



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 28 May 2019 at the Parish Council Office commencing at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interests**
- 3. Election of Chairman**
- 4. Election of Vice Chairman**
- 5. Minutes of the last meeting held on 23 April 2019**

A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS

- 1. General Highways Matters**
- 2. Eccles Highway Matters.**

2.1 – Speed of Traffic in Bull Lane - The Council has recently received a number of comments about the speed of traffic through Eccles along Bull Lane. It has been indicated that most of the speeding traffic is not from Eccles but just passing through and has increased since the new road and bridge. It has been suggested that traffic calming would be a solution to the problem.

As Members will recall the Council has discussed the possibility of traffic calming with KCC and had a clear indication that they would not undertake such a scheme. However, since then and very recently the Clerk has received from KCC, a significant amount of information re a Highways Improvement Plan which he is currently considering in some detail and will be reporting to this committee on at its next meeting. Traffic Calming schemes are the type of scheme that would be included in the Improvement Plan. It is suggested that this item is discussed alongside any consideration of this Highways Improvement Plan

3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters

3.1 – **A229 Slip Road Lights** - KCC have informed the Council that this is a difficult job involving digging up part of the slip road. They are progressing this matter but as yet have no timeframe for completion of the project. The Clerk is continuing to press them for a conclusion to this project and the Council has just received notification of a closure of the slip road on the night of 22 May.

4. Aylesford Highway Matters

4.1 - **Aylesford Village Square** - At the last meeting of the Committee it was agreed that with the cost of the whole scheme, including the Consultants fee, being in the region of £40k-50k that it was too much for the Council to fund on its own. It was felt that the right approach was for the Council to look for match funding from other bodies to enable the scheme to proceed.

The Council's local MP Tracey Crouch has brought to the Council's attention a new Government initiative about breathing new life into historic high streets across the country. The Clerk will update the Committee further at the meeting.

4.2 – **Closure of Forstal Road** – A local resident, speaking on behalf of other residents has commented to the Council how much better have been the roads in the village with the stretch of Forstal Road entering the village being closed. He has asked the Council to consider the issue and to take up with KCC what are the options that could be implemented that maintains the benefits of the closure whilst not shifting the problems to other roads such as Pratling Street. One option proposed by the local MP Tracey Crouch is making it one way from the Maidstone end.

5. Walderslade Highway Matters

6. Public Footpaths

7. Street Lighting

8. Car Parks

9. Bus Services

9.1 – **155 Bus Service** – The Clerk will update the committee on the outcome of the meeting with Borough Councillor Davies, KCC and Arriva relating to the 155 bus service at the meeting.

10. Any Other Business/Correspondence.

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - **Caloo Outdoor Gym Equipment** – The Clerk will report back on the long term maintenance costs of this equipment including the significant cost of repairs and the approach going forward at a future meeting of the committee.

1.3 - **Resurfacing Works** – Clerk is further assessing the most appropriate/cost effective way to carry out the required surfacing work and will report to a future meeting

2. The Hollow

3. Ferryfield

3.1 - **Play Equipment Replacement Phase 1** - The Council now has schemes from both Eibe and Kompan but are still awaiting the new proposal from Wicksteed. The Clerk will update the committee on the latest position at the meeting and hopefully be in a position to present all 3 schemes for the Committee to consider.

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)

The Clerk will update the committee on the progress on works on the enhancement project with the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership.

15. Walderslade Open Spaces

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

17. Podkin Meadow.

Long term project continuing and further wild flower and grass seed sowing will take place in the near future subject to ground and weather conditions. The Clerk in regular contact with contractor and will update the Committee at the meeting.

18. Christmas Lights

The Clerk has discussed with Gala Lighting a possible expansion of the Christmas lights scheme and will report back on the details including costings at the next meeting.

19. Aylesford Flood Plan

The Clerk will update the committee about the Flood Plan Exercise being held on 27 June at the meeting.

20. Y2 Crew Youth Scheme

At the last meeting the committee agreed to give £500 to the scheme but asked how many children from the Aylesford benefitted. TMBC have replied saying 4 children and they attended 19 different sessions.

19. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence

Neil Harris
Clerk to the Council

Date: 22 May 2019