

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER 2018

MINUTES

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Present: Cllrs Ludlow (in the Chair), Balcombe, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Rillie, Shelley, Walker, Wright

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

Apologies: Cllrs Base, Ms Dorrington, Kennedy, Smith, Winnett

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1. Apologies noted and reasons accepted as follows:

Cllrs Base (personal), Ms Dorrington (personal), Kennedy (unwell), Smith (personal), Winnett (family commitment)

2. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests additional to those contained in the Register of Members' Interests.

A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS

1. General Highway

1.1 - KCC Highway Improvement Plan

Clerk awaiting response from KCC on the implementation of a Highway Improvement Plan.

1.2 – On Street Parking Changes

Blue Bell Hill – Maidstone Road – Change single yellow line to double yellow line to prevent obstructive parking. Local BBH Member not in attendance. Deputy Clerk aware that local residents have some concerns/objections.

Eccles – Jenner Way/Springett Close/Stevens Road/St Marks Court/Hayman Walk/Bull Lane
New double yellow lines to prevent obstructive parking. No objections.

Eccles – Bull Lane – New double yellow lines to assist bus movements. No objections.

Walderslade – Taddington Wood Lane – New double yellow lines to prevent obstructive parking on bend and junction. No objections.

Walderslade – Woodbury Road – New double yellow lines to prevent obstructive parking at roundabout. No objection in principle but feel proposed double yellow lines go too far into cul de sac leading to nos. 18 – 36 Woodbury Road.

2. Eccles Highway Matters

2.1 - **Bull Lane/Pilgrims Way junction** – No report to this meeting.

3. Blue Bell Hill Highway Matters

3.1 – Slow sign on slip road off the A229 towards Aylesford currently situated under the bridge. Request made for it to be moved further up the slip road. Awaiting a response from KCC. This could be the type of project to go on the KCC Highways Improvement Plan

3.2 – Lights on the slip road off the A229 have failed again. Response from KCC states they believe problems are due to water ingress. Clerk reported KCC have ordered urgent repair works.

4. Aylesford Highway Matters

4.1 - **Aylesford Village Square** - Clerk and Chairman of the Council to have further discussions with KCC on how to take this scheme forward including a site meeting to be arranged.

4.2 – **A20/Homebase Flooding** – Works to alleviate this problem have been postponed as A20 road closure will be required and this will not take place until A26 Tonbridge Road sink hole repairs have been completed. Clerk reported that the A26 has now reopened and therefore date is awaited for these A20 repairs.

4.3 – Village Entrance (Cage Hill)

It was reported that road surface repairs and gate painting would take place in the near future and that a one day road closure would be required. Awaiting date.

4.4 – M20 Junctions 4 – 6 Closure

Closure has now been cancelled for 9 – 11 November. Full closure will now take place from 10pm Friday 16 November to 6am Monday 19 November.

4.5 – Aylesford Village – High Street closure for BT Open Reach works 27/28 October and 3/4 November.

- 5. Walderslade Highway Matters**
- 6. Public Footpaths**
- 7. Street Lighting**
- 8. Car Parks**
- 9. Bus Services**
- 10. Any Other Business/Correspondence**

No reports to this meeting.

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - Play Equipment Enhancement Programme. - Annual Play Equipment Inspection completed. Full report just received. Clerk to review and report back to next meeting. Initial review indicates only major issue is the deterioration of second part of Ferryfield equipment which may mean bringing forward planned Phase 2 of equipment replacement.

1.2 – Additional Security Measures

Bollard installation completed.

Welding work at Tunbury completed. Ferryfield work ordered – start date awaited.

2. The Hollow – No report to this meeting.

3. Ferryfield

3.1 - Play Equipment Replacement Phase 1 – The Clerk is awaiting proposals from possible contractors.

As reported at 1.1 above, Play Equipment Replacement Phase 2 may have to be brought forward.

3.2 - Signs warning of overnight locking in of vehicles parked after hours will be installed to coincide with winter closure time of 4pm from 1st November.

3.3 – Request from North West Kent Dog Training Club for 2019 Show on 26/27/28 July. Already agreed.

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground

Awaiting installation of replacement litter bins in play equipment area and teenage shelter due to existing bins rotting away.

5. Allotments - No report to this meeting.

6. Eccles Recreation Ground

7. Tunbury Recreation Ground, Changing Rooms and Car Park

7.1 – CCTV. Clerk reported that quotations for CCTV to cover car park and hall have been received. To be passed to Tunbury Hall Committee for consideration and report made to next ESC on proposed way forward. **Clerk**

8. Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground

9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site

10. Cemetery

No reports to this meeting.

11. Churchyard

Widening the path from the church door to the car park request. Work completed and well received. Funded from Brassey Centre 2018/19 grant.

12. Old Bridge Gardens

13. Mill Hall (Beside Rose Cottage/Old Bridge)

No reports to this meeting.

14. Yoakley Land

Clerk has met with representatives from the Medway Valley Project to discuss proposals for enhancement of Yoakley Land and possible funding initiatives. Enhancement would include path clearance/reinstatement and signage. Clerk to report in more detail next meeting.

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

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

16.1 – Belgrave Street/Car Park approach road repairs. Clerk reported that he has established with Land Registry that the strip of land leading to the rear of Belgrave Street, allotments and the new car park is unregistered. Therefore the Parish Council have no legal obligation to carry out any further repairs. However the increased usage of the track as the route to the new car park may be exacerbating the situation. It is likely that to fully resolve the situation would incur costs of at least £6000. Ownership of the land may have been omitted from the take over of surrounding land from Blue Circle to La Farge to Trenport or the now defunct developments Saxon Homes. Clerk will research this further before decisions are taken as to whether any further remedial work should be considered to stop water flowing down this land, allegedly entering the adjacent property on the corner of Belgrave Street.

Clerk

17. Podkin Meadow

17.1 - Awaiting installation of new dual purpose litter/dog bins.

17.2 - Long term project continuing and wild flower and grass seed sowing will take place in the near future subject to ground and weather conditions. Clerk in regular contact with contractor.

18. Christmas Lights

18.1 – Redundant TMBC Christmas lights. Clerk has established what is available. He will discuss with Cllr Base and report to next meeting.

18.2 – Eccles Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony booked for Friday 30 November.

18.3 – Aylesford Village Christmas tree. The two small trees planted by residents on the ‘village sign’ green at the entrance to the village do not appear to have thrived. Members agreed it was not appropriate for the Parish Council to be involved in replacing these on KCC land. The main tree on this land already has permanent APC Christmas lights installed.

Members **agreed** to provide similar lighting to that on the main tree at the entrance to the village, on one of the trees in the village square which it was felt would better enhance the other street light decorations in the area. **Clerk**

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

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.05pm.