

# Aylesford Parish Council

## Policy & Resources Committee

### Minutes of the Meeting held in the Aylesford Parish Council Office, Aylesford on Tuesday 2 September 2025

**Present:** Councillor Mrs Gadd (Chair) and Councillors, Miss Anderson, Balcombe, Mrs Birkbeck, Mrs Eves, Gledhill, Rillie, Sharp, Shelley, Sullivan and Smith. Melanie Randall (Clerk of the Council)

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#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence from Councillors Fuller, Ludlow and Ms Oyewusi 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 5 August 2025

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes from the meeting held on 5 August 2025 be approved as a correct record and be signed, subject to Mrs Birkbeck being added to the apologies.

#### 4. Any Matters Arising from the last Minutes

There were no matters arising.

#### 5. Accounts for Payment

The Council considered the Payment Schedule attached to the Agenda and Councillor Mrs Gadd proposed and Councillor Shelley seconded and it was **Resolved** that 44 payments totalling £29,132.82 be made.

#### 6. Finance Advisory Sub Committee

It was **Agreed** to note the minutes of the meeting held on 5 August 2025.

## **7. KALC and TMBC Parish Partnership Panel Meetings**

It was **Agreed** to note the Notes produced by Councillor Shelley from the meeting of the Parish Partnership Panel held on 28 August 2025. **Noted**

## **8. Council Vacancies**

The current vacancies where the Parish Council can co-opt are

Eccles – 1

Aylesford South – 2

Walderslade – 1

**Noted**

Two applications had been received, one for Eccles and one for Walderslade.

It was **Unanimously Agreed** to recommend the co-option of both applicants.

This recommendation will go to Council on 16<sup>th</sup> September for approval.

**Noted**

## **9. Banking Arrangements**

The Clerk reported that Metro Bank no longer allows more than three signatories on current accounts. The Council currently has seven signatories, but Metro's policy change in 2022 restricts this to three. This arrangement would not be workable for the Council, as one of the three signatories would need to be the Clerk, leaving only two councillors. The Council requires a minimum of three councillor signatories in addition to the Clerk, which provides adequate cover should any banking need authorising.

The Clerk advised that she had undertaken initial research and found that HSBC offers an account for 'Charitable Purposes,' which, according to their advisor, the Parish Council would be eligible for. This account would provide free banking similar to Metro. However, it is unclear whether a credit card facility is available with this type of account. The Clerk will visit the branch to make further enquiries.

**Action:** It was agreed that the Clerk will report back to the next meeting with further information. **Ongoing**

## **10. Any Other Correspondence**

There was no Other Correspondence.

## **14. Duration of Meeting**

7:31pm to 7:50pm