

Aylesford Parish Council

Environmental Services Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Capel Morris Centre on 14 December 2021

Present: Councillor Mrs Gadd (Chairman) and Councillors Beadle, Mrs Eves, Fuller, Gledhill, Ms Oyewusi, Rillie, Sharp, Shelley, Smith, Walker and Winnett.

In Attendance: Melanie Randall (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillors Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Ludlow, Sullivan and Williams.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Ludlow, Sullivan and Williams 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. Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 November 2021

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 November 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. Small Works Programme

The Clerk reported that the type 1 had been laid to the entrance of Podkin Meadow and KCC had put a new sign in with two arrows on it pointing in the direction of the footpaths.

Ongoing

5. Parking at the Upper Bell Slip Road

The matter of the lorries parking on this slip road is still an ongoing problem. The Clerk contacted TMBC to find out the outcome of the meeting they had recently with Kent Police regarding the enforcement of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). TMBC responded “Kent Police are able to enforce the TRO and will be looking at doing this when resources allow (so

they may not be able to be there every night but it has been allocated as a task so they will be aware of the issues and should attend when they can” The Clerk reported that she is sceptical of the words ‘when resources allow’ so has followed up with Borough Councillor Des Keers who agrees. He will chase up action through the Community Safety Partnership Forum which he chairs and will add it to the agenda items under Road Traffic Safety and seek regular input and updates in order that the matter is dealt with expeditiously rather than when resources allow.

Ongoing

6. Highway Improvement Plan (HIP)

The Clerk reported that no further updates had been received and the latest Action Plan was noted.

Ongoing

7. Bus Services

7.1 155 Bus Service – Councillor Ludlow was not present therefore no update was received regarding him arranging a meeting with KCC and a few residents about this service.

Ongoing

7.2 Free Tesco Bus Service - Councillor Ludlow was not present therefore no update was received. It was suggested that this item be removed from the agenda, however after discussion it was agreed it should go on the next agenda of this committee to enable Councillor Ludlow to receive further correspondence from Tracey Crouch’s office. Councillor Ludlow will be asked to follow this up.

Ongoing

8. Gap between Ferryfield and Rugby Club

The Clerk reported that the installation of the gate has been put on hold until the early part of 2022.

Ongoing

9. KCC Members Grant Request from Councillor Kennedy

The Clerk informed the Committee that the £1,000 grant for the purchase of a bench in Old Bridge Gardens was used to purchase two picnic benches, one having already been installed. The concrete base for the second one is due to be installed in the coming days then the picnic bench will be erected thereafter.

Ongoing

10. Floodlights in Old Bridge Gardens

The Clerk reported that the Council is still waiting for the repairs to be carried out under warranty.

Ongoing

11. Possible hire of skip in the new year for Aylesford Allotments

The Clerk reported that at the initial meeting to form the Allotment Committee she had suggested to those present that the Council might consider hiring a skip for the allotments so that it gives plot holders an incentive to tidy up and keep it tidy. She made it clear at the time that if the Council agrees then it would be a total one off and they are not to expect it again. The skip wouldn't be required until March 2022. After discussion it was **Agreed** that this was worthwhile and the Clerk can go ahead next year when it is needed. **Closed**

18. Duration of Meeting

7.41pm to 7.55pm