

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

MINUTES

TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2019

* * * * *

Present: Cllrs Ludlow (in the Chair), Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, Winnett

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

Apologies: Cllrs Balcombe, Base, Ms Dorrington, Homewood, Walker, Wright

* * * * *

1. Apologies

Apologies and reasons for them were noted and accepted: Cllrs Balcombe, Wright (holidays), Base, Walker (TMBC meeting), Ms Dorrington (personal), Homewood (unwell).

2. Cllr Denis Elvy

Members acknowledged with sadness the death of Cllr Denis Elvy on 16 February. Denis has been a parish councillor since 1995 and served as Council Chairman from 2004 to 2008. He represented the Parish Council on a number of TMBC committees and continually served Walderslade Ward and the Parish Council as a whole in a calm and experienced manner. He will be greatly missed.

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

4. Charges for 2019/20 – Proposals were tabled based on an increase of 5% and **agreed** as attached at **Appendix A**.

Cemetery
Recreation Grounds (Football, Rugby etc)
Parking
Banners
Allotments
Paddock Water supply

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - **Play Equipment** – In house painting on going.

1.2 - **Caloo Outdoor Gym Equipment** – Inspection and some minor repairs completed by Caloo. Clerk is carrying out a further inspection of equipment relating to replacement parts and further painting quoted for and will report to the next meeting. **Clerk**

1.3 - **Resurfacing Works** – Overlay resurfacing of Eccles multiplay by Playspaces completed satisfactorily. Clerk reported that he wishes to further assess whether this is the most appropriate/cost effective way to carry out the required surfacing work at other sites or whether complete removal of old tiles and new surface and edging should be reconsidered. Report to the next meeting. **Clerk**

2. The Hollow

Clerk still considering proposals for upgrade of play equipment at The Hollow but Ferryfield is to take priority at the present time.

3. Ferryfield

3.1 - Play Equipment Replacement Phase 1 – Clerk reported on the views of plans by children from St Peters Primary School. This had been a worthwhile exercise at the school with representative children from a 7 – 11 age range. They had looked at proposals from two companies, Wicksteed and ‘Eibe’ with the majority preferring the ‘Eibe’ proposals and strong views that trampoline/s, joint parent/child swings and spring rockers should be included.

The initial proposals from both companies range from £108,000 - £134,000 but the exact price will depend on the final decisions regarding which equipment is included.

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Clerk should proceed with further discussions with ‘eibe’ to produce a detailed costed plan including the equipment particularly requested by the children. To report back to the next meeting. **Clerk**

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

3.3 – Rugby Club

- Request for Ferryfield for tournament parking – Sunday 10 February and Sunday 24 March 2019. 10 February was postponed due to inclement weather and poor ground conditions. Rearranged for 3 March. Noted.
- New metal gates and height barrier installed by the Club at the start of the concrete road into the car park. Noted.

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground

Installation of replacement litter bins in play equipment area and teenage shelter due to existing bins rotting away, has now been completed satisfactorily.

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

CCTV - Installation completed.

8. Blue Bell Hill Recreation Ground

9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site

10. Cemetery

No reports to this meeting.

11. Churchyard

12. Old Bridge Gardens

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

14. Yoakley Land

Clerk is progressing works on the Yoakley Lane enhancement project with the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership. £5000 grant received from Gallaghers with further Parish Council budget funding available if required.

Two days clearance work has been booked for March - £500 plus skip (MVCP)

Bat survey in the summer - £250 (MVCP)

Tree survey and maintenance work in the summer - £450 per day (Kent Turf Care). Other quotes to be obtained for comparison. **Clerk**

Newt survey in the summer - Free (MVCP)

Invasive plant survey £125 - £250 (MVCP)

BioBlitz event to inform the public about the area and seek volunteers - £1000 (MVCP)

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

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

Belgrave Street/Car Park approach road repairs – Clerk reported that he had not been able to establish land ownership but in accordance with the Committee’s decision, had obtained remedial tarmacking costs for the road leading down to the car park to improve the water flow during heavy rain - £3390; and for the turning corner into the car park which is subject to potholes - £3830.

Members **agreed** to consider this matter further at the next meeting.

17. Podkin Meadow

17.1 - Installation of new dual purpose litter/dog bins completed.

17.2 - Long term project continuing and further 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

Review of lights for Christmas 2019. Clerk reported on his meeting with Mick Wood of Gala Lights.

BBH Trees: Tree 1, no problem. Trees 2, 3 and 4, trees have grown. Lights will be loosened and trees redressed – no cost. Trees 5 and 6, no problems.

St Albans Tree – No problem but will be checked before 2019 lighting up.

Walderslade Tree – Faulty timer to be replaced - £100

Aylesford Village street lights motifs and trees – Minor timing problems that will be checked before 2019 lighting up

Aylesford Bridge – Repairs required. Charge to be advised

Eccles street lights motifs– Minor timing problems that will be checked before 2019 lighting up.

Clerk also discussed with MW the cost of new street light motifs for BBH and additional ones for Eccles. Costs would be approximately £650 per motif and then an installation and removal charge of £130 each year. It could be done on a year by year basis ie. two new ones in each area each year. Members agreed, without commitment, that the Clerk should submit to a future meeting a detailed report including the levels of motifs that could practically be put in and how these could be costed over a prolonged period. **Clerk**

19. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.40pm.