

Aylesford Parish Council

Policy & Resources Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 6th January 2026 in the Aylesford Parish Council Offices, Aylesford

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

Melanie Randall (Clerk of the Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence from Councillors Mrs Birkbeck, Ms Oyewusi and Rillie, 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 9 December 2025

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes from the meeting held on 9 December 2025 be approved as a correct record and be signed.

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 Balcombe proposed and Councillor Mrs Eves seconded and it was **Resolved** that 24 payments totalling £15,721.04 be made.

6. Finance Advisory Sub Committee

It was **Agreed** to note the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2025.

7. KALC and TMBC Parish Partnership Panel Meetings

There was no update. The description on the agenda was a duplicate from the previous meeting. **Noted**

8. Council Vacancies

The current vacancies where the Parish Council can co-opt are Aylesford South – 2

Noted

9. Annual Maintenance Contract

The Clerk reported that the cost of the contract for 2025 was £1,597.58. The quotation for 2026 includes a 2.5% increase, bringing the total to £1,637.52.

In addition, there will be a further cost of £320 for the five-yearly electrical inspection of the Parish Office.

It was **Resolved** to proceed and renew the Annual Maintenance Contract. **Closed**

10. 2026/27 Budget – Precept Setting

The Committee considered the proposed Precept Report in respect of the Precept for the financial year of 2026/27.

The Precept for 2025/26 was £318,401.32 and for a Band D property this was £69.32 per household per year. The suggested Precept for 2026/27 was £342,888.70, an annual increase of £24,487.38 (3.01%) or £2.09 per Band D property. The total annual cost for a Band D property on the suggested Precept would be £71.41.

A Councillor asked whether it would be possible to keep the Precept below 3%. In anticipation of this question, calculations had already been undertaken. It was suggested that deducting £2,000.47 from the Playground Renewal Fund would result in a proposed Precept for 2026/27 of £340,888.23, an annual increase of £22,486.91 (2.4%) or £1.67 per Band D property. The total cost for a Band D property under this option would be £70.99.

It was **Resolved** to recommend to Council that the Precept be set at £340,888.23 and the budgets in the Precept Report be submitted to Committee for approval.

Closed – Recommendation to Council

11. SLCC Membership Renewal

It was **Resolved** to renew the membership for the Clerk at £379 for 2026. **Closed**

12. Any Other Correspondence

There was no Other Correspondence.

13. Duration of Meeting

7:41pm to 8:01pm