

Aylesford Parish Council

Environmental Services Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Parish Council Offices, Aylesford on Tuesday 23 January 2024

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

In Attendance: Melanie Randall (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillors Mrs Eves, Ludlow, Ms Oyewusi and Walker.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillor Mrs Eves, Ludlow. Ms Oyewusi and Walker 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. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 December 2023

It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 December 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. Small Works Programme

The Clerk informed the committee that no further progress has been made. **Ongoing**

5. Highway Improvement Plan (HIP)

The Agreed Action Plan was submitted to KCC on 30 April 2022.
No update to report. **Ongoing**

6. Climate Change and Environmental Strategy for Aylesford Parish Council

The Clerk informed the Committee that the Green Business Grants Scheme is scheduled to go live at the end of this month. This is an opportunity to apply for some funding to install solar panels on the Parish Office roof. Up to 40% of the cost can be applied for and the Clerk sought the committee's approval for her to proceed with the application. It was **Resolved** to authorise the Clerk to apply.

It was also **Resolved** that this item be removed from the agenda until such time that the Council receives the official minutes from the Climate Change Forum.

Closed

7. Metal Coronation sign for Coronation Gardens

The Clerk informed the committee that due to other work taking priority no further progress had been made.

Ongoing

8. Request received from Smiths Family Funfair

The Clerk reported the office had received an enquiry from the funfair regarding the hire of Eccles Recreation Ground in May, June or July for one week.

She reminded members that the last time the funfair was on Eccles Recreation Ground as they drove off the ground the Parish experienced an unauthorised encampment. June is when the Council doesn't allow any football related activity, as various pitch repairs and maintenance are scheduled to be carried out, so members felt this month probably wasn't suitable.

There are many people who enjoy the Funfair, and it brings the community together, however the office does receive complaints from residents who don't like it there, particularly from those who live opposite the recreation ground. The complaints usually centre around noise and light pollution.

Members were disappointed that Councillor Ludlow had to give his apologies, as they would be interested in his views. So, for this reason a decision was not made so that Councillor Ludlow can be included in the discussion and decision.

After discussion it was **Resolved** to defer this item to the next meeting of this committee.

Ongoing

9. Any Other Correspondence

The clerk informed the committee that Phase 2 of Ferryfield Play Area renewal is scheduled to start on Monday 5 February 2024 and The Hollow enhancement will be done straight afterwards, starting on the 12 February 2024.

10. Duration of Meeting

7:36pm to 7:55pm