

# Aylesford Parish Council

## Policy & Resources Committee

### Minutes of the Meeting held in the Aylesford Parish Council Office, Aylesford on Tuesday 2 May 2023

**Present:** Councillors Sullivan (Chairman), Balcombe, Beadle, Mrs Birkbeck, Ms Dorrington, Mrs Eves, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Mrs Ogun, Ms Oyewusi, Sharp, Shelley Smith and Walker.

**In Attendance:** Melanie Randall (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Councillors Fuller, Ludlow and Winnett.

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#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Fuller, Ludlow and Winnett were received, and the reasons 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 last meeting held on 4 April 2023

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes from the meeting held on 4 April 2023 be approved as a correct record.

#### 4. Accounts for Payment

The Council considered the Payment Schedule attached to the Agenda and Councillor Mrs Gadd proposed and Councillor Ms Dorrington Seconded and it was **Resolved** that 38 payments totalling £17,453.44 be made.

#### 5. Finance Advisory Sub Committee

It was **Agreed** to note the minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2023. **Noted**

## **6. Law and Order**

### **6.1 Police Report**

No report received since the last meeting of this Committee. The Clerk was asked to contact Kent Police to find out if the PCSO is still in post and if not who the new contact is.

## **7. KALC**

Councillor Shelley gave a brief update also covering item 8, that included the issue of old building that need to be more carbon friendly and be better insulated. **Noted**

## **8. TMBC/Parish Partnership Panel Meeting**

Covered in the update in item 7. **Noted**

## **9. Council Vacancies**

There are no vacancies. **Noted**

## **10. Public Convenience Review**

The Chairman reported that yet again he has followed up with Stuart Edwards at TMBC to request an update. As of the meeting the Chairman had not received a response. It was suggested that the Lease be looked at to see if there is provision within it for the Parish Council to enforce charges on TMBC as it is now two years since the Lease expired. The Clerk will review the Lease and both the Clerk and Chairman will continue to push for this project to be done. **Ongoing**

## **11. Adoption of Aylesford Station**

It was reported that Network Rail have agreed to prioritise putting in lifts at Barming Station. Some members didn't feel that they were needed at this site and West Malling as the far busier station should be prioritised over Barming. **Ongoing**

## **12. Kings Coronation Plaque for Coronation Gardens**

The Clerk reported that the RBLI custom made a special 60cm circular design, which she showed to members. The cost was £10.00. It was **Resolved** this would be fixed to the gate to Coronation Gardens. **Resolved**

## **13. Easement request to place a cable through Parish Council Land**

The Clerk reported that she has been in discussions with Wrenbridge and their representatives for some time regarding their request to place a cable from the development site at Little Preston through the Council's land at the side of the Rugby Club/Ferryfield (the area is known as the racetrack) then out onto Hall Road. It is an approx. distance of 800 metres of cable which is to be laid via a trench.

The initial amount for the Council to consider was £20k, however the Council **Resolved** that it would not accept anything less than £25k and the Clerk was authorised to continue the talks based on this figure. Further the Clerk is authorised to accept any amount above £25k without bringing it back to committee. **Resolved**

#### **14. Consideration to re-invest £42,500 into a fixed rate account with Cambridge & Counties**

The clerk informed the Committee that there were several options, the most suitable being a 1- or 2-year fixed rate account.

The 1-year account has an interest rate of 3.75% and the 2-year account has an interest rate of 3.80%.

It was **Resolved** to proceed with the 1-year account and the Clerk was instructed to open the account. **Resolved**

#### **15. KALC – Annual Renewal**

It was **Resolved** to renew the subscription of the Kent Association of Local Councils at a cost of £1,695.00 net. **Resolved**

#### **16. Staffing Minutes**

It was Agreed to note the Staffing Minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2023.

**Noted**

#### **17. Any Other Correspondence**

There was no other correspondence.

#### **18. Duration of Meeting**

8.41pm to 8.07pm