

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 18 December 2003 at 8pm at the Edlesborough Memorial Hall.

Present

Mrs A Thompson (Chairman), Mr Wilkinson (Vice Chairman), Mr Spencer, Mr Cabbage, Mrs Ratheram, Mr Munday, Mr Brown, Mrs Kerr (the Clerk) and no parishioners.

Apologies

Mrs Prys-Jones, Mr Atherton and Mrs Hannelly.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 20 November 2003 were agreed and signed with the following amendments:-

Page 3, under Parish councillors' allowances, amend "It was agreed the Parish Council would adopt the recommended scheme" to "It was agreed the Parish Council would consider adopting the recommended scheme".

Matters arising from the previous minutes

None.

Planning

Procedure for reviewing planning matters

The planning representatives for each parish had still not met to agree a strategy for the future. It was agreed that the Clerk would speak to John Atherton and see if he would be amenable to Kevin Cabbage taking his place in the meeting so that it could be arranged as soon as possible.

Applications received

The following planning applications have been received:

Application No:	Address	Proposal	Parish Councils response
03/02881/APP	112 High Street Edlesborough	First Floor rear extension	no comment
03/02963/APP	2, The Willows Edlesborough	single storey rear extension	no comment

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Planning applications granted or refused

These are as follows:

Application No:	Address	Proposal	Parish Councils response	Decision AVDC
03/02472/APP 17.10.03	58, Pebblemoor, Edlesborough	Creation of new access	no objections to the creation of the new access, provided that it is acceptable to BCC Highways Department.	Permitted subject to conditions
03/02620/APP 17.10.03	22, Leighton Road (Sparrow Hall Cottages), Edlesborough	Two storey rear extension	no objections	Permitted subject to conditions
03/02666/APP 10.10.03	Orchard Cottage, Chapel Lane, Northall	Demolition of existing garage and erection of detached granny annexe and double garage with carport link	object to the flat because: it is outside the village boundary where further residential development is not supported requests to develop the garden in the nearby property " Home Farm Cottage" have in the past consistently been refused the position is not appropriate to the setting. In principle no objection to the garage being replaced with a new one.	Refused
03/02686/APP 15.10.03	The Old Axe and Compass, 36, High Street, Edlesborough	Erection of detached garages	no comment	Permitted subject to conditions

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Planning issues

1. *Beacon View*

Mr Cabbage and the Clerk met with the developers and it was agreed that both parties would go back to AVDC and ask if they would agree the development should not be quite so cramped. AVDC had replied to the Parish Council stating that they were not prepared to change their view on this matter.

It was agreed the Clerk would write to AVDC and set out to them once again our objections to the present proposals.

2. *South End Lane – garage*

A permission was granted, application number 02/01584/APP. AVDC had checked the premises and were sure it was within the permission granted. The Council noted that it did appear that a second storey was being built and therefore we should ask AVDC to return to have another look. Clerk to action.

3. *Hazeldene*

This matter is still being investigated.

4. *Peppiatts Farm*

This matter is still being investigated.

5. *Standard letter informing neighbours of planning application*

This letter was discussed and amendments were agreed as follows:-

The third paragraph should be amended to read "Please note that the response date quoted above is the date specified in the Planning Bulletin published by AVDC. The date occasionally differs slightly from the dates specified on the planning notice posted outside the property in question. If you wish to comment we recommend you do so as soon as possible.

The plans may be reviewed at the District Planning Offices in Aylesbury during normal office hours. If you wish to view the plans locally, please contact:-" (take out paragraph 4)

Finance issues

Monthly financial statement and authorisation of cheques

The Clerk apologised that the monthly financial statement was not available. However a list of cheques to be authorised was available. It was also noted that cheque number 10474 should be made payable to Mr Brown and not Mr Cubbage.

It was agreed that if we could provide a donation to the Royal British Legion, then the Parish Council's contribution should be £25.00. Clerk to check position.

Precept and Projects for the next financial year

Mr Cubbage provided the Councillors with a draft of the precept that would be discussed in the January meeting. It was explained that one sheet related to special projects where the money had been set on one side. There was a discussion as to whether money earmarked for a special project could be used for other projects if the initial project was altered.

Mr Spencer noted that there had been no quote put in for the Dagnall gates which he understood the Parish Council would be paying for. Clerk to check the position. (Since the meeting the Clerk has checked the position and the Parish Council had agreed to pay for four gates at a cost of approximately £400.00 each and maintenance of 25% of the total cost.

Interest rates

It was agreed this would be held over to the next meeting as Mr Atherton, who had suggested this topic, was not available.

Parish Councillors' allowances

There was a general discussion as to whether the Parish Councillors wanted to opt into this scheme for claiming allowances. It was agreed the Clerk would carry out some further investigation and report back to the Parish Council in January.

Clerk's workload

The Clerk had discussed with the Chairman the fact that she had been employed for approximately 15 hours work. This had been increased to 18 hours work and the Clerk was now carrying out roughly 25 hours work a week. It had been agreed that the Chairman would look into this. The working party for employees was still in existence and therefore they had met to discuss proposals to put forward to the full Parish Council as to reducing the Clerk's workload. The suggested plan meant that the Memorial Hall, Pavilion and Green would be run by Susan Parker and John Parker reporting to the General Purposes Committee who would then report back to the full Parish Council. This was agreed in principle. The working party will therefore meet to discuss the matter in more detail.

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Procedures

Standing Orders

The Clerk will provide a copy of the standing order to the Councillors before the meeting in January. However, it may not be discussed until the meeting in February as the meeting in January will be taken up with the budget.

Report from the General Purposes Committee

Mr Wilkinson provided a summary of the General Purposes Committee meeting in December.

- The Memorial Hall letting agreement had been discussed, the main issue being whether children should be allowed in the kitchen or not.
- Replacement floor for the Memorial Hall was discussed.
- The litter bins, dog fouling bins and Euro bins were also considered at the meeting and Dagnall had requested two further dog fouling bins and Northall had requested litter and dog fouling bins at the Village Hall and the allotments.

Mr Wilkinson noted that there were other various day to day items on the minutes that the Councillors could look at.

The Councillors had been provided with a copy of the draft minutes of the meeting on 3 December.

It was agreed the General Purposes Committee would not meet in January while the reorganisation of the Clerk's workload was discussed.

Highways/by-ways/footpaths/lighting

Repair of lights

This was to be held over until the February meeting unless time was available at the January meeting.

Fly tipping litter, dumping of rubbish

Nothing further to report.

Road repairs to report

Clifford Marshall at BCC had visited Taskers Row and Dunstable Road. In respect of Taskers Row he was checking whether this was under BCC Highways or under AVDC and would report back to the Clerk. Mr Marshall indicated that the overgrowth at Dunstable Road would be cut back and there would be enough room for a pushchair along the pavement.

SID

This has been booked for:

Northall 19 January 2004,

Dagnall 26 January 2004.

There is an article in the December focus requesting help.

Dagnall traffic calming:

It was noted that when lorries parked in the lay-by near the school they blocked the sign indicating there was a bend. Details of this had been provided by a parishioner who was thanking the Council for their help in providing traffic calming measures in Dagnall.

Northall Traffic Calming:

Nothing further to add.

Edlesborough Traffic Calming:

Nothing further to add.

General question re roundels and repeater signs

Nothing further to add.

Pebblemoor and the chicane

It was noted that a chicane was not a real proposition at Pebblemoor because BCC will only place them on straight roads (Pebblemoor is near a bend). There would also need to be a lot more street lighting and the sign would need to be illuminated. A mini-roundabout was another option but all the roads need to have roughly the same traffic flow and the

road coming from the ford didn't. BCC have indicated that they would be happy to discuss any other suggestions for traffic calming and it will form part of the 2005/6 review.

The point was made that previously when the Parish Council carried out a straw poll of Pebblemoor, it was only the residents of Pebblemoor who had been asked for their views. The point was made that in future as a lot of people use Pebblemoor to walk along that a view should be taken from the whole of the village.

Parking outside the shops in Edlesborough High Street

The Clerk stated that the sign outside the shop was a marking expedient; that means it has no basis in law, unlike a yellow line. The Police can prosecute people if they park there and the sign adds weight to any prosecution. However BCC will be prepared to discuss any other options that may be put forward. It was suggested that the Clerk contact BCC/AVDC and ask if we requested a yellow line to be placed there, what would we need to do and would it be plausible, and if we did have a yellow line would there be a traffic warden to enforce it.

Projects

EPC Website

Now up to date.

Parish Plan and Edlesborough Christmas Fair

This had proved a great success with lots of parishioners making their views known. A list of these issues had been circulated and these would be discussed at a future meeting.

Christmas cards/gifts

The Council agreed that there were a couple of people in the village who had carried out a lot of work for the Parish in the past year and it was agreed that a small token would be given to them.

The Villages

Taskers Row

To be discussed at the February meeting.

Policing/disturbances

To be discussed at the February meeting.

Safer routes to school

No further action at present.

PPP

A number of footpaths had been cleared by BCC.

Footpath linking Dagnall and Edlesborough

Discuss at February meeting.

Rest Harrow

Environmental Health still investigating.

Footpath 9 Northall

Environmental Health still investigating.

Parish Councils Obligations

None.

Church and Churchyard

Remembrance Service

This matter will be held over to the February meeting.

Parish Cemetery

Access to the Cemetery

To be held over to the February meeting.

Open Spaces

Dunstable Road/Dagnall RF/Path

The paperwork is with AVDC.

Northall Land

Mr Cabbage, Mr Atherton and the Clerk met with the solicitor and had a useful discussion. A report will be available at the following meeting. However it transpires that all the allotments within the Parish will need to have trustee management committees set up. To discuss in February.

P.A.I.N.

Flight paths/P.A.I.N. latest

More information would be available in the new year as to the proposals for Luton Airport.

Correspondence

The Clerk asked if we would want to enter the Best Kept Village Competition and this would be a £5.00 fee for each village. It was agreed that we should enter the competition.

It was noted that Mr Purcell had sent a letter on behalf of the carpet bowls club requesting a new floor for the Memorial Hall. This letter had been noted and would be considered with the precept in January.

Any Other Business

Mr Cabbage asked if the Edlesborough sign in the High Street could be moved to the boundary of the village at Moor end by the stream. Clerk to make enquiries

Mr Wilkinson asked if we had received any correspondence from FOES (Friends of Edlesborough School) requesting permission to use the Green at 1 May bank holiday. The Clerk indicated that no official request had been received. Mrs Thompson said it had been mentioned at the Christmas Farye and she had asked them to write in.

The Clerk indicated that she had reported back to the Eaton Bray Village Hall Fund-raising Committee that:

1. It was felt by the Council that the Green could not always be used for 1 May bank holiday due to the weather.
2. If the green was to be used, FOES would have the first option.

Next meeting Thursday 15 January 2004 starting at 8.00 pm