

Aylesford Parish Council

Environmental Services Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd February 2026, in the Aylesford Parish Council Offices, Aylesford

Present: Councillors Sullivan (Chair), Miss Anderson, Balcombe, Mrs Eves, Mrs Gadd, Fuller, Netzel, Rillie, Sharp, Shelley, Smith and Mrs Waters.

Melanie Randall (Clerk of the Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence from Councillors Mrs Birkbeck, Chapman, Ludlow Ms Oyewusi and Shelley were received and the reason for absence agreed.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest additional to those contained in the Register of Members Interests; except Councillor Fuller declared an interest in item 9 as the resident is known to him. He left the room and took no part in the discussion or decision.

3. To Agree the Minutes of the last meeting held on 6 January 2026

It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 January 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4. Any Matters Arising from the last minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. To consider renewing the Play Equipment at The Hollow, Aylesford

The Clerk reported that she had started to look at funding options. **Ongoing**

6. Renewal of the Play Equipment at Tunbury Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that she had started to look at funding options. **Ongoing**

7. Podkin Meadow Rewilding Project

There was no update. **Ongoing**

8. Private Football Training Eccles Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that Aylesford Football Club had raised with her that someone was using the recreation ground for private football coaching/goalkeeping sessions and they had done so during bad weather which in turn had ruined the pitches and they had to call games off. This meant around 30 children couldn't play football.

The Clerk reported that she had identified the individual and made contact with him. He was apologetic and requested to continue using the site and confirmed he would not use the pitches. The Clerk agreed, instructing him to alternate the areas he uses to minimise damage. She asked whether the Council wished to charge a small fee, given it is a small business.

After discussion, it was **Agreed** that no payment would be required at the moment; however, use of the site will be monitored for three months and reviewed at any time should complaints be received from residents regarding the condition of the areas being used. **Closed**

9. Old Bridge Gardens – Ivy Growth Adjacent to Resident's Wall

The Clerk reported that a resident has raised concerns regarding ivy growth on their wall which has recently collapsed. Members noted that the Council carried out some tree/shrubbery maintenance in November 2025 in the area and noted the wall in question was already leaning towards Old Bridge Gardens prior to the incident of the collapse which happened in high winds on the 11th January 2026.

The resident has asked for the Council's assistance in helping to clear the ivy roots from the area so they may rebuild their boundary wall for their privacy and security.

It was **Resolved** to carry out the work necessary to completely remove the Ivy roots from the area and the Clerk is authorised to instruct contractors – due to the urgency there is no need to bring quotes back to committee. **Closed**

10. Tunbury Car Park

As Councillor Shelley was absent, it was Agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. As Treasurer of Tunbury Hall, members wished to hear his views on the complaints of anti-social behaviour and possible ways this situation could be addressed.

The Clerk will investigate the costs of upgrading some or all the CCTV cameras to improve night-time visibility of vehicle registration plates. It was noted that the repositioning of one camera may also be required. **Deferred**

11. Any Other Correspondence

There was no Other Correspondence

12. Duration of Meeting

8:15pm to 8:36pm