

**AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 5 MARCH 2019
Commenced 8.25pm**

MINUTES

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

In attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk Mrs Randall, Finance Officer

Apologies: Cllrs Balcombe, Homewood, Kennedy, Walker

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1. Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations additional to those contained in the Register of Members' Interests.

2. Apologies

Apologies as follows were noted and reasons accepted: Cllrs Balcombe (holiday), Homewood (unwell), Kennedy (working), Walker (TMBC meeting).

3. Accounts for Payment

Proposed payment list attached at **Appendix A**. 42 payments totalling £37,237.71 were checked and proposed for payment by Cllr Shelley, checked and seconded Cllr Mrs Gadd and **agreed**.

4. Finance Advisory Sub Committee

Ratification of the FASC meeting minutes held on 26 February 2019 – attached at **Appendix B**. Proposed by Cllr Shelley, seconded Cllr Mrs Gadd as an accurate record of the meeting and agreement to recommendations. **Agreed**

Matters Arising

Item 5. Section 137 Micro Grant requests – Eccles Pre-school chairs. Actual cost £232.35 due to discount for purchase of more than 10 chairs.

5. Scout Hut Lease and Grant/Loan Application

Clerk reported that the Transfer Deed for the purchase of the small piece of land from the Yoakley Trust is nearly completed. The Lease to the Scouts can then be finalised.

6. Law and Order

February report from PCSO Iantosca (Aylesford) attached at **Appendix C**.

7. Rugby Club/Netball League

7.1 – Entrance road potholes – Quote to fill in - £1195 previously agreed. Work required being reassessed now road works are complete in that area.

7.2 – Grass bund fencing between the Rugby Club entrance and the cemetery. This agreed work will be carried out on 20 March.

7.3 – Following the use of Ferryfield by the Rugby Club for parking on Sunday 3 March there was some damage to the bollard and ground at the access on to the field through the car park bund. The Club took some action to prevent further damage to the ground with mats and gravel which they have been asked to tidy up now. The Clerk advised the Committee however that consideration needs to be given to a more permanent solution.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk should look at and cost alternative surfaces (concrete or similar) to provide a hardstanding at this access on to the field and report back to the next meeting. **Clerk**

The Rugby Club have offered to undertake the repairs to the bollard and its immediate surround but the Clerk has advised the Council will see a quotation for these repairs and charge the Club accordingly. **Clerk**

The Clerk will consider alternative ways of hiring Ferryfield to the Rugby Club. This will include the options of:

1. Continue with agreement to hire free of charge provided ground conditions are suitable, subject to agreement by the Club to pay all or a contribution towards the cost of the hardstanding
2. That the Council pay for the hardstanding and charge the Rugby Club an agreed fee each time it is used – a comparable rate to hire by the circus would be £100.
3. That the Council refuse any further requests from the Rugby Club to hire Ferryfield for parking. **Clerk**

It was noted that the Rugby Club already have an agreement in place to hire Ferryfield for parking on 24 March. This will be honoured as already agreed free of charge provided ground conditions are suitable.

8. Flood Defences

Following on from the presentation by the Environment Agency and TMBC at ESC on 22 January 2019, TMBC have now advised the Clerk that a Community Flood Plan Exercise will be held in Aylesford village in the first week of June. Staff and Councillors will need to be involved in this event.

9. Council Vacancies

3 Aylesford South 1 Blue Bell Hill 1 Walderslade.
See Item 14 below regarding forthcoming Parish elections.

10. KALC

10.1 - Community Awards Scheme 2019. Presentation to be made to Archie Mitchell at 7pm prior to Parish Annual Meeting on 21 May 2019. Archie has confirmed attendance.

11. TMBC/ Parish Partnership Panel Meeting

Meeting 7 February 2019. Cllr Shelley's attendance report attached at **Appendix D**. Members thanked Cllr Shelley for attending and for his report.

12. Noticeboard Review

Replacement programme for the 9 wooden boards to commence with Robin Hood Lane (sited in the dip). Office researching style and costs.

13. Parish Council Public Relations

Clerk reported on the meeting held on 15 February with Cllrs Ludlow, Kennedy, Balcombe and the Clerk to consider ways to improve the issue of getting Parish Council information out to residents including the use of appropriate social media. With the assistance of Cllr Ludlow a facebook page is being set up with the objective to provide information only. There will be no opportunity to comment or respond. All comments and communication will be directed to the website and email.

14. May 2019 Parish Council Elections

The Clerk reported on actions required by Members seeking re-election in May. Nomination papers will be available from TMBC from 18 March and need to be completed and returned with two proposers by 3 April. When declared as candidates nominees can request a copy of the Register of Electors for their Ward. The Clerk will distribute the full set of information on the procedures on or immediately after 18 March. He then offered to collect back nomination forms, check them and deliver to TMBC for further check and handover, to ensure all procedures are followed correctly and deadlines met. Members thanked the Clerk for this offer.

Clerk

15. Any Other Business/Correspondence

15.1 – Government Traveller Consultation

The Government had announced that it was looking into whether it would criminalise the Act of Trespassing when setting up an illegal encampment allowing the police to respond quicker and take tougher action. They were also looking to consult on change the law to:

- lower the number of vehicles needed to be involved in an illegal camp before police can act from 6 to 2;
- give the police powers to direct travellers to sites in neighbouring local authorities. Currently they can only direct trespassers to sites in the same area;
- allow officers to remove trespassers from camping on or beside a road;

- increase the time – from 3 months to a year – during which travellers are not allowed to return to a site they have already been removed from.

15.2 – **Former Councillor Denis Elvy.** Funeral will be held at Medway Crematorium, Blue Bell Hill on Wednesday 20 March – 11am. Members **agreed** to make a donation of £100 to the Dogs Trust Canterbury, known to be supported by Denis, in lieu of flowers. It was further **agreed** that the Parish Office will close on the morning of 20 March to allow staff members to attend the funeral. **Clerk**

There being no further business, meeting closed at 8.56pm.