

**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**held at Eccles Church Hall, Bull Lane, Eccles on**

**Tuesday 18 July 2017**

**Present:** Cllrs Balcombe (in the Chair), Base, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Gledhill, Homewood, Mrs Gadd, Shelley, Smith, Walker, Winnett

**In attendance:** Mr Harris, Clerk    Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk  
Mr Ludlow  
1 Members of the Public

**Apologies:** Cllrs Rillie, Wright

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

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

**AGENDA ITEM 2 - Apologies for absence**

20. - Cllrs Rillie (work commitment), Wright (holiday)  
Apologies and the reasons for their absence were noted and accepted.

**AGENDA ITEM 3 – Chairman's Announcements**

21. Cllr Balcombe reported that recent events supported by the Parish Council (Big Lunch, Scout Family Day, Royal British Legion concerts) have been successful and enjoyable.

Invitations are expected in the near future to the opening of the new RBL Veterans accommodation in September. The Parish Council have agreed to fund garden furniture.

Work has commenced on the new play equipment project at the RBL and is looking very exciting. The Parish Council have made a donation towards this project.

**AGENDA ITEM 4 - Adjournment of the meeting to allow for public participation (subject to the limitations of Standing Order 29 d)**

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

**AGENDA ITEM 5 – Law and Order in the Parish**

23. No report to this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 6 - To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 9 May 2017**

24. The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council and the Annual Parish Meeting were proposed as a correct record of the meeting by Cllr Balcombe, seconded Cllr Shelley and actions included to be accepted. **AGREED**

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

25. Annual Meeting of the Council – Page 3, item 14.4 – **Proposed 20mph Speed Limit in Eccles.**

Clerk reported that the Public Notice for this Order has now been made. The consultation process and legal process is likely to take a few months and there is no date for implementation as yet.

**AGENDA ITEM 8 - Committee Reports/Minutes: to consider and adopt; to deal with any matters arising**

**26. Policy and Resources –6 June 2017**

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Base as an accurate record of the meeting and actions included to be accepted. **AGREED**

There were no Matters Arising.

**27. Policy and Resources – 4 July 2017**

Proposed by Cllr Balcombe, seconded Cllr Ms Dorrington as an accurate record of the meeting and actions included to be accepted. **AGREED**

Matters Arising

27.1 – Page 2, 9. **Eccles Councillor Vacancy.** Mr Ludlow was in attendance this evening. His application for co-option was considered in Closed Session at the end of the open session this evening.

**28 – Planning – 6 June 2017**

**Present list:** Remove Cllr Base.

Insert **Others list:** Cllr Base

Subject to this amendment, the minutes were proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Gledhill as an accurate record of the meeting and actions included to be accepted.

**AGREED**

There were no Matters Arising.

## 29 - Planning – 4 July 2017

Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Elvy as an accurate record of the meeting and actions included to be accepted. **AGREED**

### Matters Arising

#### 29.1 – Page 3, TM/17/01595 – **Land South of London Road and East of Hermitage Lane, Aylesford South. Gladman Developments – Outline Application for up to 840 dwellings etc. All matters reserved with the exception of means of access.**

The Clerk reported the details of the application which was for outline permission for up to 840 dwellings etc. He reminded Members of their view expressed in their comments to the Draft Local Plan where they sought a plan which would show the much needed infrastructure improvements needed for the A20/Hermitage Lane area to be in place before any development came forward. This particular proposal was coming forward in isolation and not as part of an agreed plan. The Council also identified that the proposed new link road, provided as part of this development was dependent on other highway schemes being completed, some of which were planned and some not. Additionally there appeared to be no mention of the completion of the eastern footway between the A20 and Barming railway station.

The Clerk also indicated that the developers were likely to appeal this application possibly even before TMBC had made a decision. An Inspector looking at this application would need to determine whether the developers could prove TMBC do not have sufficient housing supply numbers to meet the Government target over the next five years. TMBC believe that they this five year supply.

Cllr Mrs Gadd commented on the problem in Hermitage Lane with the narrow railway bridge which is not likely to be improved.

Cllr Ms Dorrington commented that allowance in traffic movements should include residents from outside the new development visiting the proposed doctors and schools. These services will not only be used by residents of the new development. Existing doctor surgeries have closed their books to new patients.

Cllr Base commented that this application will go before the Full TMBC, not just Area 3.

Members considered the draft response objecting to the application (attached at **Appendix A** to these Minutes) and **agreed** unanimously (Cllr Base and Cllr Walker as TMBC Members did not vote) that it should be the Parish Council's formal response. **AGREED Clerk**

#### 29.2 – Page 3, 5. AOB – 5.1 – **Phoenix House, Forstal Road**

The Clerk reported that APC's views regarding establishing a public right of way between Forstal Road and the towpath at this site have been reiterated to TMBC. They have noted this and also informed the Clerk that Kent PROW have also made the same request.

#### 29.3 **Aylesford Quarry Development**

There is no formal planning application for this development yet. The Clerk reported that the public exhibition held on 17 July had been well attended. Initial views of the

public are concerns re traffic, Rochester Road being not much more than a narrow two lane country road, no real public transport structure, therefore all new residents will have cars, the lakes are not large enough to provide real watersport opportunities.

The Clerk stated that at the present time the APC view is as stated on the Local Plan, that housing development on this site would only be considered if there was sufficient leisure/community benefits.

There has also been a leaflet distribution with a consultation questionnaire distributed throughout the Aylesford and Eccles wards. Closing date for return 21 July.

### **30 – Environmental Services – 23 May 2017**

Proposed by Cllr Base, seconded Cllr Elvy as an accurate record of the meeting and actions included to be accepted. **AGREED**

Matters Arising

30.1 – Page 2, 6.1 – **River Medway Towpath MR473** – Cllr Base reported that TMBC have accepted responsibility for litter bins in this area. Currently the bin at the end of the path has been replaced with a larger one and the path overall is being monitored regarding further requirements.

### **31 – Environmental Services – 27 June 2017**

Proposed by Cllr Base, seconded Cllr Gleddhill, as an accurate record of the meeting and actions included to be accepted. **AGREED**

Matters Arising

### **31.1 – Page 5. 6. Eccles Recreation Ground**

Bollards have been ordered and should be in place within the next 10 days. Boulder will then be removed and gang mowing done as soon as possible. Meanwhile cutting around the play equipment, gym equipment and skateboard park has been done in-house.

### **AGENDA ITEM 9 - To receive the observations of the County Councillor**

32. Cllr Homewood had no report for the meeting.

### **AGENDA ITEM 10 - To receive the observations of the Borough Councillors**

33. Borough Councillor Base (Aylesford North and Eccles)

33.1 Cllr Base reported the Borough Council were back to a heavy workload following a slight lull for local authority and General Elections.

33.2 Negotiations are underway with the waste services contract. This may involve introducing a ‘garden waste’ charge system, which would be in line with most other local authorities.

33.3 There is a need to make further savings in 2017/18 of £700,000 so all aspects of TMBC operations are being considered including capital investments and a review of

all Borough responsibilities including those not legally required to be provided by Borough councils. The benefits of shared/joint services with Gravesham Borough Council continues to be reviewed.

34. Borough Councillor Walker (Aylesford South) – Cllr Walker added to Cllr Base’s report on ‘garden waste’ charges that these are likely to be in the region of £40-£50 per annum per household.

#### AGENDA ITEM 11 - **Accounts for Payment**

35. - Payment list distributed to all Members and attached at **Appendix B** to these minutes.

35 payments totalling £27,724.51 were checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Shelley, seconded Cllr Elvy. **AGREED**

#### AGENDA ITEM 12 - **To consider any other items of correspondence/Any Other Business**

36 .1 – **Aylesford Newsprint Development** – Clerk has been informed that no decision will be taken on this application until the Autumn. Noted.

36.2 – **Village Entrance Advertising** – The Clerk has received a number of complaints regarding the two new large A frame advertisements that have been placed on the grassed area where the village sign is situated. One smaller A frame for a different company has been in situ for some months without comment. Members were also concerned at the increased use of the site and the poor impression it creates at the entrance to the village and asked that the Clerk take the matter up with Kent Highways.

#### 36.3 – **Toys R Us site, Blue Bell Hill**

Public exhibition on the proposed redevelopment of this site to include an Aldo and KFC – 20 July 2017 – Bridgewood Manor Hotel.

36.4 – **Mr Aaron Ludlow** introduced himself and stated his interest in being co-opted on to the Parish Council for Eccles Ward. The Chairman thanked him for his application and advised that members would consider his application in Closed Session and the Clerk would contact him by the end of the week.

AGENDA ITEM 13 - **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.’**

Mr Ludlow and one other member of the public left the meeting.

37. Closed Session Minute relating to 1. Mr Ludlow; and 2. Staff acknowledgment.

#### AGENDA ITEM 14 - **Closure of the meeting**

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