

# AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - 19 MAY 2015

Commenced 8.20pm

### MINUTES

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

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

**Others:** 3 Members of the Public

**Apologies:** Cllrs Base, Mrs Brooks  
County Councillor Homewood  
Borough Councillors

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The following Reports were received, accepted and attached to the bound copy of these Minutes.

- 1) **Report of the Chairman** of the Parish Council for the year 2014-15
- 2) Reports of the Chairmen of the Committees for the year 2014-15
  - a) **Planning;**    b) **Environmental Services;**    c) **Policy and Resources**  
(included in the Chairman's Report)
- 3) Reports of Chairmen of Ad Hoc Committees and Representatives on Outside Bodies for the year 2014-15

**Tunbury Hall**

**Blue Bell Hill Village Hall**

**Rochester Airport Consultative Committee**

**United Charities of the Ancient Parish of Burham**

- 4) Public Participation

**Mr Ainsworth**, resident of Walsham Road, Walderslade

Mr Ainsworth stated his continued disappointment at the response or lack of response from all levels of local authority including the Parish Council, to his concerns

regarding KCC's Safe and Sensible Lighting Policy (SSLP) particularly affecting his road. He had received no satisfactory response to his request for his road to be individually assessed in view of his opinion that the SSLP creates a dangerous situation in Walsham Road with the lights going off for a period of time during the night. He is now aware that KCC's policy has changed and that over a period of the next two years all lights are to be replaced with LED which will eliminate the need for switching off lights at night. However there is no information on when Walsham Road will be done.

The Clerk responded that the Parish Council had written to KCC expressing concerns about the SSLP overall but had received only a standard reply that roads could not be assessed individually. However the Parish Council did have the view that pressure from all levels had brought about the change in policy to upgrade all lights to LED. The Parish Council appreciated that there was no temporary change to the SSLP planned for individual roads whilst waiting for the LED scheme to be implemented.

The Clerk was asked to write to KCC to try and ascertain the programme of implementation.

**Clerk**

Members reported that at the present moment there seems to be a random replacement of lighting columns with LED, those requiring repair/replacement make sense but there are also random columns being changed which appear to have had nothing wrong with them.

Mr Ainsworth stated he would appreciate being advised of any information the Parish Council can obtain from KCC particularly relating to the timing of replacement lights for Walsham Road.

**Dr Shelley**, resident of Walderslade

Dr Shelley asked whether the development of brownfield sites such as Peters Pit, is being monitored by the Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council is consulted on all development through the normal TMBC planning permission system and is also aware that the TMBC Local Plan is currently under review on which the Parish Council can expect to be consulted on the draft plan when ready. The Parish Council needs to be seen to be positive about planning opportunities but also to defend strongly when necessary. This constructive approach maintains a good continued relationship with TMBC and ensures its views are listened to by TMBC.

Dr Shelley stated that he would like to see more promotion of the River Medway as a leisure opportunity for the area. The Clerk stated that the view of the Parish Council is to ensure that the right mix of recreation and development always go hand in hand.

The Chairman thanked Members of the Public for their attendance.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members who had contributed Reports and closed the meeting at 8.50pm.