

Aylesford Parish Council

Policy & Resources Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held via in the Capel Morris Centre on Tuesday 7 September 2021

Present: Councillor Shelley (Chairman) and Councillors Beadle, Ms Dorrington, Mrs Gadd, Gledhill, Ludlow, Mrs Papagno, Rillie, Smith, Sullivan and Williams.

In Attendance: Melanie Randall (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillors Balcombe, Fuller, Hammond, Smith and Walker.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of Absence from Councillors Ludlow, Ms Oyewusi, Mrs Papagno, Williams 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 other than Councillor Shelley disclosed an interest in item 14 as he is the Treasurer of Tunbury Village Hall.

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 3 August 2021

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 August 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. Accounts for Payment

The Council considered the Payment Schedule attached to the Agenda and Councillor Sullivan proposed and Councillor Ms Dorrington Seconded and it was **Agreed** that 56 payments totalling £24,338.82 be made.

5. Law and Order

5.1 CCTV in the High Street, Aylesford

The Clerk reported that there were no further updates but she will continue to pursue this with regards to obtaining permission form KCC to erect the camera

for a trial period to enable the Council to see the image quality in its proposed location. **Ongoing**

5.2 Police Report

No report received since the last meeting

6. KALC

The notes from the meeting on 25 August 2021 were attached to the agenda.

Noted

7. TMBC/Parish Partnership Panel Meeting

Councillor Shelley gave a verbal report from the meeting on 2 September 2021.

8. Council Vacancies

It was Noted that the current Vacancies are
2 – Walderslade

9. Public Convenience Review

The Clerk reported that she has still not received any further updates from TMBC despite asking for an update since 2 July. The Head Master has also contacted TMBC for an update but has not had a response either. **Ongoing**

10. The Governments Welcome Back Fund

The Clerk reported that she has now had clarification of the questions she raised with TMBC regarding the Service Level Agreement. The Clerk has signed the agreement and the projects can start to be obtained. **Ongoing**

11. RBLI Base Camp

The Clerk reported that although she had not received any correspondence directly from the RBLI, she had been informed that the play area was now open. However, the café was not as they are still recruiting for staff. Reports received suggest that the play area is only open for reduced hours during the week and is closed at weekends, which the Council finds very disappointing. The Council feel this is not acceptable and asked the Clerk to write to the RBLI to clarify the opening hours and ask for an explanation of the current situation as they feel it is not acceptable. **Ongoing**

12. Adoption of Aylesford Station

The Chairman stated it is a slow process to adopt the station but he has applied to partake in the safety briefing. **Ongoing**

13. To receive the Staffing Minutes of 11 August 2021.

The Staffing Minutes were **Agreed**.

14. Finance Advisory Sub Committee – to receive the recommendation within.

The Clerk referred members to item 5 of the Finance minutes – Grant Award Policy. She stated that Councillor Shelley had some comments about the policy he wished to raise as a Parish Councillor and not as a connection to the Tunbury Hall. The Clerk sought approval from the Council for Councillor Shelley to make his comments, it was unanimously **Agreed** he could speak.

After a short discussion it was **Agreed** to add in the following; This Policy is subject to review and amendment at any point the Clerk and/or Council feel appropriate. Subject to the above amendment it was **Agreed** to recommend to Council to adopt the Grant Award Policy.

15. Financial Budget Comparison

The Clerk went through the annual grant budgets with the Council and said that six months into the financial year there was currently only one large overspend which was an unexpected purchase of a new computer for the Clerk.

16. Purchase of new Parish Van.

The Clerk reported that the current vehicle, a Toyota Hilux is 7 years old and it should now be considered for replacement. She had made some enquiries with several different manufacturers, some of which did not respond and some vehicles are being discontinued. The most suitable vehicle that has been looked at is an Isuzu DL20 Extended cab and a trade in price of £11,000 was obtained from the dealer for the current vehicle. They will also take the Council's second vehicle, a Vauxhall Combi that is not currently used in part exchange as well for £4,500 if the Council lets the take it mid-September. If the Council does not want to let the dealer have it before the delivery of the new vehicle (around December) then the trade in price for this van will be less. The cost of the Isuzu is £28,850, less the part exchanges mean's the Council will pay £13,350. The Clerk informed members there is £18,000 in the Vehicle Replacement Fund, so there are enough funds. The only other expenditure will be the signwriting, however; there is enough left in the budget for this.

It was **Agreed** to purchase the Isuzu DL20 Extended Cab and for the dealer to take the Vauxhall Combi mid-September.

17. Any Other Business/Correspondence

The Clerk informed the Council that the Aylesford Big Lunch has been cancelled for this year and will not now take place until summer 2022.

20. Duration of meeting

7.37pm to 8.22pm