

# **Aylesford Parish Council**

## **Environmental Services Committee**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held in the Aylesford Football Club Pavilion, Aylesford on Tuesday 3 December 2024**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Present:** Councillor Mrs Gadd (Chairman) and Councillors, Balcombe, Mrs Birkbeck, Craig, Ms Dorrington, Mrs Eves, Fuller, Gledhill, Hammond, Rillie, Sharp, Shelley, Smith, Sullivan and Walker.

Melanie Randall (Clerk to the Council)

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Chapman, Mrs Ogun 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, except Councillor Fuller declared an interest in item 7 as he is Chairman of Aylesford Football Club.

#### **3. To Agree the Minutes of the last meeting held on 5 November 2024**

It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 November 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed.

#### **4. Any Matters Arising from the last minutes**

There were no matters arising.

#### **5. Outdoor Gym Equipment in Forstal Recreation Ground**

The Clerk reported that she is still obtaining the third quote.

**Noted**

#### **6. Climate Change and Environmental Strategy for Aylesford Parish Council**

Councillor Sharp gave an overview of the recent Carbon Literacy Training he attended. His notes are attached at Appendix A.

## **7. Grass Maintenance 2025**

The Chairman of the Council explained that the grass cutting quotations for the 2025/26 Budget amounted to £38k. This was some seven thousand pounds higher than the 2024/25 Budget. The increase includes the usual inflationary costs and the contract costs for some of the work previously carried out by the Supervisor. There are uncertainties regarding the workload the Supervisor can undertake due to ill health. It is however possible that as he recuperates, he can take back some of his previous tasks which will help to reduce the budgeted increase. After discussion it was **Agreed** that the Chairman and Clerk look at the figures again and go with the best option that provides the right service but also gives value for money.

**Closed**

## **8. Any Other Correspondence**

Councillor Hammond extended his thanks to the Clerk and Supervisor for all their hard work at the Aylesford Christmas Market on Saturday that he attended to officially open the event in his role as Mayor. He asked the Clerk to thank the residents who are also involved in the organising of the event.

## **9. Duration of Meeting**

8pm to 8:30pm

## **Carbon Literacy Training.**

Sustainable-(ish)

5 attendances including Councillor Margaret Coleman Kings Hill PC. 4 Modules, 8 Hours of Training.

### **1 Science**

It's Warming, it's Us, we're Sure, it's Bad, we can fix it!

Global temperature increasing, first relied 1850-60s, annual temperatures records started 1938,

1988 UN created IPCC Reporting, Conference of Parties COP first established 1995.

2021 it's Unequivocal, Human influence on CC.

### **Cause of Greenhouse Gas emissions from Human activities.**

Water vapour, CO2 carbon dioxide, Hydro-carbons Methane, Nitrous Oxide F-Gas

(HFC) Refrigerants, Building Construction Gases.

### **2 Impact**

Vulnerability- ecosystems, economic and geographic.

Weather vs Climate.

### **3 Future**

Global Atmospheric Temperature Increases- capacity to retain water vapour increases. Sea level and temperature increase- Marine heatwaves.

Increase in Extreme weather events -Flooding / drought cycles.

Agriculture.

### **4 Action**

No legally binding agreements on CC Actions.

ECOCIDE Law -destruction of the Environment by Humans.

Target, Limit global warming to 1.5 between 2 degree C of 1990 (~~pre-industrial~~) levels. Before 2050.

Limiting Global warming to around 1.5°C (2.7°F) requires GHG Emissions to peak before 2025 at the latest, and to reduce by 43% (55%) by 2030", from 1990 Levels.

2030 Revised Regulation(?), to Introduce new incentives into CC / Energy Policy Framework, to stimulate Funding (Public-Private), Research, Innovation and Competitiveness in response to rise in Global Temperature.

### **Collective Action and Drivers**

All, Our responsibility, Our moral conscience to act.

**Group Actions-** UN, World, Governments, Councils and Community.

UK Government- 81% reduction in GHG emissions from 1990 levels by 2035.

**Local Councils,** Footprints- Transport, Industry and Commerce.

**UK Councils and Districts** average rating 29%, TMBC rating 26%. Major Road Networks!

TMBC CC Action Plans Annex 1 and 3 2021-

TMBC PPP CC Forum- minimise energy use, de-carbon energy, tackle energy, more trees.

NPPF-TMBC 12 points to be observed in new planning development Regulations.

NPPF Planning regulations section 18B due to be rolled out 2025-26. Dave

Davis mentioned, PPP face to face meeting 27.11.2024.

Shipbourne and Plaxtol PCs - Strategy to Action Presentation.

## **Industry**

GFG Emissions Industry Scopes

1- Direct operations- fuel

2- Indirect - purchase of energy electrical- reduce by Net Zero.

Both 1 and 2 businesses are in control to get to Net Zero.

3- everything else. All other emissions, if not reduced we can't get to Net Zero.

**Households**, Footprints- Consumption of Goods and Services. Life style Choices,

Co-benefits of working towards Net Zero. Increasing in Biodiversity, Health, Well-being and Money.

Net Zero is the correct term to use. NO added incremental GHG to Atmosphere.

Green Washing- be cautious of and watch out for.

## **Own Actions**

Individual carbon footprints -Calculators available online, for example GikiZero, WWF.

CO2 emissions UK per capita 4.4 Tonne /year.

Ranges from 4 tonne up to 13 Tonne / year.

**No brainer!** that poverty plays a part in restricting Carbon Footprints.

CC Target Footprint 2.5 tonne / year. (2030).

