

Aylesford

PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL,
Council Offices, 23 Forstal Road,
Aylesford, Kent ME20 7AU
Telephone: 01622 717084
Email: admin@aylesford-pc.gov.uk
Website: aylesford-pc.gov.uk

Chairman's Report 2024/25 including Policy & Resources

It gives me great pleasure to present this year's Report and to reflect on the achievements we have made together as a Parish Council.

Investing in Community Facilities

A significant accomplishment this year has been securing a minimum of **£400,000 in developer contributions (S106 funding)** which will provide modern changing room facilities and additional car parking on Forstal Recreation Ground. This is a major step forward for improving local sports and leisure amenities for all ages.

Additionally, we have secured a further **£40,000 in developer contributions** for future enhancements across the Parish. These funds will be allocated to improving play areas and open spaces ensuring we continue to provide quality recreational opportunities for everyone.

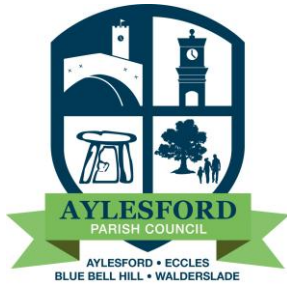
Looking ahead, our Clerk will endeavour to secure further developer contributions from ongoing housing schemes, such as those in Hermitage Lane. Plans are already being shaped for how these funds could be used to make additional improvements.

A Festive Success!

The **Christmas Market** was a huge success, drawing an estimated **3,000 visitors**. It provides an opportunity for stall holders to display their wares and for our residents to mingle and soak up the atmosphere. **£2,150.00** was raised and donated to local organisations:

- St Peter's PTFA – £500
- Over 60's Afternoon Tea Bluebell Hill – £500
- Aylesford Dementia Café – £500
- Aylesford Youth Choir – £500
- Aylesford Community Youth Choir – £150

These donations support the amazing work being done across our community and we are proud to be part of that.



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Encouraging Resident Participation

We continue to encourage the local community group for the **Bushey Wood** development, initiated by Borough Councillor Dave Davis and supported by Parish Cllrs Aaron Ludlow and Iain Craig. A Parish Council-funded leaflet was delivered to all homes in the area, and meetings arranged to foster community involvement and open discussion on amenities that could help to improve village life.

Aylesford Station Adoption

The Parish Council continues to support this initiative and will apply for grants with a view to making improvements to the station for the benefit of users.

Working Together for a Safer Community

I'm pleased to report the continuing strong relationship between the Parish Council and **PC David Warner**, our local Police Officer. PC Warner visits the Parish Office weekly to catch up with the Clerk and discuss issues affecting our Parish, allowing us to work closely in maintaining safety and addressing concerns promptly.

Finally

I would like to thank all Councillors, our Clerk and staff for their continued hard work, support, and dedication to our community. Particular thanks to Tom for representing the Council in, the Climate Change Forum, KALC meetings, the Parish Partnership Panel and Aylesford Station Adoption Group. Last but not least thanks to my Vice Chairman, John who is always there for helpful guidance.

It has been a privilege and honour serving the Parish Council as Chairman over the last three years and I will be standing down at our Annual General Meeting in May 2025.

Allan Sullivan
Chairman

7th May 2025