

Aylesford Parish Council

Environmental Services Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 1st September 2026, in the Aylesford Parish Council Offices, Aylesford

Present: Councillors Sullivan (Chair), Miss Anderson, Balcombe, Davies, Mrs Eves, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Hammond, Netzel, Rillie, Sharp, Shelley and Smith.

Melanie Randall (Clerk of the Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence from Councillors Mrs Birkbeck, Chapman, Fuller, Ludlow, Ms Oyewusi, Mrs Waters and Williams were received and the reason for absence agreed.

2. Declarations of Interest

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

3. To Agree the Minutes of the last meeting held on 4 August 2026

It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 August 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. Any Matters Arising from the last minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. To consider renewing the Play Equipment at The Hollow, Aylesford

The Clerk reported that she has now submitted the grant application to the FCC Communities Foundation. The Board will meet early December and make their decision with the Parish Council being notified shortly after.

Ongoing

6. Renewal of the Play Equipment at Tunbury Recreation Ground

There was no update.

Ongoing

7. Tunbury Car Park – Installation of ANPR Camera

The Clerk informed the committee that she is now looking into the requirements of managing an ANPR camera specifically concerning data protection laws.

TMBC have said there is no funding available, however members suggested the Clerk contact Matt Boughton to confirm the accuracy of the information received.

The camera cannot be installed until the Clerk is confident the council has done everything it should in order to comply with legislation and the signage is ready to be installed.

Ongoing

8. Podkin Meadow – Request received from residents for permission for them to install a small football goal.

The Clerk provided members with a copy of the request received – redacted of personal information.

The following potential issues were noted

- Health and safety – if it tips over or is not properly secured, there is a risk of injury
- Public liability – the Council, as landowner could still face claims if someone is injured, even if the residents accept responsibility.
- Inspection requirements – any item of play or sports equipment on Council land should be inspected regularly and the Council cannot simply rely on the owners to do this.
- Grass cutting and maintenance – the goal would have to be moved every time the meadow is mown, and there is a risk of damage to the goal or Council equipment if it is left in place – who would be responsible?
- Ownership – if the residents move away or stop maintaining it, the Council could be left with an unwanted piece of equipment
- Setting a precedent – allowing one group to install equipment could lead to similar requests elsewhere, making it difficult to refuse future applications.
- Appropriate use of land – if Podkin Meadow is intended as informal open space or wildlife area, a football goal may not be consistent with its purpose.

Based on the potential issues that could be created it was **Resolved** to decline the request

9. Any Other Correspondence

Tunbury Changing Rooms – Cleaning

The Clerk informed the committee she had met with a cleaner at Tunbury Changing Rooms to discuss the cleaning for which she will charge £25 per clean. The Clerk has informed Real 60, who said they don't feel a weekly clean is warranted as they will maintain it. Therefore, taking this into account the Clerk agreed to a fortnightly clean and made it clear again that this is the clubs last chance, failure to comply with the clean or repair the outstanding broken glass will result in their use being terminated with immediate effect. Real 60 will need to pay the cleaner direct.

10. Duration of Meeting

8:42pm to 8:51pm