

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 19 June 2003 at 8pm at the Edlesborough Memorial Hall.

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Mr David Brown the new Councillor representing the Edlesborough Ward.

Present

Mrs Thompson (Chairman) (AT), Mr Spencer (GS), Mr Cabbage (KC) Mr Atherton (JA) Mrs Prys-Jones (MPJ), Mr Munday (SM) Mrs Ratheram (JR) Mr Brown, Mrs Kerr (Clerk) and 4 parishioner. Mrs P Hannelly (District Councillor)

Apologies

Mr Wilkinson (JW)

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed with the following amendments:

In the heading the word 'Ordinary' be added 'Meeting of the Annual and 'Ordinary' Meeting of the Edlesborough Parish Council held on 15 May Thursday 2003 at 8pm at the Edlesborough Memorial Hall ' and The annual and ordinary minutes to reflect that Mr Cabbage was not present at either meeting.

Matters arising from the previous minutes

None

Highways/ by-ways/footpaths/ lighting

Lights Out

No more to report. The Clerk was instructing the Contractor to fix the current list of lights.

Street Light Leighton Road light

The light should be replaced soon very soon.

Reports of fly tipping

None.

Litter enforcement officer

Clerk to arrange meeting with the Litter enforcement officer and Councillor Cabbage

SID

SID would be available the week commencing 23 June this will be delivered to Councillor Anne Thompson's house. Dagnall will have SID on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Northall will have SID on Tuesday and Thursday.

A Parishioner had asked if SID could be made available to Edlesborough on the A4146 and High Street near the school another time. This was discussed and agreed that there was no safe place on the A4146 and the traffic parked near Edlesborough School meant it had to slow down anyway. It was agreed not to request SID for Edlesborough for the time being.

Dagnall Traffic Calming

Letter sent awaiting reply. Councillor Thompson had received a telephone call and a copy of a letter a parishioner had sent to Buckinghamshire County Council regarding the Traffic Calming and the length of time it was all taking. This was read out.

Northall Traffic Calming

The Dynamic Warning System in Northall was in place and was broken. The Clerk was to contact Buckinghamshire County Council to report this.

Safer routes to school Dagnall

There is a meeting on Tuesday 24 June 2003. The Chairman Councillor Thompson would be attending. Councillor Spencer could not attend due to a previous commitment.

Road Repairs to report

The Chairman noted that the roads had been marked to be repaired in the future.

No new ones to report.

Footpaths/Parish Paths Partnership

Footpath 15 onto Studham Lane. A Parishioner, who owned the land on which footpath 15 was had received a letter from Bedfordshire County Council asking for his comments on a proposed change into a bridle way and stated that Buckinghamshire County Council had agreed to this. The Clerk had made enquiries of Buckinghamshire County Council the proposal in the letter was not one that Buckinghamshire County Council had supported. Before any proposal is made the legal orders and events are to be gone through the Parish Council will be consulted. Councillor Spencer gave a report stating he had contacted the Rambling Association. The concern was that it was a narrow footpath and with dog walkers going up and Horses coming down it could get quite dangerous.

Footpath 7 (Bedfordshire)

Councillor Spencer was also concerned about the footpath on the Golf course which the Golf course tried to close 15 years ago. Councillor Spencer had received a letter from a Parishioner concerning whether the footpath would be closed. Councillor Spencer had contacted Bedfordshire County Council and was waiting for a reply.

Northall, 40mph signs, re position

A Parishioner had asked if a 40mph sign could be moved further out of the village towards Leighton Buzzard to take into account the increase in housing. There was a discussion on the effect this would have and where it could be placed. In summary:

- Suggestion to seek extension of 40mph up to beyond Greenacres
- Will the Northall village sign need to be moved?
- As there are gaps with no buildings on either side what effect would this have on infilling?
- Is a footpath required?
- Will additional lighting be needed?

It was proposed by CLLR Cabbage to ask BCC if they will extend the sign to the Old Motel / Village Green and seconded by CLLR MPJ. There were 7 in favour and one against. The matter was passed

It was proposed by CLLR Atherton and seconded by CLLR Cabbage to see if the Footpath could be extended to the first two isolated houses on the way to Leighton Buzzard. All in favour.

Pebblemoor 30mph signs to be repositioned and have more 30mph signs

A Councillor made a request for the Pebblemoor 30mph signs to be repositioned and have more 30mph signs in this road. After a discussion it was proposed to seek an extension of the 30 mph sign and to see if visibility could be improved. Proposed by CLLR SM and seconded by CLLR DB. There were five in favour and two against.

It was agreed that the Clerk should ask BCC to consider a footpath along Pebblemoor.

Parking outside the shops on Edlesborough High Street

Clerk discussing with Nick Cummings

Abandoned vehicles

There have been several reports of vandalism involving vehicles being burnt and vehicles being stolen and left in the Pavilion Car Park. In Dagnall cars have been broken into. In Northall there has been an incident of people driving through a Farmers land and destroying property. The police appear to be unable to take any positive action. It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Police and the MP regarding the problems.

Taskers Row

There had been reports from Parishioners of vehicles on pavements outside houses in Taskers Row making it difficult for people to get by. A parishioner had asked if we could prepare flyers to highlight the problem. The Clerk had contacted the Police to see if there were any problems with this and would then liaise with the Parishioner.

Heathermead non collection of bins

The Clerk stated she had received a complaint from a Parishioner to see if anything could be done about the non collection of bins, which was probably because of the amount of cars down the road. Agreed the Clerk would contact Aylesbury Vale to see if there was a way to resolve the issue. It was reported there was the same problem in Nelson Road in Dagnall.

Projects

Website

Due to the problems some Councillors were having with the e-mail addresses Councillor Cabbage would look at this and would provide a link to everyone's own e-mail address.

Dagnall seats

The seats had been ordered

Pavilion changing room seats/lockers

Stephen Janes had quoted £1,175 for seats/lockers in the changing rooms and £495 for the lockers in the referee's room. As the Parish Council had only precepted £800 for this project it was decided to hold it in abeyance until later on in the financial year.

The Villages

EPC strategic review and 5 year plan

Councillor Cabbage handed out a note setting out what we needed to be doing. It was agreed to set up a task force comprising of Councillors Thompson and Cabbage. The Clerk and Councillor Brown said he would consider joining.

St Mary's Village Carnival 2003 on 5 July 2003

The Clerk attended the Carnival Committee. The insurance have been received and checked with our insurers who were happy. The Clerk would be checking the Green with the organisers before the event.

Cricket Club –proposed storage.

Various Parishioners had contacted the Clerk to say that they had heard that the cricket Club were building a storage hut on the Green. The Clerk had contacted Mr Davies from the cricket club. He stated that an idea had previously been put before the Parish Council and now the cricket club were getting plans together to place before the Parish Council. They would not take any further action until they had discussed matters with the Parish Council.

Tennis Club

There had been an article in Focus stating that the Tennis Club were investing in new floodlighting. The Clerk had spoken to The Chairman Mr Carlisle who said planning permission was not needed and the lights would not be any brighter than those already installed. They would be similar to the Lights at Eaton Bray. The Chairman said that she was upset that the Tennis Club Had not contacted the Parish Council to seek permission to change something on the Green. The Clerk was to write to The Tennis Club setting out the Parish Councils position.

Chiltern Avenue.

District Councillor Pauline Hannelly asked if the Council could do anything to intervene in the situation where one neighbour had allegedly placed a video camera facing a neighbour's bedroom window and a microphone in the garden. It was agreed that this was a civil dispute and not one where the council could get involved. The MP had written asking the Parish Council to get involved. It was agreed three Councillors would visit the families concerned and a letter should be sent from the Council supporting the neighbours who were being harassed and the Clerk to ask the MP what he thought the Parish Council could do.

Parish Councils Obligations

Church and Churchyard

Floodlighting

Committee yet to meet

Parish Cemetery

Roe Memorial

A letter had been received from Mr Roe stating that the memorial would be removed. It had been removed that day. Mr Roe would make an application to erect a new stone. Mr Roe had also asked that if he had to abide by the regulations other people should. The Clerk stated she would carry out the annual check at the cemetery in August.

State of Parish Cemetery /Grass Cutting in the Churchyard and Parish Cemetery

There had been problems with the Grass cutting. The Grass had been left too long to cut and had left the parish cemetery and Church Cemetery in a mess after it had been cut. It was agreed the clerk can discuss the matter of cutting the cemetery grass with the chairman and decide whether a further cut over and above the agreed is needed.

Burial Regulations

The Clerk was instructed to look at the Burial Regulations and see if they needed updating

In next few months the Clerk will check these against current regulations, check compliance in the cemetery, review fees after finding comparables and discuss with the Council.

One Councillor commented that she had received a request from a parishioner to put shrubs on the grave. It was agreed this is not allowed under the regulations

Access to the Parish Cemetery

It was agreed the Clerk should contact the Burghope Trust and Mr Wood to see if they would consider selling land or helping to improve the access into the Parish Cemetery.

Application for a memorial

A recent application was received for plot CM2 considered and agreed subject to there being no conflict with the regulations.

Open Spaces

Dunstable Rd / Dagnall RF/Path

The Clerk and the Chairman had met and dealt with the queries raised by the Solicitors. The Solicitors and AVDC were resolving matters and hopefully we would hear soon. The Chairman asked the Clerk to chase the Solicitors.

Playground

Wicksteed have carried out the Playground inspection and say the bark needs a complete overhaul. Cost in the region of £3,500. Clerk is going to get in Independent inspectors and a couple of other quotes. Agreed by all.

Allotments

Northall Land/Allotments

A report had been received from the Solicitor and copies were distributed at the meeting. It was agreed to discuss it at the next meeting. The Clerk suggested that if anybody wanted to raise any points she would be happy to do this before the next meeting.

The Green Allotments

There had been a report that one of the Allotments on the Green had been vandalised and vegetables taken out of the ground and just left.

Report on Memorial Hall, Pavilion and the Green

The Councillors considered the Report.

Procedures

It was agreed that the Clerk and the Chairman go through the Standing Orders issued by NALC selecting the ones that are applicable and produce a list for the full Council to consider. All agreed.

Planning

Applications Received

Wildfire Leighton Road, Northall Road

An application for a single Storey front extension. It was agreed the Parish Council should Support.

9. The Pastures, Edlesborough.

An application for a conservatory. It was agreed the Parish Council would make no comment.

Planning Applications Policy

It was agreed the Clerk should meet with Mr Spencer, Mr Atherton Mr Wilkinson to discuss planning applications and put a proposal to the Parish Council.

Employees

The Handyman is having an operation on his shoulder in the next 6 months so will not be able to do as many Handyman jobs. The Clerk will see if some of our contractors will take on some of the smaller jobs. So far this has practically been covered for the yearly jobs. The Council agreed.

P.A.I.N

Nothing further to report

Finance issues

Annual Audit 31.03.2002.

A local Parish Clerk/ Accountant has agreed to be our Auditor this year. She is the Clerk for Bradenham Parish Council. The Council accepted the quote. She will be Auditing the Accounts on 20 June 2003 and the following week.

Monthly Finance Statement.

The monthly finance statement and details of Reserves and Earmarked monies were available at the meeting for the Councillors. It was agreed the Clerk should use Direct Debits. Clerk to liaise with Councillor Thompson and organise this. It was resolved to issue the cheques requested.

The Clerk pointed out that some monies were being held over from last years Accounts and needed to be allocated to projects. It was agreed the Clerk should draw up a list and the Councillors to consider anything else. The Clerk said that Councillors should also think of any projects for the following year for the September meeting so that quotes could be obtained.

Correspondence

The Councillors had been provided with details of correspondence received during the month.

Letter from a parishioner requesting a donation towards trip to Mexico taking part in a World Challenge expedition. It was agreed the Council would consider this at the next meeting.

AOB

Councillor Cabbage asked if the Edlesborough sign by the Allotments on the Green could be moved as it was in the centre of the village. Clerk to speak to BCC.

Clerk stated she had received a call from a Parishioner wishing to purchase the 'Knolls Amenity Land' the Clerk was contacting BCC. However, the land was not due to be sold for another year.

Councillor Spencer requested that the Council seek an extension to a path at Hogwell Lane and extend the footpath through to Edlesborough. It was agreed to discuss them at the next meeting.

Councillor Spencer read out a report on Dagnall School from Offsted that mentioned the good working relationship with the Parish Council.

Parishioners requested that the Parish Council consider a Basket Ball net and surface area in Edlesborough and Dagnall. Agreed the Clerk would cost this.

NEXT MEETING: 17 July 2003 starting at 8.00pm