

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 16th January 2003 at 8.00pm at the Edlesborough Memorial Hall

Present

Mrs Thompson (Chairman) (AT), Mr Wilkinson (JW), Mr Atherton (JA), Mr Cabbage (KC),
Mrs Prys - Jones (MPJ), Mrs Ratheram (JR), Mr Spencer (GS), Mr Munday (SM), Mr Grigg (G),
Mrs M Kerr (New Clerk) Mrs S Parker Mr J Parker (The Retiring Clerk and her husband) and 2 parishioners.

Apologies

Mrs P Hannelly

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed with one amendment: Page 86 current minute book under Dagnall Traffic Calming, 5 lines down the word ' only ' to be deleted.

Precept

Chairman proposed that the Agenda be amended to discuss the Precept first .All agreed

The Clerk asked if everybody could look at the blue coloured copy of the Precept and refer to that throughout the meeting, as this incorporated a few amendments, although the overall figure being requested had not altered from the previous draft.

JA asked if the required Precept figure for 2003/2004 of £43,500 was the sum required and therefore if we wished to increase any item within the Precept would that have a knock on effect on other items. It was agreed that this would be the basis on which the matter would be discussed.

JA asked what the Cemetery path related to it was explained by John Parker that previously we had put money on one side to improve the path which was very slippery. It was noted we already had £1,000 in the Reserves. It was decided not to add anything further to this in the Precept for 2003/2004.

It was pointed out that the Churchyard and Cemetery Maintenance draft figure £2,490 included tidying the wild meadow and cutting the grass in the Cemetery

JW asked if the Floodlighting of the Church should be included. It was explained that as it was a living Church the Parish Council were not allowed to save money each year towards the project. We may be able to apply for 'S137' money. In the meantime we would have to carry out a feasibility study.

JW asked about the cost of repairs to the playing areas and was told £500 had been allowed in the 'Greens and Open Spaces'

KC wished to discuss the Administration Costs and wanted a breakdown. A discussion took place agreeing to breakdown the costs into the cost of employing the Clerk, the running of the EMH including Sue Parkers salary and a payment to John Parker for the work he would do.

It was agreed that EMH running costs would include Sue Parkers salary as Key holder.

It was agreed to adjourn the discussion on the Precept and discuss the salary of the Key holder and other related costs of the EMH.

It was noted that the Cleaner at EMH was paid £133 a month. It was noted the role the Key holder would play in running the EMH: generally looking after the EMH, holding the key, taking bookings, checking the state of the EMH after any bookings. A figure of £50 pm was suggested to start the discussion. After some discussion the salary of £75 pm was agreed with a review in six months time.

The Pavilion it was agreed John Parker would be paid £25 per clean as necessary.

It was anticipated this would mean roughly two cleans a month.

It was agreed that the precept should be amended as follows:

1. PAV running costs should be altered from 0 to £600 (~~£25 a clean, say 2 cleans a month~~)
2. EMH running costs should be altered from 0 to £900 (£75 pm ,12 months)
3. Administration costs to be changed from ~~£14,900~~ 15,500 to £14,000.

It was agreed the meeting would return to the precept.

It was noted that the EMH floor fund was £1,000 held in reserve and it was agreed a further £500 would be added in this year's precept.

The Cemetery Pedestrian Gate and fence would be included in this year's precept with a figure of £250.

The cost of the Church notice board would not be included in the Precept as money and materials and time were being, or had been, donated.

KC wished to discuss the installing of a website for the Parish. He anticipated the cost of software and service provider would be £500 and an ongoing cost of £200 pa. It was agreed to include an allowance of £500 in the Precept and to reduce the monies for contingency for emergencies by £500 from £2,500 to £2,000.

It was discussed whether provision should be made for installing disabled toilets in EMH. It was agreed to consider this with quotes for the following year's precept (2004/5).

It was agreed to accept the Precept subject to the amendments discussed which were as follows:

- 1. PAV running costs should be altered from 0 to £600 (~~£25 a clean, say 2 cleans a month~~)**
- 2. EMH running costs should be altered from 0 to £900 (£75 pm ,12 months)**
- 3. Administration costs to be changed from ~~£14,900~~ 15,500 to £14,000.**
- 4. Include under New projects the Setting up of a website £500.**
- 5. Reduce the monies for contingency for emergencies by £500 from £2,500 to £2,000.**

Churchyard/Cemetery

Damaged grave (whose responsibility) in Old Churchyard

No further correspondence received. Matter at an end

Golden Jubilee Floodlighting

Following the letter from The Churches Conservation Trust dated 11th November 2002. Stating they had no objection in principle and making it clear that no monies would be forthcoming from them for installation or running costs. It was discussed as to how it could be funded. Mrs Parker clarified that as it is a living Church it cannot be funded from Parish Council funds. An application could be made for a 'S.137 Local Government Act 1972' Payment which must be spent in the year the work is done.

It was agreed that Cllr Alan Griggs would consider the matter and organise the matter. Cllr JA also wished to be involved and they would liaise with the **Clerk**.

Notice Board

In March 2002 a letter had been sent to The Churches Conservation Trust stating that a parishioner (Mr Stephen James) had offered to make a new Notice Board for The Church of St. Mary's Eaton Bray with Edlesborough. As there had been building works going on this had been delayed. As the contractors had nearly finished then we should now go ahead and erect the Notice Board. Agreed we should proceed to put up the Notice Board.

Memorial, in New Cemetery

Photos were provided of the Memorial. The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Mr Cheetham of Claytons replying to the Parish Councils letter saying he could not advise because it conflicted with his other duties as Registrar of the Diocese of St Albans. The Clerk made the following observations:

1. The family concerned had seen the regulations before they arranged for the Memorial to be erected. See letter dated 22.09.01.
2. The family had obtained the permission of the Reverend Grant, the Vicar, which he had no authority to give (given 06.09.02)
3. There was a definite breach of the regulations
4. Cost may be recouped from the family /Church due to Vicars Authorisation/ stonemason who should have checked the position.

Agreed that as the Memorial was larger than the Regulations allowed it could not be allowed to remain. It obscured the view of other Memorials and looks out of place. Action **Clerk** to write to the family asking for its replacement. Speak to the Vicar, prior to writing to the Registrar of the Diocese of St Albans seeking re-imburement for replacing the Memorial. Write to the stonemasons.

Damaged fence rear of Churchyard-

A Quote has been requested and should be with us in the next week. For the precept a rough figure was included.

Wildflower Bank Maintenance

Quotation received and included in precept

Street Lighting

Main Road South Dagnall

Light had been ordered

Lights Out

None reported

Northall Survey

Results had been sent to Focus for inclusion in the next issue.

Northall Traffic Calming

Eaton Bray Road. speed

Nothing further received **Clerk** to chase.

Dagnall Traffic Calming

Bucks CC Letter

It was agreed the **Clerk** would reply to the letter from the Bucks CC stating we would like a Speed Camera and costing for Traffic Calming, Countdown, Coloured Tarmac, Dragon Teeth and Gates.

Costing should be separately prepared with costs for both ends of the village and for the A4146 North to South. Ask for an indication if street lighting would be required and at what cost.

SID

A request was made for SID for, Dagnall A4146 outside the school, Northall. Edlesborough did not require one. **Clerk** to apply,

Road Repairs

All matters

- Outside the Greenacre Hotel **Clerk to write to BCC/AVDC**
- Northall Allotments and Footpath (at the side of the Allotments) - JA said that one of the houses near the Allotments had drainage problems. There is a hedge between a path to Home Farm Cottage and the Footpath /Allotments. Years ago there was a ditch on the Footpath/Allotments side but this had been filled in. The present owner of Home Farm Cottage wished to re-instate the ditch to try and solve drainage problems and considered that as the hedge was his it followed he could do this. The Council needed to look into this. KC to speak to a Mrs Bonfield. JA to look at and would speak to the owner of Home Farm Cottage
- Golden Rule - the hole had been filled in
- There was a tree on footpath No. 3 by the Greyhound Stable that was overhanging. ~~JA~~ John Parker agreed he would look into this.

Boundary Reviews

Nothing to report at present.

Allotments

Northall. Future of

Clerk writing to Solicitors for a quote and Advice on this matter. Solicitor's hourly rate was £65.

Cow Lane Gate

Awaiting quote

The Green, broken fence and thieving from

Being repaired.

Footpaths/PPP

Appointment of new Rep

Nothing to report

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Freedom of Information Act

KC gave a talk on the Act (APPENDIX 1). We should have informed the FOI Officer by 31 December 2002 of how we would implement it. Proposed we would adopt as per the standard. KC proposed, seconded by MPJ. Carried unanimously KC and **Clerk** to liaise.

MPs visit

Clerk to chase

LA Flight Paths/ P.A.I.N. latest

JW gave a brief talk, in summary:

- Western Airspace Consultation findings have not yet been published.
- PAVAM –West of Leighton Buzzard, Option 3 FLIGHT ROUTE we say if there is an extension we want Option3 as it least effects us
- ~~· Harpenden – are furious as the South East Regional Airports increasing capacity would be wanting 2 extra runways at Stansted again this would suit us~~
- Harpenden – concerned about the option contained in the SERAS report of re-aligning the existing runway at Luton and adding a second parallel runway, since they would be directly under the new flight path. Re-alignment of the runway could benefit us, although not the associated big increase in air traffic.

Open Spaces

Millennium Notice Board and Claim

The new notice board is in place affixed to the EMH.

Knolls Amenity Land

Nothing to report

Dunstable Rd./ Dagnall RF/Path

Solicitors are awaiting a response from AVDC. **Clerk** will chase.

Edlesborough Green, By -Laws Notices

Allowed for in Precept

Edlesborough Green. use of

The **Clerk** had spoken to Mr Lewis Taylor who was in charge of the EB LIONS. They were happy to pay fees for use of the Green. The figure was debated. The adults paid £20.50 per a match. A figure was suggested of £5. It was agreed this was too low as the money would go towards upkeep of the grass.

It was agreed a reasonable sum was £10 a match to reflect the fact that the Club supplied there own goalposts and the Council wished to encourage children to participate in sport. **Clerk** to inform Mr Taylor.

Pavilion

All matters

Nothing further to report, the state of the Pavilion and the issuing of keys would have to be reviewed.

EMH

All matters

There had been an attempted break-in. The door had been jemmied on Wednesday (15th January 2003). John Parker had secured as best he could. It was agreed to place a metal plate on the door to secure it, John to organise this. Expenditure was authorised.

New Clerk and Division of Previous Parish Clerks Position

Working Party

Salary and expenses to be discussed at next meeting.

Membership fees for CPRE, Society of Local Council Clerks

Cost Authorised

Banking. Transfer of Authorised signatory and related matters.

Agreed that the Bank Mandate should be signed to delete the retiring Clerk include new Clerk (see Appendix 2)

Transfer of Licences as appropriate

None required to be transferred Sue Parker to hold the Licence for EMH

Any other matters relating to the transfer of duties to the new Clerk

None

Accounts

For payment

List of Accounts for payment attached. Ratified by the Council

Annual Audit 31.03.2002

Awaiting a response. **Clerk** to chase

Precept 2003/2004 to be delivered to AVDC by 24.01.2003

Was ratified.

Tennis Club Donation Request

MPJ had looked into this matter and suggested we consider supporting the LINK and providing £200. Link meant that 8 children at a time would be taken out of school for professional tennis coaching. Edlesborough School participated in this scheme for year 6. The LTA had stopped funding this project. MPJ proposed we support this on a one off basis. It was suggested the **Clerk** write to Mr Carlisle say we had discussed the letter and wished to support the scheme but needed more details of the total cost and how much was coming from other sources.

Seconded by KC and AG. proposal carried

Planning

Pine Trees Garage

Nothing further to report

Applications Received

The following Planning Applications had been received since the last meeting: (Appendix 3). The Councillors decisions were noted and the Planning Applications Book was signed by the Chairman.

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Courses

Planning

CPRE holding a course on 8th February 2003, agreed **Clerk** could attend

Training Day

Nuts and Bolts Course on 15th February 2003 Cost roughly £25. Agreed **Clerk** could attend

Standards Board for England

Course in London 23rd January 2003 JA to attend.

Correspondence

Correspondence copied to councillors prior to meeting

T. E. Carlisle, Edlesborough Tennis Club Donation. Dated 04.12.02

See under Tennis Donation

Andrew Brierley, Speeding Violations A4146 Billington. Dated 16.12.02

Clerk to write to Mr Brierley stating we had been trying to change the speed limit from 40mph to 30 mph and the Council was pressing for speed cameras along the A4146

Babtie, research the potential for Greenways in Aylesbury Vale. Dated December 2002
-no action

Buckinghamshire County Council, Speed Indicating Devices and SID in your area.
Dated December 2002- see under Dagnall Traffic Calming

COURSE. Standards Board for England, Roadshow. 22nd January 2003. Dated 19th December 2002. –see under courses

COURSE. CPRE Understanding the Planning System. Saturday 8 February 2003.- see under courses

An Introduction, Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Management Strategy. The Framework for Action 2002-2007. - no action.

Correspondence not copied to councillors. Received after agenda sent out.

List provided to each Councillor to receive copies if they require. The **Clerk** read through the more important letters.

Council's comments and responses are in Appendix 4

AOB

- Leighton Buzzard Observer reporter Anne Cox –had asked the **Clerk** for copies of the minutes. Matter discussed and all agreed the minutes were not ratified until the following meeting therefore they could not be made Public before that. **Clerk** to speak to Anne Cox.
- A4146- Great Billington –on the corner right hand camber. Was re-terraced. Parishioner still lost control. **Clerk** to look into.
- South End Lane – Rest Harrow. Septic Tanks. JA reported following heavy rain there was a smell and it looked as if a pipe from a septic tank was blocked and had then become unblocked leading to a spillage. **Clerk** to speak to Environmental Health Officer and /or Anglican Water re Drainage.
- Mr & Mrs Jamieson had asked if water could be piped down to the Parish Cemetery and whether the area where the bins were kept could be improved. Matter was discussed. The regulations only allowed a very small amount of planting therefore the need to carry a large amount of water to the grave was unnecessary
- Geoff Spencer on Holiday apologies in advance for non- attendance at the next meeting.

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NEXT MEETING 20th FEBRUARY 2003

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