

**AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**  
**COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2015**  
**MINUTES**

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**Present:** Cllrs Base (Chairman), Ambrose, Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Hammond, Ms Neimer, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, Walker, Winnett, Wright

**In attendance:** Mr Harris, Clerk Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk

**Apologies:** Cllrs Mrs Brooks, Homewood

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**1. Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllrs Mrs Brooks (care of elderly relative), and Homewood (KCC meeting) were noted and reasons accepted.

**2. Declarations of Interests** – There were no declarations additional to those contained in the Register of Members Interests.

**A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS**

**1. General Highway Report** – No report to this meeting.

**2. Eccles Highway Matters**

Proposed pedestrian crossing in Bull Lane. It was agreed at Council on 15 September 2015 that the Parish Council would offer to fund 50% of the cost of the crossing up to maximum of £10,000. Further information awaited from Cllr Homewood and KCC. Delayed due to staff changes at KCC.

**3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters**

3.1 - Milestone – The Milestone is still with the contractor. Work has been delayed due to an injury to the stonemason.

#### **4. Aylesford Highway Matters**

4.1 - **Old Bridge Lighting Project** –Planning permission granted for tree work required. To be carried out in January 2016. The need for any changes to the lighting will be considered when the impact of tree work is assessed.

4.2 - **Aylesford Village Square** - Successful visit to Gallaghers to view street furniture alternatives on 11<sup>th</sup> December. Rustic style with low level table preferred. Clerk will ascertain exact measurements and will merge the chosen style of furniture with the other aspects to be included ie; signs/lights/planting/block paving. Clerk will now pursue KCC to confirm arrangements re funding and aspects of work they will be undertaking ie. block paving. Local Members requested a site meeting with all interested parties before final decisions on design are confirmed. Agreed. **Clerk**

#### **4.3 – A20 congestion between Larkfield and Aylesford**

KCC have engaged Amey to undertake the study of traffic flows on the A20 and they are expected to report back in January/February 2016. These results will give the baseline information from which ways forward can be identified. No further action until study is received.

**5. Walderslade Highway Matters** – No report to this meeting.

#### **6. Public Footpaths**

6.1 - **Kent County Council Definitive Map Modification Orders for the Creation of Bridleways in the Parishes of Aylesford and Burham.** Timetable of the significant dates and actions required leading up to the public inquiry in February 2016:-

- 1) 27 October 2015 – Date by which KCC Statement of Case to be with SoS and sent out to objectors thereafter.
- 2) 18 December 2015 – Council’s Statement of Case will need to be with SoS. (Deadline date has been extended.) Clerk is working towards this.
- 3) 26 January 2016 – Council’s Proof of Evidence to be with SoS.
- 4) 23 February 2016 – Public Inquiry start date scheduled to last for 6 days and being held at Burham Old School Community Centre.

6.2 – **River Medway Towpath** – Work expected to commence after April 2016. APC has committed £20,000 to the project.

## **7. Lighting**

Following on from the Clerk's report to the last ESC meeting, the following work has been ordered:

### **7.1 – Repairs Ordered**

4 lamp columns which are in a very poor condition and to provide LED lanterns - £5690.  
Work in progress.

Various other works of a minor nature - £1545. Work in progress.

### **7.2 - Victoria Road and York Avenue**

Further upgrading delayed in order for Streetlights to check the condition of the lighting columns being proposed for replacement.

Clerk will discuss with KCC the additional cost of the scheme that has arisen, such as installing LED lighting, due to the delay in KCC agreeing to adopt the lights which had already been completed to an agreed KCC adoptable standard several years ago once Streetlights have conducted their condition survey highlighted above.

### **7.3 - Maintenance Agreement**

Clerk has set up the 1 year maintenance contract with Streetlights - £5250. This contract commenced on 1 December 2015. Payment will be made in two halves (2015/16 and 2016/17).

## **8. Car Parks**

Local Members reported a number of lights out in TMBC Village car parks. To be reported.  
**Clerk**

## **9. Any Other Business/Correspondence**

## **B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS**

### **1. All Sites**

1.1 - **Local history signs** – Clerk will be looking at this in conjunction with the Aylesford Village Square enhancement project as at A.4.2 above.

## 1.2 – Annual play equipment inspection

Play equipment – Wicksteed repairs ordered – Total cost £1524 plus paint approx. £180.

Clerk will consider the Long Term requirements in conjunction with the Parish Council's Long Term Development Programme/Budget to be reviewed at P&R in January

Outdoor Gym equipment – Caloo repairs ordered - £1800.

## 1.3 - Children's Play Areas – Smoking Ban

Awaiting price for signs from RBLL.

1.4 – **Disabled Children's Play Equipment** – Clerk reported on discussions with Wicksteed on equipment and sites. A bucket style seat at Forstal Road recreation ground in place of one of the flat seats was **agreed** – approximately £1000. The appropriate harness for the seat to be provided but the Clerk to consider further management of harness availability if it becomes a problem. **Clerk**

1.5 – **Annual Tree Survey** – Quotation £3075. **Agreed.** Will commence end of January 2016.

2. **The Hollow** – No report to this meeting.

## 3. Ferryfield

Request for visit from Lawsons Circus in April 2016 – 3 nights. **Agreed.** **Clerk**

4. **Forstal Road Recreation Ground** – See 1.4 above. No other matters to report.

5. **Allotments** – No report to this meeting.

## 6. Eccles Recreation Ground

6.1 - Fencing of play equipment – Work completed and well received.

## 7. Tunbury Recreation Ground, Changing Rooms and Car Park

7.1 – **Additional Play Equipment** – Installation completed.

7.2 – **Dog Fouling** - Bag and Flag event to be planned with TMBC for Spring 2016.

8. **Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground** – No report to this meeting.

**9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site** – No report to this meeting.

**10. Cemetery** - No report to this meeting.

**11. Churchyard**

Ragstone wall repair completed. Report still awaited on the condition of the remainder of wall.

**12. Old Bridge Gardens**

Issue regarding right of way between the George House and Old Bridge considered at footpath meeting held on 27 November. Agreed with KCC that hedge be cut back to give more room and that they will continue to monitor situation on a regular basis.

**13. Mill Hall (Beside Rose Cottage/Old Bridge)**

Permission granted for tree works to improve lighting of Old Bridge. Work to take place in January 2016.

**14. Yoakley Land**

Work on a long term plan and strategy for the area as a whole being considered by the Clerk for further discussion with Members at a future meeting. Clerk has had initial discussions with Kent Wildlife Trust.

**15. Walderslade Open Spaces**

One bollard received from Kent PROW. The need for further bollards has been assessed and two more are required. Implementation delayed to enable discussions to be held with landowners (Boxley Parish Council) and the Walderslade Woods Group as to whether they are looking at an alternative option.

**16. St Marks Square, Belgrave Street car park, New car park**

Hedge and fencing quotation for new car park – £1775.50 – to improve access and visibility for access road. **Agreed.** **Clerk**

**17. Podkin Meadow**

Toddler Equipment – Installation completed.

**18. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence**

Cllr Base thanked Councillors and staff for their commitment and work during a very busy 2015.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.00pm