

AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 28 AUGUST 2018

MINUTES

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Present: Cllr Base (Chairman), Balcombe, Ms Dorrington, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Ludlow, Rillie, Smith

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

Apologies: Cllrs Hammond, Walker, Winnett, Wright

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1. Apologies

Apologies and reasons for them were noted and accepted as follows: Cllrs Hammond and Walker (TMBC meeting), Winnett (family commitment), Wright (holiday).

2. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest additional to those contained in the register of members interests.

A. FOOTWAYS/HIGHWAYS/LIGHTING MATTERS

1. General Highway

1.1 - Informal consultation **parking restriction proposals** for:

Taddington Wood Lane/Walderslade Woods junction
Woodbury Road roundabout
Eccles – various junction corners and parking access areas
Eccles – Bull Lane bus turning area
Maidstone Road, Blue Bell Hill

APC have not been formally asked to comment on these proposals but local members have been made aware of proposals and raised no objections. APC will be asked to comment if the proposals proceed to formal consultation.

1.2 – Proposed **KCC Highway Improvement Plan**

The Clerk reported a suggestion from KCC to establish a Highway Improvement Plan with Parish Councils which would enable them to list prioritised highways requests for KCC to consider. Clerk is requesting some further details and will report back to Committee but in principle Members welcomed the initiative.

2. **Eccles Highway Matters**

2.1 - **Bull Lane/Pilgrims Way junction**

Request to change the speed limit leading to Bull Lane/Pilgrims Way junction from 40mph to 30mph. Clerk reported that Kent Highways response is that regardless of the changes in Pilgrims Way, the road environment still does not comply with the Department of Transport guidelines for a 30mph road and the request is therefore refused. Noted.

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 would be the type of project to go on the KCC Highway Improvement Plan (see 1.2 above).

3.2 – Lights on the slip road off the A229 have failed again. Awaiting response from KCC.

4. **Aylesford Highway Matters**

4.1 - **Aylesford Village Square** - TMBC Conservation Department have agreed to the revised KCC materials specification for this project. Clerk has just received some revised costings from Kent Highways which he is considering. Report to next meeting. **Clerk**

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 (latest information indicates this will not be until mid October).

4.3 – **Village Entrance (Cage Hill)**

CLlr Base reported that road surface repairs and gate painting will take place on 23 September. One day road closure will be required.

4.4 – **M20 Junctions 4 – 6 Closure**

10pm Fri 14 Sep to 6am Mon 17 Sep and pm Fri 9 Nov to am Mon 12 Nov to demolish and rebuild Teapot Lane footbridge.

5. **Walderslade Highway Matters** – No report to this meeting.

6. Public Footpaths

Clerk has requested advice from Boxley Parish Council regarding Walderslade Woods maintenance responsibility. Response awaited.

7. Street Lighting – No report to this meeting.

8. Car Parks – No report to this meeting.

9. Bus Services

Local Members reported there will be changes to the 155 service timetable effective from 2nd September to include a stop in Peters Village. No formal notification received in the office.

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

B. RECREATION AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. All Sites

1.1 - Play Equipment Enhancement Programme. - Annual Play Equipment Inspection ordered

1.2 – Additional Security Measures

Additional metal bollards originally ordered were found to be unsuitable and the order was cancelled. New orders to be placed. New contractor for welding also required.

2. The Hollow – No report to this meeting.

3. Ferryfield

3.1 - Play Equipment Replacement Phase 1 – Clerk to report on progress in due course.

3.2 – Request for Geotechnical Investigation on grass verge beside Rugby Club approach road in connection with motorway works 6th to 13th September. Assurances given regarding reinstatement.

Agreed Clerk

4. Forstal Road Recreation Ground

Request for fireworks as part of a Diwali festival taking place in the Community Centre in October. Supermarket bought style being set off by festival organisers. Decision on application deferred from last meeting in order to obtain information from other Councils all of whom have advised that either they do not allow fireworks of any type or only organised by professional pyrotechnic companies who provide their own insurance. APC insurance company have advised that APC would not be covered for any firework event. Therefore the Diwali event in the Community Centre will not be permitted to have fireworks. The Council will not permit any private applications for a firework event on any of its land and would only consider individual requests from reputable organisations with the firework display being undertaken by a professional company with their own relevant insurance and licence.

Clerk

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

Changing rooms repairs have been completed. Future use of the changing rooms will be formalised by the Clerk with Real 60 Football Club and regular inspections carried out by Council staff.

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

9. Blue Bell Hill Pond Site

Reports of suspected drug taking/dealing in the area have been reported to the police.

10. Cemetery - No report to this meeting.

11. Churchyard

Widening the path from the church door to the car park request. Trustees of the Brassey Centre have agreed that their 2018/2019 hall grant can be used to fund this project. Clerk has received quotes up to a maximum of £1550 and it was **agreed** that the project should proceed on this basis. Clerk will check specifications and then authorise work. **Clerk**

12. Old Bridge Gardens – No report to this meeting.

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

16.1 – Belgrave Street/Car Park approach road repairs. Still under review following resident's report to the Council meeting 17 July.

17. Podkin Meadow

17.1 - Request to change two existing dog waste bins to larger dual purpose dog waste/litter bins. Approximate cost including installation £300 each. **Agreed Clerk**

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. Cllr Base pursuing availability with TMBC.

19. Any Other ESC Business/Correspondence

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.07pm.