

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2016

Commenced 7.58pm

MINUTES

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Present: Cllrs Balcombe (Chairman), Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Jones, Rillie, Shelley, Walker, Winnett, and Wright

In attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs, Mrs Brooks, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Hammond, Homewood, Mrs Phibbs, and Smith

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

2. Apologies - Apologies and the reasons given were noted and accepted.

Cllrs Mrs Brooks (care of elderly relative), Ms Dorrington (care of friend), Elvy (holiday), Hammond (TMBC business), Homewood (KCC meeting), Mrs Phibbs (recuperation from injury) and Smith (holiday).

3. Finance Advisory Sub Committee

3.1 Minutes of meeting held on 27 September 2016 attached at **Appendix A**. Noted and **agreed** as an accurate record of the meeting and for recommendations to be actioned.

3.2 Matters Arising – There were no matters arising.

4. Accounts for Payment

Payment list attached at **Appendix B** – 22 payments totalling £16,113.82 - was checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Mrs Gadd, seconded Cllr Gledhill and **agreed**.

5. Law and Order

5.1 – Vandalism to Eccles Recreation Ground play equipment – Clerk reported that the Police had spoken to one of the children involved who apologised to the Council through his mother and was looking to give a small donation towards the cost of the damage to the play equipment.

6. Rugby Club/Netball League – No report to this meeting.

7. Flood Defences - No report to this meeting

8. Council Vacancies

Current vacancies: 3 Aylesford South. Noted.

9. Any Other Business/Correspondence

9.1 – Extension of Council Tax Referendum to Parishes – Clerk reported that the Government had issued a consultation paper on the 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement part of which was seeking comments on the possibility of extending the Council tax Referendum to Parish Councils and in particular those with a Band D precept of £75.46 and a total precept of at least £500k. The Council did not meet either of these criteria. It was **agreed** that the Council would not respond to the consultation paper.

10. Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was **agreed** that the Press and Public should be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Following the Closed Session, there was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.26pm.

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CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

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11. Wall to the Side of the Forstal Road Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that he had received the opinion from the council's Solicitor and read it in full to the committee. The principal element of it was that the council had no direct responsibility for the wall but could be liable for damages if it is proved that the Council were responsible for the damage to the wall through the ivy growing from the Council side.

The Council considered all of the potential solutions and agreed the following

1. That whilst not expressing any liability or responsibility for the wall and any damage caused that the Council would as a good neighbour contribute to the cost of repair to the wall.
2. That the level of contribution be negotiated with the pub but that it be accepted that the Council might have to find the full cost of the works.
3. That the level of repair required be discussed with the contractor but that it be accepted that a full repair requiring the rebuilding of the whole of this wall at a cost of £4280 might be required.
4. That the Clerk be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, to bring this matter to a conclusion within the parameters set by the committee.
