

# Aylesford Parish Council

## Environmental Services Committee

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026, in the Aylesford Parish Council Offices, Aylesford

**Present:** Councillors Sullivan (Chair), Miss Anderson, Mrs Birkbeck, Chapman, Mrs Eves, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Netzel, Rillie, Sharp, Shelley, Smith and Mrs Waters.

Melanie Randall (Clerk of the Council)

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#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence from Councillors Balcombe, Fuller and Ms Oyewusi 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 3 February 2026

It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 February 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 the next round of funding applications to FCC Communities Foundation opens on 4 March 2026. As part of the funding criteria, the Council is required to consult with the community and/or prospective users of the project.

The Clerk has contacted Councillor Fuller to enquire whether he has any links with the primary school on Teapot Lane, Aylesford, to assist with this consultation. The application process will commence in the meantime, pending a response. **Ongoing**

## **6. Renewal of the Play Equipment at Tunbury Recreation Ground**

The Clerk reported that the Council cannot have two grant applications running at the same time with the FCC Communities Foundation. She will research if there are other grant options for this site.

**Ongoing**

## **7. Podkin Meadow Rewilding Project**

There was no update. The Clerk will send a final email to the group to see if this is something they would like to proceed with.

**Ongoing**

## **8. Tunbury Car Park**

The Clerk reported that the Council had been contacted by the Environmental Health Officer at TMBC following complaints regarding alleged anti-social behaviour in Tunbury Hall car park. Reported issues include the sounding of car horns, loud music, shouting, and loitering.

The Environmental Health Officer at TMBC has requested that the gate be closed and locked each evening as a deterrent. The Clerk advised that the car park serves not only the hall but also users of the adjoining public recreation ground, including visitors to the play area, dog walkers, and those using the site for general leisure purposes. The site is also used by a Football Club.

Members noted that responsibility for locking and unlocking the gate would likely fall to the Hall Committee and highlighted practical concerns, including continued public use of the recreation ground outside of the hall opening hours (for instance, where the hall closes at 4pm but the recreation might still be in use), access during periods when the hall is closed, and the need to ensure availability on bank holidays including Christmas Day.

Members also expressed concern that closing the car park could lead to increased on-street parking in surrounding residential roads, which are not considered suitable for this purpose.

Members did not support the proposal to routinely lock the gate and were of the strong view that incidents of anti-social behaviour should be addressed by the police.

The Clerk will obtain quotations for upgrading some or all of the existing CCTV cameras and will explore the option of repositioning a camera to capture vehicle registration numbers on entry and exit.

**Ongoing**

## **9. Any Other Correspondence**

There was no Other Correspondence

## **10. Duration of Meeting**

8:01pm to 8:18pm