

Aylesford Parish Council

Meeting of the Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 July 2019 at the Eccles Church Hall, Eccles.

Present: Councillors Balcombe (Chairman) and Councillors Base, Ms Dorrington, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Ludlow, Ms Oyewusi, Shelley, Smith, Sullivan, Walker, Williams, and Winnett.

In Attendance: Mr Harris (Clerk) and Mrs Randall (Assistant Clerk and Finance Officer)

Apologies: Councillors Hammond, Rillie, Wright and Borough Councillor Kennedy

1. Declarations of Interest additional to those contained in the Register of Members' Interests

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

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Hammond (personal commitment), Rillie (Holiday), Wright (Holiday) and Borough Councillor Kennedy (work commitment) were received, and the reasons for absence agreed.

3. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced that he had attended the RBLI County Parade held at the Gardens of Remembrance with Councillors Mrs Gadd and Gledhill and he laid a poppy wreath on behalf of the Parish and Councillor Gledhill had laid a wreath on behalf of the village of Eccles. He had also attended the departure of the Veteran Cycle Ride to Ypres and the Menin Gate Memorial.

4. Adjournment of the Meeting to allow for Public Participation

Mr Farrow enquired whether there was any plans to develop a service road behind Cork Street which had been consulted on several years ago. The Council indicated that there

were no plans as this suggestion had related to proposals relating to a new car park which had not been provided here but at the end of Belgrave Street next to the allotments.

Mr Johnson raised the issue of the speed of traffic and parking on Bull Lane which he felt could only be alleviated by traffic calming. He indicated that he felt the speed of traffic had increased since the opening of the new bridge across the Medway. The Council responded that this was a matter for Kent Highways. However, it had been indicated to the Parish Council at a recent meeting with Kent Highways that Bull Lane did not meet their criteria for traffic calming or a 20mph speed limit and that Kent Highways would not be taking any action. Additionally, it was very unlikely that anything would be done until the outcome of the inquiry into the Local Plan was known and whether there would be any development at Bushy Wood. If there was development the Parish Council would be looking for a relief road to be built making Bull Lane for local traffic only and changing or removing the dangerous Bull Lane/Pilgrims Way junction. The Council did indicate that it would discuss the possibility of another traffic survey with Kent Highways.

Mr Jenner raised the issue of water on the road next to his property which the Council indicated they were taking no action.

At the conclusion of the adjournment for public participation the Chairman reopened the meeting.

5. Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 21 May 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Balcombe and seconded by Councillor Base that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 21 May 2019 be **approved** as a correct record and signed.

6. Matters Arising from the previous minutes

There were no Matters Arising.

7. Policy and Resources Committee Minutes

Policy and Resources – 4 June 2019

There were no matters arising.

Policy and Resources – 2 July 2019

There were no matters arising.

Co-option to the Council

It was **Agreed** that Mr Peter Homewood and Mr Steve Beadle be co-opted to the Council.

8. **Environmental Services Committee Minutes**

Environment Services – 28 May 2019

There were no matters arising.

Environmental Services - 25 June 2019

There were no matters arising.

9. **Planning Committee Minutes**

Planning – 4 June 2019

There were no matters arising.

Planning – 2 July 2019

There were no matters arising.

10. **To Receive the Report of the County Councillor**

County Councillor Homewood was not present and there was no report.

11. **To Receive the Report of the Borough Councillors**

Councillor Base reported that TMBC had recently agreed a new Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergencies Policy. It was intended that the Borough would be carbon free by 2050 and they were reviewing their services and operations to ensure that TMBC had policies that support climate change mitigation, for example the provision of electric charging points across the borough, so that it is one of the most welcoming places in the country for driving electric and hybrid vehicles. The Council would also be looking to introduce a no to the mow scheme looking to create more wildlife habitats. They were also going ahead with the refurbishment of the Larkfield Leisure Centre and adopting a new IT Strategy which would look to improve the website experience.

12. **Accounts for Payment**

The Council considered the Payment Schedule attached to the Agenda and Councillor Shelley proposed and Councillor Mrs Gadd seconded and it was **Agreed** that 30 payments totalling £9878.68 be made.

13. Any Other Correspondence

There were no other items of other correspondence.

14. Duration of Meeting

7.30pm to 8.38pm