



Aylesford Parish Council

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To All Members of the Environmental Services Committee

Agenda for the Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee to be held on Tuesday 24 November 2020 via a Zoom meeting link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89974602030> commencing at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 October 2020

A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS

1. General Highways Matters

2. Eccles Highway Matters.

3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters

4. Aylesford Highway Matters

4.1 - **Aylesford Village Square** – KCC have agreed that the second tree is also causing damage to the pavement. Therefore, they intend to replace both trees. KCC also intend to replace the existing concrete blocks with block paving similar to that on the other side of the road. It is intended that this work will be done in this financial year. KCC have also indicated that they will complete the remaining block paving of the Square over the next few years. Currently awaiting a start date for the trees to be put in as the first phase of these works.

5. Walderslade Highway Matters

6. Public Footpaths

6.1 – **Public Footpath from Mount Pleasant to Rochester Road** - The Council is being consulted by KCC Public Rights of Way on an application they have received for a public

footpath on a route running from Mount Pleasant to Rochester Road via Trinity Court on the basis of at least 20 years use. A Plan showing the route is attached to the Agenda. KCC Public Rights of Way are asking the Council for its view and whether it has any evidence that supports or negates the application.

7. Street Lighting

7.1 – Street Light in Forstal Road – The Council has become aware of a significantly damaged street light in Forstal Road with it being pushed out of shape and leaning over. The light will need to be repaired with a new lamppost being installed together with a possible new light fitting. The cost of the repair including a new light fitting is £1175. However, there will be a charge from UK Power Networks which has not been received at the time of despatch of the Agenda.

8. Car Parks

8.1 – Aylesford Car Parks – At the last meeting the Committee discussed the current situation whereby TMBC were putting penalty charge notices on vehicles that were parking longer than the maximum period of 23 hours. This was causing significant annoyance to local residents who park in the car parks. The Council was aware that this matter was being taken up by the local Borough Councillors and MP. The Council was aware that it had never received a reply to its objection to the proposals to introduce charges at the car parks and in particular its offer to TMBC to lease the car parks off them and for the Parish Council to operate them. It was agreed that the Clerk should follow up on the offer to operate the car parks with TMBC. The Clerk has written to TMBC but no reply has been received.

9. Bus Services

9.1 – 155 Bus Service – The Clerk will update the Committee at the meeting.

10. Any Other Business/Correspondence.

10.1 - Traffic Speed and the new Sandpit Entrance on Rochester Road Aylesford

At the last meeting it was reported that the Council had received a reply from KCC regarding this matter which indicated that as there had been no recorded personal injury crashes at this site in the last 3 years they would not plan to undertake any improvement works at this location. The response also indicated that the Council could place this scheme in the Parish Highway Improvement Plan. The Council has previously decided not to have such a Plan as these schemes were the responsibility of the KCC and that it would promote individual schemes with them as these schemes come forward.

The Committee expressed their disappointment at the response from KCC regarding this new entrance in Rochester Road and the speed of traffic highlighting that it would be impossible to have 3 years of data as the junction had only just been completed. It was felt that KCC needed to act now before a fatal accident happened at this site. Councillor Rillie highlighted a specific incident where a car had because of the wider road speeded up to overtake 4

cyclists before entering into the narrower road of the village with the reduced speed limit and that could very easily have been a major accident.

Councillor Rillie expressed some further concerns regarding the condition of the speed humps in the vicinity of this junction and also that the speed limit should be reduced from 40mph to 30mph. It was agreed that the Clerk should continue following up on this matter with KCC including the new issues raised by Councillor Rillie. KCC have responded that there is nothing that they can do as this is not a safety critical site with no patterns of crashes that relate to speeding.

10.2 – Phase 12 of the Parking Action Plan – At the last meeting the Clerk reported that the Council was being consulted on Phase 12 of the TMBC Parking Action Plan which has only one site in Aylesford Parish namely at Hurst Hill, Walderslade where there have been issues of obstructive parking. A copy of the plan highlighting the proposal is attached to the Agenda. TMBC are seeking the Council's views on the proposal. Councillor Shelley also read out comments from a resident of Hurst Hill who was opposed to the introduction of these restrictions. During discussions of this proposal it was felt that TMBC would not be introducing these changes without the issue having been raised with them possibly by local residents. It was agreed that the Council was not in a position to comment on this proposal until it was aware of the reasoning behind the original decision by TMBC to include this in the action plan. TMBC have responded indicating that they had received reports of obstructive parking from local residents and there was also concern about emergency vehicle access. The Council has until 25 November to respond.

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 – Play Area Inspection Report – It has previously been agreed to seek quotes for resurfacing the Forstal Road Recreation Ground Play Area and quotes were being sought from 3 companies. However, it seems that the prices within these quotes are likely to be quite high and therefore the Clerk is seeking additional quotes from other companies and is looking at a number of different options. It is intended that these quotes will be reported back to Committee in due course.

The water pipe works agreed at the last meeting have been ordered and the Council is awaiting a date when the work will take place.

2. The Hollow

3. Ferryfield

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground

5. Allotments

6. Eccles Recreation Ground

- 7. Tunbury Recreation Ground, Changing Rooms and Car Park**
- 8. Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground**
- 9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site**
- 10. Cemetery**
- 11. Churchyard**
- 12. Old Bridge Gardens**
- 13. Mill Hall (Beside Rose Cottage/Old Bridge)**
- 14. Aylesford Old Pit (Yoakley Land)**
- 15. Walderslade Open Spaces**
- 16. St Mark's Square, Belgrave Street car park, new car park** – The Clerk will update the committee at the meeting
- 17. Podkin Meadow.**
- 18. Christmas Lights** – Due to the current Covid rules Christmas lights will be switched on as they are fitted and it is expected that the work will take place on 25–27 November. It is also expected that the Eccles Christmas Tree and lights will be put up during this period.
- 20. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence**

Neil Harris
Clerk to the Council

Date: 19 November 2020