward but Wicksteed have undertaken to keep this at a minimum. Clerk was given authority to agree any reasonable extra costs if required.

91.4 – Page 5, 12. **Old Bridge Gardens** – The large willow tree in the Gardens split and fell during heavy rains and winds on Friday 11 October. There were reports of an ambulance being called to a person under the tree at the time but no further information is available. Debris has been cleared and tree pollarded by a tree surgeon.

Following this incident there have been repeated requests from residents living in the barn conversion at the Millgate entrance to OBG for a bollard key, either for themselves or to be held by the Bluebell Estate Agency, to enable emergency vehicle access to their properties and OBG. Local Members considered this was not appropriate as the distance from the Millgate entrance recess to their entrances was minimal and would make no significant difference for these vehicles. It could make the area vulnerable to unauthorised parking.

92. POLICY AND RESOURCES –1 October 2013

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

Matters Arising/Other P&R Business

92.1 – Page 1, 3.2 – 8.2 – Council this evening formally ratified the decision of P&R/FASC to suspend **standing orders re purchase of the MUGA** for reasons stated in the FASC minutes of 24 September 2013. **AGREED**

92.2 – Page 1, 3.3 – **KCC Gypsy and Traveller Play equipment donation.** This has been accepted with thanks. KCC appropriate department will contact us again when ready to proceed.

92.3 – Page 3, 15. **TMBC Joint Standards Committee** – Cllr Elvy has reviewed the TMBC proposed Terms of Reference for the JSC and proposed them for agreement by Aylesford Parish Council, seconded Cllr Winnett and **agreed.** TMBC to be advised. **Dep Clerk**

92.4 – Page 4, 19.4 – **Scout Hut** – Clerk has reviewed the Aylesford Scouts website which reports that they have moved temporarily to The Friars but still have a long term plan to build their own hut on land at the entrance to Yoakley Land. Noted.

93. PLANNING – 1 October 2013

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

Matters arising/Other Planning Business:

93.1 – Page 1, TM/13/02080 **58 Hurst Hill, Walderslade.** Further information has now been received from TMBC and local members have agreed they have no objection to the proposal to remove two goat willows. TMBC have been advised.

93.2 – Page 4, 3. **Rochester Airport Masterplan.** Clerk reported that he has received further communication from this resident demanding additional information relating to the reasons for the Parish Council's support for the Masterplan. Clerk has discussed with Cllr Tiller and will be responding on the basis that the Parish Council's views were based on the information received from Medway Authority.

AGENDA ITEM 11

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

Cllr Gledhill had checked and approved the cheque list earlier today. For clarification he reported:

Cheque 09746 - £566.80 is for the repair of one set of Christmas lights on the old Aylesford Bridge.

Cheque 09754 - £30.00 is for a sign for Tunbury Hall car park gate and will be coded accordingly.

23 payments totalling £6769.95 were proposed for payment by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Elvy.

AGREED

AGENDA ITEM 12

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

95.1 – Victim Support – Thank you for donation.

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.’**

There were no confidential matters.

AGENDA ITEM 14

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

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.21pm.