

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 26 JULY 2016
MINUTES

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Present: Cllrs Base (Chairman), Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Hammond, Shelley, Smith, Wright

In attendance: Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs Brooks, Homewood, Jones, Rillie, Walker, Winnett

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1. Apologies

Following apologies were noted and reasons accepted.

Cllrs Mrs Brooks (care of elderly relative), Homewood (KCC meeting), Jones (holiday), Rillie (unwell), Walker (holiday), Winnett (holiday).

2. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest 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

2.1 - Proposed **pedestrian crossing** in Bull Lane. Original proposals have been postponed due to objections received from local residents. It was agreed at Council on 19 July that local Councillors and residents would undertake a survey to ascertain where the crossing should be

located. Draft survey is now with resident and local members to agree. Parish Office will assist with copying, distribution and receipt of responses.

3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters

3.1 - Milestone – Work completed. Awaiting installation by KCC. Cllr Smith expressed his concerns at the length of time this reinstatement is taking. Clerk to pursue KCC. **Clerk**

3.2 – **A229 Slip Road** – Overhanging vegetation to be reported Kent Highways. **Clerk**

3.3 – **Village Entrance from Lord Lees roundabout** – Cllr Smith asked if Kent Highways could install ‘Ignore Sat Nav’ signs at the entrance to the village as HGVs in particular are still being directed through the village to the now closed access to the A229. Clerk to investigate. **Clerk**

3.4 – **Planters** – Cllr Smith requested two further planters for BBH central reservation at the opposite end of the village to the much admired existing plants. He will discuss with other BBH Member re funding from micro grants. **Agreed** in principle. Clerk to get quotes. **Clerk**

4. Aylesford Highway Matters

4.1 - **Old Bridge Lighting Project** –Upgrading lights at both ends of the bridge to LED which can be adjusted to the required lighting strength and installation agreed and order placed. Work scheduled for next week provisionally.

4.2 - Aylesford Village Square

Consultation being prepared for issue week commencing 15 August. It will be a letter describing the scheme and an opportunity for local residents to come in and discuss with the Clerk at set times. Gallaghers have been asked whether they would wish to undertake the whole project. Results of consultation to be reported to meeting at end of September.

4.3 – **A20 congestion between Larkfield and Aylesford** - No report to this meeting.

4.4 – **Hall Road Motorway Bridge Fencing** - Concerns re condition of fencing and littering have been followed up again. Report from Highways England following recent inspection has resulted in recommendations that exceed the current funding they have available for the project and they are now seeking authority to increase the budget. Parish Office will continue to pursue.

4.5 – **Elm Walk, Aylesford** – Closed from 25 July for 4 weeks for installation of new drinking water main.

4.6 – **Rochester Road** – Stream and adjacent road side are very overgrown and unsightly. Environment Agency have agreed to clear out the stream tomorrow and Parish Council staff will assist as required. Arrangements to be made with the EA on how the PC can assist to ensure the area is not allowed to reach this situation again. **Clerk**

5. Walderslade Highway Matters

5.1 – **Tunbury Avenue** – High overgrown vegetation between Woodbury Road and Oaks Dene which is particularly affecting high sided vehicles such as buses to be reported. Also vegetation affecting sight lines on to Walderslade Woods Road. **Clerk**

5.2 – **Tunbury Avenue** – Apparently abandoned van in the bus stop site to be reported to TMBC. **Clerk**

5.3 – **Parking Restrictions** – Cllr Wright reported the imminent installation of double yellow lines around Tunbury school are going to cause issues particularly in relation to the apparent business being carried out at a private residence in Chippendale Close. Vans being used for storage are currently parked in this area and will cause more nuisance to local residents if they are moved up the road away from the DYLS. Clerk to discuss planning enforcement and parking issues with TMBC. **Clerk**

6. Public Footpaths

6.1 – **River Medway Towpath** – Commencement of work between Aylesford and Allington awaited. Footpath Orders now made and in consultation process.

7. **Street Lighting** - No report to this meeting.

8. Car Parks

Cllr Base reported TMBC enforcement action regarding recent long term overstay in Aylesford village car parks and a successful conviction for fly tipping.

9. **Any Other Business/Correspondence** – No report to this meeting.

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - **Local history signs** – Clerk will be looking at this following on from the Aylesford Village Square enhancement project.

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

3. **Ferryfield** – No report to this meeting.

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground

On-going complaints regarding balls in gardens and noise from MUGA from local residents. Improved fencing and anti-climb paint to be installed.

5. Allotments

5.1 - Shed security and tool marking events to take place at both sites being led by PCSOs on Sunday 7 August.

5.2 – Eccles plot holders have been asked not to light bonfires before 5pm in the evening following complaints from Belgrave Street residents.

6. Eccles Recreation Ground

Request for small private childrens party for bouncy castle to be sited on recreation ground adjacent to their garden gate leading on to rec. **Agreed** with the Parish Council taking no responsibility for users or castle itself. **Clerk**

7. Tunbury Recreation Ground, Changing Rooms and Car Park - No report to this meeting.

8. Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground

Meridian Girls Football Club have relinquished use of the pitch for 2016/17. Relet to Borstal Football Club.

9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site

10. Cemetery 9. 10. And 11. – No reports to this meeting.

11. Churchyard

12. Old Bridge Gardens

Request from TMBC Environmental Health for rat baiting following incidents at The Hengist. Quote received from the company undertaking baiting for The Hengist, to install 8 baiting boxes around OBG and to report on activity - £660 plus VAT. Company representative has already identified that derelict area behind the Business Centre is a major area of concern and will include this in their report. There is no obligation at this stage to undertake further work on Parish Council land. In view of the request from TMBC and the adjacent vicinity of both residences and restaurants, this baiting work was **agreed. Clerk**

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

14. Yoakley Land

13. 14. 15. And 16. No reports to this meeting.

15. Walderslade Open Spaces

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

17. Podkin Meadow

Quote awaited from the grass maintenance contractor to undertake a long term bramble clearance exercise in order to revert more of the site back to a traditional meadow. Brambles at the rear of properties will be retained together with small trees growing within the brambles as far as is practical. Dew pond areas to be looked at and assessed.

Dog fouling. Signage to be increased. Outstanding. Should be in place by the end of the month. **Clerk**

18. Summer Playscheme

Clerk awaiting clarification as to whether any funding from Parish Council would only support Aylesford Parish residents TMBC Leisure Passes.

19. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.10pm.