



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 16TH FEBRUARY 2023 IN EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL

Open Forum

Nothing was raised.

Cllr Williams formally opened the meeting at 19.34.

Present

Cllr Williams, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Harpley, Cllr Booth, Cllr Owen, Buckinghamshire Councillor Chris Poll, Buckinghamshire Cllr Peter Brazier, Penny Pataky (the Clerk) and one parishioner.

Apologies

Cllr Cabbage, Cllr Nevard, Cllr Wells.

Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

Minutes

Council agreed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council 19th January 2023 with no amendments.

Matters Arising

Nothing was raised.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

BC have informed EPC that no requests for an election have been received and that EPC is now able to co-opt to fill the councillor vacancy.

A notice has been published inviting parishioners with an interest in the position to contact the Clerk on the Council website and in the March edition of Focus.

To date two parishioners had expressed an interest in the position. One, Christine Hurst attended this meeting, the second has withdrawn his interest for the time being due to work commitments.

A further parishioner has expressed interest however they do not reside in the ward of Edlesborough.

Buckinghamshire Council Report

BC Councillors Chris Poll and Peter Brazier were in attendance. A written report was provided by BC Cllr Derek Town prior to the meeting, this is available to view on the EPC website.

Cllr Brazier reported that BC Planning Enforcement has had an improved performance over the past year.

Next week Council will be voting on its 2023-24 Budget. The Cabinet has agreed to put forward to Council a 2.99% rise in the base rate of council tax and a plan to take up the Government's proposal for a Social Care Precept of 2%, meaning a total rise of 4.99% in bills.

This equates to a rise in council tax of £1.61 per week for the average home (Band D) in Buckinghamshire. Council will also be proposing the removal of the 10% discount on Council Tax for second homes.

Planning

The following applications were considered and it was agreed to submit the following responses to Buckinghamshire Council Local Planning Authority

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response
23/00248/COUAR 27 th Jan 2023	Deans Poultry Farm South End Lane Northall	Prior approval application to establish if the conversion of 2 agricultural buildings into 4 dwellings constitutes permitted development	No objections
23/00267/AGN	Goose Hill Farm	Erection of grain store	OPPOSE

30 th Jan 2023	Ringshall Road Dagnall		Applicant needs to justify location
23/00446/APP 13 th Feb 2023	1 Hall Farm Barns Slapton lane Northall	Single storey front extension	No objections

Cllr Harpley proposed removing the following paragraph from the response to application 23/00248/COUAR
“There still remains the issue of what will become of the remainder of the site. The Parish Council has previously posed that question in response to earlier applications relating to this site, because the remainder of the derelict sheds would clearly make the surroundings of any new dwellings somewhat unappealing. Rather than piecemeal applications for individual buildings, the Parish Council would prefer to see a scheme for the overall development of the entire site. A proposal similar to the one previously discussed during the development of the Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan, which included clearance of the undeveloped part of the site, would be welcomed.”

Cllr Wilkinson explained that the reasoning for this paragraph was that when developing the Neighbourhood Plan residents of Northall had expressed a desire for this site to be developed in some way.

Council agreed to submit the response proposed by Cllr Wilkinson. Cllr Harpley objected to this response, he is concerned that the South End Lane would not be suitable for the additional traffic any development may bring to the road.

The following decisions had been notified by Buckinghamshire Council Local Planning Authority:

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response	LPA Decision
22/04207/APP 16 th Dec 2022	20 Deans Meadow, Dagnall	Single storey rear extension	No objections	Permitted
22/04266/ATN 21 st Dec 2022	Land at Cow Lane Edlesborough	Telecommunications mast and associated equipment	OPPOSE Monopole mast preferred	Permitted (but coloured green rather than grey)

Villages

King's Coronation

Three parishioners have suggested a “picnic on Edlesborough Green” with the Pavilion somehow involved.

One parishioner has suggested a time capsule and has offered to help with this.

Buckinghamshire Council now has a Coronation page live on its website –

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/celebrating-his-majesty-king-charles-iiis-coronation/>

Action: Review suggestions at March meeting after article in March Focus.

Cllr Williams to raise at ECSC CIO Trustees meeting.

Play Opportunities this Summer.

This event has been booked for the morning of July 26th, 2023.

Action: Clerk to liaise with ECSC CIO re event.

Buckinghamshire Council Settlement Review Audit questionnaire

Council agreed that three responses will be submitted along with Cllr Wilkinson's explanation about the three villages and populations figures.

Action: Clerk to submit response.

Local Plan for Buckinghamshire – Infrastructure Baseline

Council agreed that each Ward would complete the questionnaire.

Responses can then be agreed at the March meeting and submitted by the extended deadline of 31st March.

Cllr Williams informed the Council of a local parishioner who was experiencing difficulties installing an electric car power point due to infrastructure issues. Council agreed to advise parishioners that they check that an electric car power point can be installed in the home prior to purchasing an electric car.

Action: Cllrs for each ward to complete the questionnaire and return to Clerk. Include advice about electric car charging points in the April Focus report. Cllr Williams also suggested that the issues regarding broadband speed be included in the infrastructure returns to BC.

Ivinghoe Freight Strategy Update

Graham Hilary from BC had provided an update on the Ivinghoe Freight Strategy, that has been shared on the EPC website, Facebook page and in the March Focus report.

7.5T exclusion road signs have been installed at the junctions of the B440 and entrances to Edlesborough. Also on the B440 at the boundary with Bedfordshire.

The zone is now in effect. Parishioners can report breaches to www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/road-freight-and-heavy-goods-vehicles-hgvs/report-an-hgv-using-a-road-that-has-a-weight-restriction/

BC Cllr Chris Poll gave his thanks to the residents of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall for responding to the well organised campaign requesting the inclusion of the B440 in the zone.

Edlesborough

High Street Telecom Mast

No further update. The Clerk has chased Greg Smith twice for information as to how to take the matter of the incorrect address on the equipment further.

Action: Clerk to contact Greg Smith MP again and to copy in the BC Councillors. BC Cllr Pater Brazier to follow up with Greg Smith MP.

St Mary's Village Carnival

Council granted permission for St Mary's Village Carnival to be held on Edlesborough Green on Saturday 1st July 2023, subject to the usual caveats. The theme will be Children's Films to coincide with 100 Years of Disney.

Action: Clerk to inform Carnival Committee of Councils decision.

Field at end of Cow Lane

At the January Council meeting Cllr Cubbage drew the Councils attention to rubbish in the field at the end of Cow Lane. This was left by Bedford Group of Internal Drainage Boards when the river was dredged in the Summer. The Clerk has informed the tenants and owner of the field about the rubbish and has put the landowner in touch with the Bedford Group of Internal Drainage Boards.

Barry Cannon, Senior Engineer – Consents and Byelaws Compliance, Bedford Group of Internal Drainage Boards informed the Clerk of the following;

*"When the Board carries out maintenance to watercourses it does so using its **permissive powers** under the Land Drainage Act. These powers permit the Board to remove silt and debris from the watercourse to*

maintain proper flow in the channel, but do not place any obligation on the Board to remove the waste from site. The Board do not have a Waste Carriers Licence, therefore it would be illegal for us to do so.

*The **legal responsibility** for **all** channel maintenance work rests with the landowner(s) and, as mentioned above, the Board only has permissive powers to maintain. The landowner should be aware of the debris that has been left on their land and they must now arrange for its proper disposal."*

Dagnall

There have been reports of youngsters riding mopeds and quad bikes on Dagnall Rec.

Cllr Owen has been invited to an annual Garden Party hosted by The King in recognition of her exceptional service to the communities of Bucks and MK.

Northall

Nothing to report.

Increasing EPC Visibility

Cllr Williams and the Clerk held the first EPC Surgery in the Pavilion on Monday 13th February, 10.30am – Midday. Three parishioners attended. Two to raise concerns about the condition of Sicketts Lane and one to talk about activities and resources available to the over 65's. Further surgeries will be arranged.

Projects

Edlesborough Green Children's Play Area

– led by Cllr Mrs Booth

The purchase order for the New Play Area equipment has been raised. Unfortunately, due to the long lead time of the items installation is now not anticipated until early to mid-August, with completion in September.

As a result of the delay the Summer Play Opportunity that had been booked for the opening of the new equipment will still be held as a good will gesture to the community.

EMH Status

– led by Cllr Wilkinson

Following a Council working party to discuss the increasing running costs of Edlesborough Memorial Hall and how it could be operated in the future.

The Council agreed to the following working party proposals:

- To introduce a local hire rate of £9 per hour (with a minimum of three hours hire) for residents of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall for ad hoc bookings.
- Clerk to obtain quotes for new taps in the toilets.
- Hold a public meeting about the hall.
- Explore the possibility of establishing an EMH Committee to run the hall (similar to DBH and NVH).
- Cllr Williams to investigate legalities of EPC meeting in Edlesborough Pavilion.
- Clerk to make Thursday evenings available for hire.

Cllr Owen raised concern about the plan to hold a public meeting and the possibility of establishing an EMH committee. She felt this was a knee jerk reaction to the current 'cost of living' crisis and was a bit premature.

Actions: Cllr Williams to investigate legalities of EPC meeting in Edlesborough Pavilion.

Clerk to make Thursday evenings available for hire. Clerk to obtain quotes for new taps in toilets. EMH Working party to draft document for the proposed public meeting. Clerk to inform regular hirers of the Council's proposals.

Re-Wilding

– Led by Cllrs Owen and Wells

Nothing to report.

EPC Small Grant Scheme

– Led by Cllr Harpley

The stage 2 application paperwork has now been received from the Shakespeare Company and has been circulated to Council for their consideration.

The stage 2 application paperwork from Dagnall Church is anticipated in the near future.

Action: Small Grant Working Party to make recommendations at the March meeting.

EDaN & Traffic Management Team Updates

Traffic Calming & MVAS

- Led by Cllr Williams

Truvelo are in the process of submitting the necessary street works applications to BC. Truvelo are aiming for an installation date of 7th – 9th March, provided BC have granted the necessary permissions.

South End Lane 20mph

- Led by Cllr Harpley

In response to the Clerk's enquiry as to how to submit the application Leigh Brown, Project Manager, Transport for Buckinghamshire, responded with the following;

"We are not in a position to take on new projects due to the TFB contract termination in March 2023. I have cc'd Katrina from your local community board who might be able to advise you further."

Cllr Harpley reported that BC Cllr Poll had followed this up with Katrina Holyoake who confirmed that the application will be considered in the new financial year.

Action: Defer matter to May 2023 meeting.

FOTCOTH

EdleFest is confirmed for 9th and 10th June 2023.

the Team are submitting an application to the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board for funds to replace the wooden sleeper steps in the churchyard.

The team are still working towards the reinstatement of the broken stained-glass window and have approximately £5k towards this project so far that is expected to cost over £10K.

EDaN Beautification Team

Nothing to report.

Parish Amenities

Reports on all Amenities including Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services.

AED's

The original EMH AED that was lost during the software update process has now been returned to Wel Medical. A brand-new device is now in the cabinet for emergency use.

Donation to Community First Responders

Cllr Williams is now in contact with the new local coordinator who has offered to come to the Annual Parish meeting to give a talk/update.

Devolved Services

The BC Highways Devolution Team have informed EPC they are awaiting the outcome of the BC budget setting which includes "a proposed 9% uplift to the devolved services budget. As such, we cannot yet confirm this settlement amount until Full Cabinet approval. Once the final sum is agreed, letters will be sent to all devolved parishes with the confirmed uplift amount shortly thereafter."

EMH

The boilers have been serviced and the new radiator installed. However, an issue with the electricity supply to the fans of the heaters in the main room resulted in some hirings needing to be cancelled until this issue is rectified.

Council agreed to withhold payments of the invoices or the boiler service and newly installed radiator until the Clerk is satisfied that the heating system is working correctly.

Action: Clerk to inform contractor and monitor heating. Clerk to raise payment once she is satisfied all is working correctly. Clerk to purchase a lockable box for the Hive thermostat to enable it to be relocated to a better location.

Green

The pony and trap gained access to the Green again and left numerous hoof and track marks in several locations.

Sports Clubs

EB Lions

Nothing to report.

ECC

ECC have been sent their invoice and agreement for the 2023 season. This is yet to be returned.

ETC

The estimated Accessible path installation date is the start of March.

Play Area

The repairs to the swings have not been completed. The Clerk has chased Wicksteed for a completion date.

Edlesborough Pavilion

Update on Property

Nothing to report.

Air Conditioning for the Gym

The air conditioning unit has been installed in the Gym.

Allotments

Dagnall Allotments

One plot is available.

Cow Lane Allotments

All plots are let.

The Green Allotments

All plots are let.

Northall Allotments

Additional Taps this work is now complete. The contractor will return later in the year to ensure the ground is in good condition following the works. Council agreed to refuse the tenants request for a length of hosepipe to be attached to each tap. Councillors believe tenants can now fill their watering containers directly from the tap or by submerging their containers in one of the three new water tanks.

Action: Clerk to inform tenants of the Councils decision.

Cemetery

Nothing to report.

Churchyard

Council agreed to renew Mr Scott Mineikis' BASC Membership for use at the Churchyard and allotments.

Bridle Path

Nothing to report.

War Memorial

Nothing to report.

Bus Shelters

Nothing to report.

Litter & Recycling Bins, Dog Bins, Car Parks

Nothing to report.

Streetlights

Following a visit from UK Power the light in Summerleys is still failed. The Clerk has contacted the contractor to repair or replace with one of the Bellway lights.

Council agreed to the contractor storing the three Bellway lights for use in repairing or replacing failed lights as is needed.

One light was reported failed in Chestnut Close, Dagnall. Three after dark site visits have been carried out the light was found to be working on all three visits.

The reported failed light in Kingsmead has been revisited twice and was found to be working on each visit.

Website, Facebook and GDPR

Facebook

Posts and discussions have focused on:

- Old Palace Lodge, Dunstable
- Dogs becoming unwell after walks in Edlesborough.
- Parking opposite the Church on the Hill
- Inconsideration to horse riders on the road, resulting in threatening behaviour towards the rider.

Website

Accessibility & GDPR

Nothing to report.

Finance

January 2023 Accounts

The accounts for January 2023 were approved.

February 2023 Payments

Council agreed the February 2023 payments.

Bank Mandate

Council agreed to remove Mrs Thomas from the bank mandate. Council agreed to defer adding another Councillor as a signatory until the Annual Meeting of EPC.

Correspondence

Items circulated to Full Council prior to the meeting:

- BC Planning Forum Slide Set
- Ivinghoe Freight Strategy Update

Items for the March EPC Meeting

Items for future:

- Parish Paths Maps
- Rialtas Training

The meeting closed at 21.30

Key to abbreviations:

EPC – Edlesborough Parish Council

BC – Buckinghamshire Council

Cllr – Councillor

EBPC – Eaton Bray Parish Council

ECSC CIO - Edlesborough Community Sports Club Charitable Incorporated Organisation

WI – Women’s Institute

ECC – Edlesborough Cricket Club

ETC – Edlesborough Tennis Club

FOTCOTH – Friends of the Church on the Hill

EDaN Beautification Team – Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall Beautification Team

The CCT – The Churches Conservation Trust

The PCC – The Parochial Church

TVP – Thames Valley Police