

# Aylesford Parish Council

## Planning Committee

### Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 October 2020

**Present:** Councillor Smith (Chairman) and Councillors Balcombe, Beadle, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Ludlow, Rillie, Shelley, Sullivan and Walker.

**In Attendance:** Neil Harris (Clerk) and Melanie Randall (Assistant Clerk and Finance Officer)

**Apologies:** Councillors Ms Dorrington, Ms Papagno, Williams, Winnett, and Wright.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Ms Dorrington (personal commitment), Ms Papagno (personal commitment), Williams (personal commitment), Winnett (holiday) and Wright (unwell), were received, and the reasons for absence agreed.

#### 2. Declaration of Interests

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

#### 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 March 2020

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed.

#### 4. Planning White Paper

The Committee considered the report of the Clerk which included a summary of the key proposals in the Planning White Paper. It was **Agreed** to make the following comments in response to the consultation on the Government's Planning White Paper:-

- (1) The Council would welcome the proposal to quicken up the local plan process but has concerns regarding the automatic approval of development in growth areas particularly in respect of individual sites in these areas that might not fall under the criteria for growth areas. This would mean that Parish Councils and individuals will not have the right to object to this application at the stage of submission.
- (2) The Council would welcome the new infrastructure levy being able to raise more revenue but would wish to see that Parish Councils receive as much as now or more

funds as they are able to make these funds work directly for the local community that it serves.

- (3) Whilst welcoming the opportunity to engage further in the plan making stage feels that it is still vital that there is a full consultation process on planning applications as this gives an opportunity for locally gathered views to be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority when they determine applications.
- (4) That in view of recent problems with computer systems the Council has concerns about a process that is over reliant on computer programs and algorithms.

## **5. Local Plan Examination Statement**

The Committee considered the report of the Clerk including a draft statement for submission to the Inspectors by 12 October. The Committee considered the statement and It was **Agreed** to approve it for submission to the Inspectors and that the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, be authorised to make minor amendments.

## **6. Proposed Extension to the Existing Allington Integrated Waste Management Facility**

The Committee considered the report of the Clerk and it was **Agreed** that the following comments be submitted in response to the consultation on the proposed extension to the existing Allington Integrated Waste Management Facility:-

1. The Council notes that due to the Covid 19 travel restrictions it has not been possible to carry out a Traffic Assessment of junction 5. However, the Council believes that this assessment must be carried out and included in the final Transport Assessment submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
2. The Council does not believe that the Transport Assessment whilst taking account of some growth has included the significant development of 840 dwellings at the development land south of London Road and east of Hermitage Lane Application Ref: 17/01595/OAEA). The Council is strongly of the view that the Transport Assessment must include this development of 840 dwellings, primary school and surgery otherwise it makes the assessment completely invalid and would not reflect the likely true picture of future traffic movements in this area.
3. The Council believes that this development, through the increase in traffic, will also make the already poor air quality in this area even worse affecting quite significantly the existing Aylesford and Maidstone A20 Air Quality Management areas and would be interested to see what measures are proposed to remedy this impact.

## **7. Duration of Meeting**

7.30pm to 7.48pm