

# EDLESBOROUGH PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

## Green Spaces Report

Edlesborough Parish is located in the Aylesbury Vale District. It is situated on the extreme eastern edge of the county of Buckinghamshire. As shown in the map of the designated Neighbourhood Plan area, the parish shares a border with Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

Of the three villages that make up the parish, Dagnall is entirely in an AONB designation and is 'washed over' green belt. Each village differs in character and structure and the Green Spaces are addressed by village. Most of the Green Space issues are already protected. This includes the village greens in Northall and Edlesborough. There are four allotment sites in the parish and again these are formally registered. Therefore the Green Space issues identified herein are those that have no formal registration but represent important areas as covered by NPPF 77 that states

**'Local Green Spaces as defined in Paragraph 77 of the NPPF The Local Green Spaces will not be appropriate for most green areas or open spaces. The designation should only be used, where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves, where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife and where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.'**

### EDLESBOROUGH

**The Land off The High Street Edlesborough. Planning Application 15/02411/APP**



Development permission has already been given in advance of this Neighbourhood Plan for the site opposite the village school.

This application covers an area of land designated AAL. In order to gain approval AVDC insisted that the centre of the site be kept open and that a children's play area be placed upon the site for recreation purposes. Whilst many residents objected to the development it is now of great importance that this green area between the two parts of the development EDL009A and EDL009B be designated as a Green Space. Historic England see this proposed space as 'an important means of protecting the setting of the scheduled ancient monument (moated site) just to the north as well as protecting the rural character of the village including views south towards the Chilterns.'

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### EDLESBOROUGH (Cont'd)

#### Edlesborough Churchyard



Though the 13<sup>th</sup> century church has been declared redundant as a practising church it is still consecrated and used by the parish for occasions such as a carol service. It is owned by The Churches Conservation Trust and is supported by a local sub-group of the parish council The Friends of the Church on the Hill, Edlesborough. The group runs activities such as a Music Festival and a Heritage event. The church building and the churchyard are open to the public every day. The churchyard is closed to new burials but contains the remains of local residents from many hundreds of years past. The churchyard enjoys extensive views over the Vale of Aylesbury and is valued highly by local residents. The churchyard has a wildflower bank that contains rare species of plants.

#### Edlesborough Cemetery



The closure of the churchyard for burials created a need for a parish cemetery. This was achieved by a grant of land adjacent to the churchyard from The Burghope Trust. In addition to the use as a cemetery the area has seating for residents to enjoy the open space and surrounding area.

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### EDLESBOROUGH (Cont'd)

#### Edlesborough Green



Edlesborough Green is a large tract of land at the heart of the village. It comprises two adjacent areas i.e. approximately half is officially designated as Village Green and the other half is registered as Common Land. The land is considered as 'the Jewel in the Crown' of the village. It is a focal point for sporting activities and comprises a children's playground, several football pitches, a basketball practice area, two tennis courts and a cricket pitch. An old pavilion is to be replaced with a new building for which planning permission has been obtained. The annual carnival is held on the green. It is very popular as a meeting place and with dog walkers.

#### Edlesborough Green Allotments



This site sits at the far end of Edlesborough Green separated by a high hedge. The site is very popular with residents given its central location next to the village green.



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### EDLESBOROUGH (Cont'd)

#### Cow Lane Allotments



It is rare that any plots are left fallow for any length of time. As with the other allotments a parishioner volunteers to be a warden for the site.

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### DAGNALL

#### Recreation Ground



The principal space in the village is the Recreation Ground. It lies at the northern edge of the village and is flanked on three sides by existing development.

The space is used for village events also.



This ground is owned and administered by the Dagnall Village Hall Committee. The ground encompasses a football field, a running track and a children's play area

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### DAGNALL (Cont'd)

#### Dagnall Allotments



The Dagnall Allotments are well used and there is a thriving community with a warden. The allotments are fully utilised.



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### NORTHALL

#### Northall Allotments



Most available plots are currently let