

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2017

MINUTES

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Present: Cllrs Base (Chairman), Balcombe, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Homewood, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, Winnett, Wright

In attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs Ms Dorrington, Ludlow, Walker

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1. Apologies - Apologies and reasons were accepted as follows: Cllrs Ms Dorrington (unwell), Ludlow (unwell), Walker (work commitment).

2. Declarations of Interests – There were no declarations additional to those contained in the Register of Members’ Interests.

A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS

1. General Highway Report – No report to this meeting.

2. Eccles Highway Matters

2.1 - Bull Lane/Pilgrims Way junction

Kent Highways have agreed to relook at the feasibility of a Vehicle Activated Speed signs. Awaiting decision.

3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters

3.1 – Slow sign on slip road off the A229 towards Aylesford currently situated under the bridge. Clerk has asked that Kent Highways move the sign to the actual slip road before the Lower Warren Road junction to improve safety at this junction as well as the junctions under the bridge. Response awaited. Clerk was asked to pursue. **Clerk**

3.2 - Lighting repairs still awaited on the slip road which were scheduled for August. KCC have reported they are still awaiting delivery of new columns. Clerk has pursued on a more formal basis with the Director of Highways. Date was set for 10 December but postponed due to bad weather.

4. Aylesford Highway Matters

4.1 - **Aylesford Village Square** - Clerk has established up to date contact personnel at TMBC now dealing with this project. Now awaiting conservation agreement to the proposed revised materials which will then be repriced.

4.2 – Aylesford Village/Forstal Road junction

Site meeting held with Kent Highways re proposed improvements to this junction to include safer pedestrian access and improved signage. KH took on board comments from local members. Awaiting report.

4.3 – **Hall Road** – Condition of road from the Somerfield development site. Awaiting response.

5. Walderslade Highway Matters

5.1 – Tunbury Avenue – Local Members have asked about the potential to introduce a 20mph limit based on air quality in roads around the local school in Tunbury Avenue. Clerk has received the criteria which would need to be met for Tunbury Avenue to be considered together with confirmation that Tunbury Avenue does not meet it. Noted.

Local Members have noted that ‘speed/traffic counting’ wires have been installed in the Medway section of Tunbury Avenue. Clerk was asked to contact Medway for further information.

Clerk

6. Public Footpaths

7. Street Lighting

Items 6, 7, 8, 9. – No reports to this meeting.

8. Car Parks

9. Any Other Business/Correspondence

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - **2018 Grass Maintenance Contracts/In house** – Clerk reported on quotes received for contract work in Ferryfield, Forstal Road, Cemetery, Hedge Cutting, Goal Mouths, Grass Enhancement, Pitch Marking

The following, based on good quality of work and value for money, was **agreed:**

Ferryfield and Forstal Road gang mowing – Landscape Services

Cemetery – Station Haulage

Hedge Cutting – Landscape Services

Goal Mouth Repairs – Kent Turf Care

Pitch Marking – Landscape Services

Grass Enhancement – Landscape Services based on a two yearly cycle as follows:

2018/19 – Tunbury and Ferryfield 2019/20 – Forstal Road and Eccles

1.2 – **Play Equipment Inspection** – Following the annual play equipment inspection the Clerk proposes to prepare a play equipment enhancement programme for all sites with various options and funding implications for an ESC meeting in the New Year. Minor repairs and enhancement works to be carried out in-house have commenced.

2. The Hollow – No report to this meeting.

3. Ferryfield

3.1 - Rugby Club car parking on Ferryfield – 31 March 2018 8.00am to 3.00pm. Already agreed.

3.2 –North West Kent Dog Training Club event – 20 – 22 July 2018 – Already agreed.

3.4 – Bench renovation (sited near the football container) to be undertaken in house during the winter.

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground

4.1 – Scout Fun Day – 15 July 2018. Already agreed.

5. Allotments - No report to this meeting.

6. Eccles Recreation Ground - No report to this meeting.

7. Tunbury Recreation Ground, Changing Rooms and Car Park

Rotabounce Play Equipment – Repair still awaited.

8. Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground - No report to this meeting.

9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site – No report to this meeting.

10. Cemetery

10.1 - Long term future **extension**. This item will appear on the ESC agenda each month for progress report from the Clerk as appropriate. Clerk is also working on proposals to change the regulations particularly in respect of pre-purchase and out of parish charges. Report to be made to ESC in the New Year.

11. Churchyard - No report to this meeting.

12. Old Bridge Gardens

12.1 – Bench renovation to be undertaken in house during the winter.

13. Mill Hall (Beside Rose Cottage/Old Bridge) - No report to this meeting.

14. Yoakley Land - No report to this meeting.

15. Walderslade Open Spaces - No report to this meeting.

16. St Marks Square, Belgrave Street car park, new car park

Work to resolve minor flooding issue (£1095) and pothole repairs (£480) ordered. Work has commenced and should be completed this week.

17. Podkin Meadow

Long term project is continuing through the autumn. Weed spraying has recently taken place. Wild flower and grass seed sowing will now take place next Spring.

18. Christmas Lighting

18.1 - There have been issues with the Blue Bell Hill tree lights not fully working which the Clerk is endeavouring to sort out with the contractor.

18.2 – The replacement for the stolen Aylesford tree will be planted and decorated by residents on 14 December 2017. Parish Council to assist with digging the initial hole.

19. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence - No report to this meeting.

There being no further business, meeting closed at 7.55pm