

# Aylesford Parish Council

## Policy and Resources Committee

### Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held via Zoom link on 1 December 2020

**Present:** Councillor Balcombe (Chairman) and Councillors Ms Dorrington, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Ludlow, Ms Papagno, Rillie, Shelley, Smith, Walker, Williams, Winnett and Wright.

**In Attendance:** Neil Harris (Clerk) and Melanie Randall (Assistant Clerk and Finance Officer)

**Apologies:** Councillors Base, Hammond, Ms Oyewusi and Sullivan.

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#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Base (TMBC meeting), Hammond (unwell), Ms Oyewusi (work commitment) and Sullivan (personal commitment) were received, and the reasons for absence agreed.

#### 2. Declaration of Interests

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

#### 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 November 2020

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed.

#### 4. Accounts for Payment

The Council considered the Payment Schedule attached to the Agenda and Councillor Shelley proposed and Councillor Mrs Gadd seconded and it was **Agreed** that 29 payments totalling £22666.48 be made.

#### 5. Law and Order - CCTV in High Street, Aylesford

The Clerk reported that the Council had been informed by Q-Tec who are offering a new cheaper option for a CCTV camera that they would be placing a demo camera at their

office in the next couple of weeks. It would be possible for the Council to access this camera to see the quality of the picture.

## **6. KALC**

There had been no meeting of the Panel since the last meeting of the Committee.

## **7. TMBC Parish Partnership Panel**

The Committee received the report of Councillor Shelley of the meeting of the TMBC Parish Partnership Panel held on 12 November 2020.

## **8. Council Vacancies**

It was **Noted** that the current vacancies on the Council were as follows: -

Aylesford South - 1.

## **9. Public Convenience Review – Aylesford Toilets**

The Clerk reported that the Clerk at Snodland Town Council was discussing with the existing cleaning contractor about a quote that covered all of the Parish Councils considering whether they wished to take on the TMBC toilets. He was also awaiting details of the repair work TMBC were intending to undertake on the toilets in Aylesford if the Council went ahead. He hoped to be in a position to report in detail at the next meeting of the Committee if the above information had been received.

## **10. Kent Community Rail Partnership – Request for Financial Support**

The Clerk reported that Kent Community Rail Partnership had written asking the Council for a contribution towards the work it does in Kent including the Maidstone-Strood line that goes through Aylesford. Last year the Council gave a donation of £100. More recently Councillor Shelley has been representing the Council at this organisation. It was **Agreed** that the Council make a donation of £100 to Kent Community Rail Partnership.

## **11. Rugby Club and Netball Rent Review**

The Clerk reported that the lease with the Rugby Club allows for an increase in rent every 5 years based on the Index of Retail Prices. This increase would also apply to the Netball League as well. Five years has passed since the last increase and it would now be time to apply the new rent. The total increase in the Index of Retail Prices over this 5-year period is 11.7% which would increase the annual rent for the Rugby Club from £2993.04 to £3343.24 and the Netball League from £1682.36 to 1879.20. It was **Agreed** that the rent increases due to the Council by the Rugby Club and the Netball League be deferred for a year.

## **12. Request from Hospital Trust to park in the Ferryfield**

The Clerk reported that the Environmental Services Committee considered a request from the Hospital Trust to park in part of the Ferryfield which was deferred to enable the Clerk to obtain further information from them to report back to this meeting. The Clerk was seeking that information but had not received it as yet but expects to receive it shortly and would report it to the next Environmental Services Committee.

## **13. Parish Poll**

The Clerk reported that Councillor Ludlow had asked that the Committee consider whether it would wish to have a Parish Poll possibly with other local Parish Councils to ask a question along the lines of the following

Do you believe that we have adequate infrastructure (e.g. roads, transport, facilities) to accommodate new housing developments within the area?

The Clerk reported that he had asked TMBC for a rough estimate of the costs of a Parish Poll and had been informed that it would be at least £4580 for just Aylesford parish.

It was **Agreed** that the Clerk write to Ditton and East Malling and Larkfield Parish Councils to see whether they would be willing to work together to promote the aims within the suggested question above including holding a Parish Poll within all the Parishes asking the above or similarly phrased question.

## **14. Duration of Meeting**

7.30pm to 8.08pm