

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
Aylesford Football Club Pavilion
23/25 Forstal Road on

Tuesday 8 May 2018

Present: Cllrs Base, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Ludlow, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, Wright

Others: Borough Councillor Sullivan

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

Apologies: Cllrs Balcombe, Gledhill, Hammond, Walker, Winnett

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Mr Harris, Clerk to the Council, took the Chair for items 1 – 4.

AGENDA ITEM 1 - Declarations of Interest additional to those contained in the Registry of Members' Interests

1. There were no declarations additional to those contained in the Register of Members' Interests.

AGENDA ITEM 2 - Apologies for absence

2. Apologies and the reasons for them were noted as accepted as follows: Cllrs Balcombe (holiday), Gledhill (business), Hammond (TMBC meeting), Walker (TMBC meeting), Winnett (personal).

AGENDA ITEM 3- Election of Chairman of Council: Declaration of Acceptance of Office

3. Cllr Balcombe was proposed by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Ms Dorrington. Cllr Balcombe had indicated his willingness to stand as Chairman. There were no further nominations and Cllr Balcombe was therefore unanimously elected as Chairman. The Clerk will arrange for Cllr Balcombe to make his Declaration of Acceptance of Office on his return from holiday. **Clerk**

AGENDA ITEM 4 - Election of Vice-Chairman of Council

4. Cllr Shelley was proposed by Cllr Elvy, seconded Cllr Wright. Cllr Shelley indicated his willingness to stand as Vice Chairman. There were no further nominations and Cllr Shelley was therefore unanimously elected as Vice Chairman.

Cllr Shelley then took over Chairmanship of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5 - Casual Vacancies

5. Current Vacancies – Aylesford South 3 Eccles 1 Blue Bell Hill 1

AGENDA ITEM 6 - To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 March 2018

6. Proposed by Cllr Elvy as a correct record of the meeting, seconded Cllr Wright.
Agreed

AGENDA ITEM 7 - Matters Arising from the previous minutes (including those which required Members' action)

7. There were no matters arising.

AGENDA ITEM 8 - Chairman's Announcements

8. Cllr Shelley thanked Members and staff for their work during the year. The forthcoming year looks to be just as busy and challenging.

AGENDA ITEM 9 - Adjournment of the meeting to allow for public participation (subject to the limitations of Standing Order 29 d)

9. There were no public in attendance and the meeting reopened.

AGENDA ITEM 10 - Annual Return 2017-2018

1. Annual Governance Statement 2017-18
2. Accounting Statements 2017-18

10. The Clerk sought authority for Policy and Resources on 5 June 2018 to finalise and agree these documents following the visit of the Internal Auditor on 24 May 2018 and in order to meet the deadline for return by 11 June 2018. Proposed by Cllr Elvy, seconded Wright and **agreed** unanimously. **Clerk**

AGENDA ITEM 11 - Law and Order in the Parish

11. No report to this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 12 - To receive the observations of the County Councillor

12. County Councillor Homewood was not in attendance and there was no report.

AGENDA ITEM 13 - To receive the observations of the Borough Councillors

13.1 – Borough Councillor Sullivan (Blue Bell Hill and Walderslade)

Upper Bell development – TMBC are still considering this application. There has been strong local opposition to the original plan and TMBC have sought amendments. Revised plans are awaited.

Rochester Airport – Plans to create a tarmac runway to replace one of the grass runways appear to have been shelved due to increased costs including the requirement of a very expensive Environmental Impact Assessment. The building project proposed has qualified for an Enterprise Zone Growth Fund grant due to increased local employment opportunities and is therefore likely to proceed and will take over one of the grass runways. There are concerns locally regarding this building project due to the likely increase in traffic. The airport will then operate on one remaining grass

runway in the future. The building project will fall fully within the Medway Authority area and TMBC will no longer be involved.

Litter Picking – Borough Councillor Keers continues to organise a once a month litter clearance in the Walderslade area. This has been well supported by residents.

Upper Warren Road – Cllr Rillie asked Cllr Sullivan if he was aware of tree removal along Upper Warren Road. Cllr Sullivan agreed to look into this but it was thought unlikely that there were any trees with TPOs in this area.

13.2 – Borough Councillor Base (Aylesford North and Eccles)

TMBC Draft Local Plan – The timetable for the DLP has been brought forward in order to qualify for the original methodology for calculating housing requirements which will be less than if based on the new methodology coming in later this year. The DLP will be available to the public at the beginning of June, will go to Full Council in September and then on to the Planning Inspector and Public Hearings. Principal sites identified for development in Aylesford Parish area are Bushey Wood, Aylesford Quarry and Hermitage Lane. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council have already commented on these sites raising an objection unless the infrastructure, particularly in relation to traffic movements, is addressed before any development takes place.

Cllr Ludlow asked about the development of the Aylesford Newsprint site. Cllr Sullivan and Base both commented that this is a complicated matter in the hands of receivers. Likely proposed development is 30% housing, 70% industrial/commercial which will have major infrastructure issues. Members are also aware of South East Water's interest in part of the site. It was also noted that the Parish Council had objected to the planning application.

Peters Village Bus Service – Cllr Ludlow asked what efforts are being made to ensure Arriva honour their agreement to revise bus timetables and routes once the trigger point for occupancy of Peters Village is reached. Cllr Base advised that this was a matter of KCC but he was aware of other discussions with Arriva relating to the 155 bus service generally and the Peters Village issues should be included in these discussions. Cllr Sullivan added that one meeting has already been held with Arriva, County, Borough and Parish Council representatives and the date of the second meeting is awaited.

Cllr Rillie commented that he understood most of the delays for the 155 service are caused by traffic congestion at both ends of the route ie. Chatham and Maidstone. He understood one solution being considered was to split the route in half so passengers wishing to travel the entire route would be required to change buses half way.

The Chairman thanked Borough Councillors for their attendance and reports.

AGENDA ITEM 14 - **Committee Reports/Minutes: to consider and adopt; to deal with any matters arising**

14. 1 - **Policy and Resources – 3 April 2018** – Proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded Cllr Mrs Gadd and unanimously **agreed**. There were no matters arising.

14.2 – **Policy and Resources - 1 May 2018** – Proposed by Cllr Elvy, seconded Cllr Wright and unanimously **agreed**. There were no matters arising.

15.1 - **Environmental Services – 27 March 2018** – Proposed by Cllr Elvy, seconded Cllr Wright and unanimously **agreed**. There were no matters arising.

15.2 – **Environmental Services – 24 April 2018** – Proposed by Cllr Elvy, seconded Cllr Smith and unanimously **agreed**. There were no matters arising.

16.1 - **Planning – 3 April 2018** – Proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded Cllr Elvy and unanimously **agreed**. There were no matters arising.

16.2 – **Planning -1 May 2018** – Proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded Cllr Smith and unanimously **agreed**. There were no matters arising.

AGENDA ITEM 15 - **To appoint representatives to Outside Bodies**

17. To be confirmed at Policy and Resources Committee – 5 June 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 16 - **Appointments to Standing Committees**

18.1 – Staffing Committee appointed as Cllrs Balcombe, Mrs Gadd, Mrs Dorrington, Gledhill and Elvy.

18.2 – Other Standing Committees to be confirmed at Policy and Resources Committee – 5 June 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 17 - **Appointments to ad hoc committees**

19. To be confirmed at Policy and Resources Committee – 5 June 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 18 - **Accounts for Payment**

20. Proposed payment list attached at Appendix A. 16 Payments totalling £3942.99 were checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Shelley, checked and seconded by Cllr Elvy and unanimously **agreed** for payment.

AGENDA ITEM 19 - **To consider any other items of correspondence/any other business**

21.1 – **Aylesford Scouts** – The Aylesford Scout Group have requested permission to erect a banner on the site of the proposed new Scout Hut, Forstal Road, advertising their fundraising efforts and summer fayre. **Agreed**

21.2 – **Food Bank** – Community Warden Debbie Foreman has requested a financial donation to purchase supplies for the food bank which serves Aylesford, Eccles, Burham and Wouldham. Cllr Mrs Gadd offered £100 from her micro grant. **Agreed**

Members asked the Clerk to discuss with CW Foreman whether a regular donation would be appropriate. **Clerk**

AGENDA ITEM 20 - **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 – 19 above would be likely to prejudice the public interest.’**

22. The meeting went into Closed Session to consider the Policy and Resources Closed Session Minutes of 1 May 2018.

Meeting reopened.

AGENDA ITEM 21 - Closure of the meeting

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