

Aylesford Parish Council

Environmental Services Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 7th April 2026, in the Aylesford Parish Council Offices, Aylesford

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

Melanie Randall (Clerk of the Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence from Councillors Balcombe and Mrs Waters 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 March 2026

It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 March 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 been working on the grant application and, as she has not yet received a response from Councillor Fuller, will follow up with the Primary School office directly after the Easter break.

Ongoing

6. Renewal of the Play Equipment at Tunbury Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that there may be some S106 funds available that can be used towards this project. She is waiting on confirmation from TMBC including how much.

Ongoing

7. Podkin Meadow Rewilding Project

No update was available. It was **Agreed** to remove this item from the agenda for the time being, however, it will be reinstated should any further correspondence be received.

Ongoing

8. Tunbury Car Park

No update available as the Clerk hasn't had opportunity to obtain quotes to upgrade some or all of the CCTV cameras.

Ongoing

9. Funfair Eccles

Smith's Family Funfair requested to hire Eccles Recreation Ground from 19th to 21st June 2026.

Members noted that June is not an appropriate time for such events, as this is when the Parish engages contractors to undertake essential pitch maintenance, including weed and feed treatment, seeding, soil work and, where required, vert-draining. It was also noted that Aylesford Football Club refrains from using the grass pitches during this period to allow for rest and recovery.

Members further raised concerns regarding damage caused during the Funfair's previous visit in 2024. Although ground conditions may be firmer in June, the potential for damage anywhere on the site remained a concern.

Following discussion, it was **Resolved** to refuse the request. Members also agreed that similar requests will not be considered in future.

10. Request received from Aylesford Football Club to host a 'Girls Extravaganza' event

The Football Club requested the use of Forstal Road Recreation Ground throughout the weekend of 30th and 31st May 2026. This is a tournament for all female players from 4 years up to veterans. The maximum number of teams across the weekend will be 72. There is currently no home fixtures scheduled, however if there are then these will be reversed so the opposition hosts. The football club will work with the community centre to ensure their hirers can also have some parking on site. Bins will be ordered from TMBC and a full litter pick of the site including car park will be carried out.

It was **Resolved** to permit the request.

In addition, the football club have requested to use the top end of the recreation ground by the 3G pitch for additional parking as they have done previously. The main car park will be manned, and they will ask Qualitex if they can use their parking on the Deacon Trading Estate.

It was **Resolved** to permit the request subject to the top gate being manned at all times, orange netting being put up no further than the end of the 3G pitch. If the weather is such that damage will be caused by the intended use, then permission will be withdrawn up to the day before the planned event.

Closed

11. Request from Aylesford Football Club to host their Community Funday

The request is for the Aylesford Football Club to host their Community Funday on Saturday 20th June 2026 starting at 9am to 6pm. There will be stallholders, bouncy castles, carnival type games, inflatable penalty shootout, an inflatable disco cube and live music. The event will include their end of season presentations, and the football club are hiring the entire community centre.

Set up will commence 7/7.30am and pack down from 5pm finishing by 7pm.

It was **Resolved** to permit the request.

Closed

12. Request received from Aylesford Football Club to host their annual Tournament

The event is scheduled to be held on the weekend of 5th and 6th September 2026.

The football club will work with the community centre to ensure their hirers can also have some parking on site. Bins will be ordered from TMBC and a full litter pick of the site including car park will be carried out.

It was **Resolved** to permit the request.

In addition, the football club have requested to use the top end of the recreation ground by the 3G pitch for additional parking as they have done previously. The main car park will be manned, and they will ask Qualitex if they can use their parking on the Deacon Trading Estate.

It was **Resolved** to permit the request subject to the top gate being manned at all times, orange netting being put up no further than the end of the 3G pitch. If the weather is such that damage will be caused by the intended use, then permission will be withdrawn up to the day before the planned event.

Closed

13. Any Other Correspondence

There was no Other Correspondence

14. Duration of Meeting

7:56pm to 8:11pm