

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2015
7.30PM – PARISH OFFICE
AGENDA

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1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests

A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS

1. General Highway Report

2. Eccles Highway Matters

Proposed pedestrian crossing in Bull Lane. It was agreed at Council on 15 September 2015 that the Parish Council would offer to fund 50% of the cost of the crossing up to maximum of £10,000. Further information awaited from Cllr Homewood.

3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters

3.1 - Milestone – The Milestone is still with the contractor.

4. Aylesford Highway Matters

4.1 - **Old Bridge Lighting Project** – Planning application for tree work has been submitted and awaiting outcome from TMBC. Currently setting up meeting with Kent Highways

4.2 - Aylesford Village Square

- Enhancement Project – Clerk to report on proposals from Marshalls and meeting with Gallaghers on Friday re street furniture

4.3 – **A20 congestion between Larkfield and Aylesford** – Clerk to report on meeting with Kent Highways and TMBC and local parish council held on 14 October.

5. Walderslade Highway Matters

Fostington Way –Clerk reported speeding traffic on Fostington Way to local PCSO and will look into whether it is possible to bring back into use the Council’s Speedwatch equipment.

6. Public Footpaths

Kent County Council Definitive Map Modification Orders for the Creation of Bridleways in the Parishes of Aylesford and Burham - At the last meeting of ESC it was **agreed** that it was appropriate that the Council should continue to pursue its objections to these modifications. Clerk to report on progress on preparing for the Inquiry in February 2016.

7. Lighting

7.1 - York Avenue and Victoria Road, Walderslade – Awaiting clarification that these two roads have been formally adopted by Kent Highways following upgrading carried out several years ago. There is a responsibility for maintenance issue now as one of the lights in Victoria Road has been reported as out. This has been reported to Kent Highways and their response is awaited.

7.2 – Street Lighting - A free Street Lighting Survey has recently been carried out by Streetlights Ltd. As part of their survey they identified a number of faults which are highlighted below together with the cost of repair.

1. Minor repairs (eg. Timers, ignitors etc.) required to lights in: Alma Road, AVCC car park, Beresford Road, Church Walk, Forstal Road, Greenfield Close, Aylesford High Street, Jenner Way, Kingswood Road, Mount Pleasant, Powell Close, Pratling Street, Queenswood Road, Rochester Road, Robson Drive, Salisbury Road, Springett Close, Trewin Close – total cost £1825. Clarified these are all our lights.

2. Major repairs required to lights in:

Walderslade Woods Footbridge path – replace all six lights with LED - £2070

Queenswood Road – Major repair to one column - £125

Pratling Street – Major repair to one column with LED lantern - £345

Clarified these are all our lights.

I would recommend that these repairs are carried out by Streetlights Ltd.

In addition to the above I am opening discussions with Streetlights Ltd regarding their assistance with any ownership queries with Kent Highways and producing a detailed

inventory and the numbering of columns for ease of reference in the future. I also intend to discuss with them proposals to reduce energy bills and running costs.

7.3 – Kent Highways – KCC are undertaking a Street lighting consultation the closing date for which is 29 November 2015.

The consultation paper indicates that the County Council intends to convert their lighting to LED but asks which of the following options would the Council favour:-

Option 1 – Part night lighting on the basis of the current policy and which has partially been introduced whereby lights switch off at midnight and come on again at 5.30am (01.00 and 06.30 BST). This saves £5.2m and reduces light pollution.

Option 2 – All night lighting which saves £4.8m but increases light pollution.

In addition the County Council are seeking the Council's view on the dimming of lights by 30% to 50% which has been found to be a reasonable approach by other lighting authorities. As an example if lights were dimmed by 40% between midnight and 5.30am that would save approximately £160k. Therefore the Council is being asked if it would support the dimming of lights between

- a) 8pm and midnight
- b) Midnight and 5am
- c) 5am and 8am.

The views of members are sought to enable the Council to respond.

8. Car Parks

New Eccles Car Park – New car park in operation.

9. Any Other Business/Correspondence

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - **Local history signs** –Clerk looking at this in conjunction with the Aylesford Village Square enhancement project

1.2 – **Annual play equipment inspection** by Wicksteed carried out in September. Report has just been received. A separate inspection of the gym equipment at Forstal Road, Eccles and Tunbury has taken place and the report is awaited.

1.3 - Children’s Play Areas – Smoking Ban Signs

Clerk to report to a future meeting.

1.4 – **Request for Baseball Pitch** – The Kent Mariners Baseball Club have asked whether the Council has any recreational land available for them to find a more permanent home than their current location at Cobdown. They would require space to put in place their Diamond which would have a simple back net and a small pitchers mound. They would also require a space for a small container to store equipment and a toilet facility within walking distance. The committee will need to consider whether it has any facility that it would wish to make available on a more permanent basis which meets their requirements and if wishing to proceed to authorise the Clerk to enter into discussions regarding the details of their application.

2. The Hollow

3. Ferryfield

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground

4.1 – Multi sports courts – A local resident has complained to the Council about damage caused to his glasshouse namely 2 panes of glass smashed allegedly by a football from the new football facility at the former redundant tennis court.. Clerk will report on the detail at the meeting.

4.2– Rabbit hole damage. RDR Pest Management appointed and will be undertaking the work in the near future using ferrets.

4.3 – Water leak on pipe leading to allotments – Work completed and awaiting invoice, cost of repair minimum £300.

5. Allotments

Aylesford - New numbers still to be installed.

Eccles – Gate refurbishment completed.

6. Eccles Recreation Ground

6.1 - Fencing of play equipment – Clerk to report on quotations at meeting.

7. Tunbury Recreation Ground, Changing Rooms and Car Park

7.1 – **Damaged play equipment gate** –Order placed to replace existing gate - £885.

7.2 – Additional Play Equipment

Order placed for equipment as **agreed** at the last meeting at a cost of £31,517.64. Start date awaited but expected to be in mid November.

7.3 – **Dog Fouling** – Bag and Flag event to be planned with TMBC for Spring 2016.

8. Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground

9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site

10. Cemetery

Clerk to report on the results of the action taken in respect of moles at the cemetery.

11. Churchyard

Ragstone wall repair authorised at Council on 15 September - £580. Work being undertaken w/b 26 October. Report also requested on condition of the remainder of wall.

12. Old Bridge Gardens

13. Mill Hall (Beside Rose Cottage/Old Bridge)

Some tree removal may be required in conjunction with proposed Old Bridge lighting project at A. 4.1 above. Planning application has been submitted.

14. Yoakley Land

Work on a long term plan and strategy for the area as a whole being considered by the Clerk for further discussion with Members at a future meeting. Clerk has approached Kent Wildlife Trust to become involved.

15. Walderslade Open Spaces

One bollard received from Kent PROW. The need for further bollards to be assessed and installation to be undertaken in house..

16. St Marks Square, Car Park and Surrounds

17. Podkin Meadow

Request for Toddler Play Equipment

Subject to agreement on exact siting, the order will be placed for equipment agreed at the last meeting at a cost of £14,384. Start date awaited but expected to be mid November

18. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence