

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
At St Albans Church, Blue Bell Hill
17 March 2015
MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Gledhill (Chairman), Balcombe, Base, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Homewood, Rillie, Smith, Tiller, Winnett and Wright – Mrs Dorrington part meeting

Others: Borough Councillor Sullivan
Three Members of the Public

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

Apologies: Cllrs Ambrose, Mrs Brooks, Fielder
Borough Councillors Dalton, Davis, Smith
PCSOs Iantosca and Tiller

AGENDA ITEM 1

146. 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

147. Apologies for absence – The apologies and reasons for absence received from Cllrs Ambrose (personal engagement), Mrs Brooks (Caring for Elderly Relative), Cllr Fielder (Illness) were accepted.

AGENDA ITEM 3

148. Chairman's Announcements

148.1 - Cllr Gledhill reported he had attended the Lord Lieutenant of Kent Civic Service at Rochester Cathedral on 10 March. A well attended, excellent event.

148.2 – Cllr Gledhill reported that he had attended with the Clerk a meeting with Bam Nuttall, the highway contractors for Peters Village. Imminent road improvement plans involve the closure at night of the Pilgrims Way from Hale House to Rochester Road from the 7 April to 17 May for refurbishment. The diversion will be through Aylesford Village. The Clerk is to speak to Southern Water re the weight restriction which prevents them travelling through the village. There should be no tanker movement during the night unless there is emergency but the Clerk will clarify the situation with them.

There will be roadworks and three way traffic light control from the Pilgrims Way to Rochester Road up to the Lower Bell from 30 March to 17 May for refurbishment and installation of a new footpath. Noted.

AGENDA ITEM 4

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

There was no public participation requested and the meeting was reopened.

AGENDA ITEM 5

150. Law and Order in the Parish

Latest crime reports from PCSOs Iantosca (Aylesford) and PCSO Tiller (Walderslade, Eccles, Blue Bell Hill) distributed to all Members and attached to the bound copy of these minutes at **Appendix A**.

AGENDA ITEM 6

151. To confirm as a correct record and to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2015.

Minutes of the meeting were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Winnett and the actions contained therein be agreed. **AGREED**

AGENDA ITEM 7

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

152.1 – Page 3, 139.3 – Redundant tyres were sold for £102.

AGENDA ITEM 8

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

153 - Policy and Resources – 3 February 2015

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

No matters arising.

154 – Policy and Resources – 3 March 2015

154.1 - Page 1, Present: Delete 'Cllrs Wright (Chairman)' and insert 'Cllrs Gledhill (Chairman). Delete 'Gledhill' and insert 'Wright'.

Subject to these amendments, it was proposed by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Wright, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed be agreed. **AGREED**

Matters Arising

154.2 – Page 1, 3.1 – St Albans Grant – Local members have now agreed the quote of £2615.24 is acceptable and payment is on the schedule for approval at this meeting.

154.3 – Page 1, 3.1 – Walderslade Baptist Church – The church have elected to take the shortfall of £1415.31 from their 2015/16 grant.

154.4 – Page 3, 11. Council Vacancies – Agreement to the co-option of Mrs Susan Dorrington was confirmed and she will be invited to make her Declaration later at this meeting.

154.5 – Page 3, 12. TMBC Local Centres Fund Budget – Welcome sign – Planning permission has been received today. Clerk will now proceed with manufacture by British Legion Industries.

155. Co-option of Mrs Susan Dorrington as an Aylesford Parish Council Member representing Aylesford South Ward.

Mrs Dorrington made her Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the Clerk and was welcomed to the Council by the Chairman. Cllr Mrs Dorrington then took her formal place for the remainder of the meeting.

156. Planning – 3 February 2015

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

There were no Matters Arising

157. Planning – 3 March 2015

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

There were no Matters Arising or other Planning business.

158. Environmental Services – 27 January 2015

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

There were no Matters Arising.

159. Environmental Services – 24 February 2015

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

Matters Arising

159.1 – Page 2, 4.5 – Aylesford Village Square. Following pressure from Tracy Crouch MP, TMBC, the Parish Council and local residents, BT have now agreed to resite the green broadband box. Exact new location awaited.

AGENDA ITEM 9

160. To receive the report of the County Councillor Homewood

160.1 – David Brazier is no longer KCC Cabinet Member for Highways. Matthew Balfour has taken up the post.

160.2 – KCC Street Lighting policy has changed. Over the next 2 years all lights will be upgraded to LED thus eventually eliminating the current Safe and Sensible Lighting policy which involves lights being switched off around midnight until early morning. Upgrading will be done in batches and the new lights will be centrally controlled. Estimated energy bills will be reduced from £5 million to £2 million annually. The new scheme will pay for itself within 8 years and lights are expected to have a life span of 20 years. Members welcomed this news.

160.3 – KCC have agreed a 1.99% Council Tax increase. Noted. Cllr Homewood read a statement from KCC on ‘I Get Nothing for my Council Tax’ which details the 300 plus services provided by KCC. Full statement attached at **Appendix A**.

160.4 – Cllr Smith expressed concern at the littering of verges on the approaches into Maidstone particularly around the Running Horse roundabout. Cllr Homewood will report this.

AGENDA ITEM 10

161. To receive the reports of the Borough Councillors

Apologies received from Cllrs Dalton, Davis and Smith

Cllr Sullivan (Blue Bell Hill & Walderslade)

161.1 – Cllr Sullivan welcomed Cllr Homewood’s report on lighting. He would appreciate sight of the rollout programme so that local residents can be informed, particularly those who have expressed strong concerns about the Safe and Sensible Lighting policy.

161.2 – Cllr Sullivan welcome the appointment of Matthew Balfour, KCC Highways. He has already discussed with him the Lord Lees roundabout congestion problems and Mr Balfour has confirmed that this has been identified as a priority for attention and a congestion strategy plan is being considered.

161.3 – Upper Bell – TMBC are preparing a document with requirements for improving the visual impact of the site but they do have only limited powers as to its future development. KCC have completed the replanting of trees removed without permission and have settled costs out of court.

Cllr Balcombe (Aylesford)

161.4 – Welcomed the news that the green broadband box is to be resited in Aylesford village square following pressure from all parties.

AGENDA ITEM 11

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

26 items for payment totalling £16,939.92 were checked by Cllr Mrs Gadd and Elvy and proposed for payment by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Elvy and **agreed**.

4 income payments for the period 4 to 11 March totalling £6247.62 were also noted.

AGENDA ITEM 12

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

162.1 – Invite from the Ashlin Quarter to the opening of the Station Road development on 18 April. Councillors to advise the office if they wish to attend.

162.1 – Mayors Charity Go Karting – 27 April. Councillors to contact the Mayor's office if they wish to attend.

162.3 – TMBC recruiting for staff for the Summer Playscheme. Details from TMBC Leisure Services.

AGENDA ITEM 13

163. **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.'**

Not required.

AGENDA ITEM 14

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

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.32 pm.