

REPORT TO WOULDHAM PARISH COUNCIL - 2nd September 2025

By the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Councillors for **Aylesford North and North Downs Ward**

Councillors Dave Davis, Alex McDermott and Roger Dalton

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AND AWARD SCHEME

1. The Community Development Grant Scheme is still open for applications. Full details including the application form and eligibility criteria are available on the council website: Community development grant scheme – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council. This scheme is for the voluntary/community/charity sector and will be open until **15 September 2025**, for grants of up to £2,500. Please pass on the link to local groups and contacts in your Parish.

2. TMBC have also launched the **Community Awards Scheme**. Again, please share the link <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/communityawards> with local groups/residents who may wish to nominate someone. It's completely free to enter and aims to celebrate outstanding contributions to community life, volunteering and local service. Further information, including eligibility criteria and the different award categories, are all on the TMBC website.

PUBLIC REPRESENTATION AT PLANNING MEETINGS

3. There has been a change in the TMBC Constitution on representation by members of the public at planning committee meetings.
4. There have been no changes to Parish Council representation which remains at one speaker for 3 minutes.
5. There has been no change to the applicant's representation which remains at one speaker for 3 minutes.
6. The main change is for public speakers which was an unlimited number. This has now been reduced to 5 speakers. Each speaker can speak for 3 minutes.

LOCAL PLAN – UPDATE

7. There have been no further updates since our last report.

DEVOLUTION

8. There has been no further update on devolution since last time.

PARISH PARTNERSHIP PANEL

9. At the Parish Partnership Panel on 28th August there was an excellent and full briefing on the current state of affairs on Devolution and the Local Plan. We recommend it to all councillors. It is too early to send a link to the You Tube Chanel but it can be fairly easily searched for by Googling "TMBC Committees".

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS IN PROGRESS

10. **Common Road Blue Bell Hill** There has been no change in this action since your last meeting.