

Aylesford Parish Council

Environmental Services Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Parish Council Offices, Aylesford on Tuesday 2 July 2024

Present: Councillor Mrs Gadd (Chairman) and Councillors, Balcombe, Mrs Birkbeck, Craig, Ms Dorrington, Fuller, Gledhill, Mrs Ogun, Rillie, Sharp, Shelley, Smith and Sullivan.

In Attendance: Melanie Randall (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillors Chapman, Mrs Eves, Ms Oyewusi, Ludlow and Walker.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Chapman, Mrs Eves, Ms Oyewusi, Ludlow and Walker were received, and the reason for absence agreed.

2. Declarations of Interest

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

3. To Agree the Minutes of the last meeting held on 4 June 2024

It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 June 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. Any Matters Arising from the last minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Small Works Programme

The painting/staining has been done in Tunbury and Podkin Meadow has been started.

Ongoing

6. Request from Wrenbridge to move access gate at Little Preston

The Clerk informed the committee that she had received a request from Wrenbridge to move the gate at Little Preston inwards. KCC had undertaken some S278 highways improvements works at the rear of the Parish Councils access gate to its land and KCC have informally

requested Wrenbridge to ask the Parish Council if they would be minded allowing their gate to be moved inwards further into its land to allow a vehicle to safely park between the road and the gate. Now there is no room for a vehicle to park off the road fully while unlocking/locking the gate. This was not a problem before the works were carried out but as the improvements have gone right up to the Parish Councils boundary removing the small verge there is now no room to safely pull in off the road. The council was asked to consider the fact that there are large lorries using the road and it could be dangerous for someone not to be able to pull in off the road, especially as it is on the corner. Members were shown photographs of the gate and area, but as some had not been to Little Preston before, it was agreed that those who wanted to would go and have a look before the committee comes to a decision. The cost of the works would be met by Wrenbridge, who would discuss with the Clerk the exact location of the gate and height barrier.

Deferred until 6 August 2024

7. Damage to Eccles Recreation Ground from the recent Fun Fair visit

The Clerk reported that there had been some considerable damage to Eccles Recreation Ground caused by the recent visit of the Fun Fair. She has obtained a quote from a contractor who has the specialist equipment needed to carry out the repairs.

There are ruts of between half an inch and 4 inches in depth with displaced soil causing the edges of the ruts to be raised.

The repairs will involve 20 tonnes of top soil and grass seed, a team of three, logistical and agricultural machinery (vans, trailers, tractor and attachments). A two-phase repair is needed, first they will apply the top soil to the affected areas, level and compact it and apply the grass seed. The second phase will take place in the Autumn with a tractor, heavily roll the field and smooth the edges and other imperfections and use the tractor mounted slitter to reduce the compaction from the previous works. The quote is for £4,271.20 and was accepted.

Closed

8. Replacement Streetlighting Column required for Old Bridge Gardens, Aylesford

The Clerk showed members some photographs of the streetlighting column in question and explained it needs replacing due to the rust and holes at the base. The quote is for £3,017.50, this is for UKPN to carry out their work and the cost of the replacement streetlighting column and the Councils contractor to install it. It was **Resolved** to accept the quote. **Closed**

9. Parish Infrastructure Statement

The document was reviewed and subject to a couple of amendments was approved.

The Clerk will make the amendments and return to TMBC.

Closed

10. Any Other Correspondence

A Councillor mentioned there is a sign on a lamppost in Aylesford High Street that says no parking, but it is too high up the post for it to be seen by drivers. It is to stop people from parking and blocking access to the parking area behind the Beauty Bank. The Clerk said that Councillor Chapman had asked her about this, and she informed him to speak to KCC as the lamppost is theirs.

Closed

11. Duration of Meeting

7:51pm to 8:30pm