



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes for the Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on 17th November 2022 in Edlesborough Memorial Hall

Open Forum

The following questions were raised by parishioners in attendance;

- 1) *Is there an update on the Ivinghoe Freight Strategy on the B440? What penalties will be in place for any drivers that breach the zone?*

BC Cllr Chris Poll informed all that the signs have been ordered but that due to the impending switch from Ringway Jacobs to Balfour Beatty there is a delay on the installation of the signs and therefore the implementation of the zone.

He stated that the new zone will be published in the press and that most reputable companies will be aware of the zone and will modify their routes accordingly. Once the zone is operational, early enforcement is important to the success of the zone.

SATNAV systems will be updated to include the zone, but this is reliant on drivers having the latest software updates.

Cllr Williams explained that vigilant parishioners will need to report offenders to Trading Standards. With information including date, time, numberplate, company, direction of travel, photographic evidence (dashcam footage), etc.

If Trading Standards have enough evidence of companies persistently breaching the zone the company responsible may be contacted.

Cllr Wilkinson reminded all that during the early stages of the project Buckinghamshire Council had stated that 75% of drivers do observe the zones so this will lead to a reduction in HGV's using the B440.

- 2) *Who maintains and decides the position of the streetlights in the Parish? Why is Eaton Bray better lit than Edlesborough.*

Cllr Cabbage explained that the streetlights belong to EPC and are maintained by EPC. He stated that Edlesborough is a village and not a town and that as such it is not as well-lit as a town. He explained that Central Beds Council is responsible for the lights in Eaton Bray.

Cllr Williams stated that there have been no "big" requests for more streetlights and that people can use torches or headlamps. A few years ago a request was made for more lights around the Green, Pebblemoor and Brook Street. EPC identified some possible locations and wrote to residents near those locations who responded very strongly that they did not want a light by their home.

- 3) *Why can't more be done about the speeding traffic on High Street, Edlesborough?*

Cllr Williams explained that we currently have the two MVAS devices in operation, one on the High Street and one on Moor End. These devices collect lots of data about the vehicles using the roads and this can in turn be used to inform speed management decisions.

EPC is currently still trying to overcome the BC hurdles to install the necessary posts to deploy the MVAS devices in other locations in the Parish. Once this is resolved more time and attention can be directed towards Speedwatch. This will enable volunteer parishioners to use video speed detection equipment in approved locations. Drivers exceeding the speed limits will be reported to TVP.

Cllr Williams informed the parishioners that most residents do not want a build out or speed bumps outside their homes as this leads to an increase in traffic noise. Any traffic management strategies put in place must be supported by data justifying its need.

Cllr Williams formally opened the meeting at 19.49

Present

Cllr Williams, Cllr Cabbage, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Wells (left at 21.32), Cllr Owen (left at 21.32), Cllr Harpley, Cllr Nevard, Buckinghamshire Councillor Chris Poll, Katrina Holyoake the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board Coordinator, Penny Pataky (the Clerk) and three parishioners.

Apologies

Cllr Booth, Cllr Thomas, BC Cllr Peter Brazier, PCSO Megan Dean and PCSO Tina Hobson

Declarations of Interest

None were declared

Minutes

Council agreed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council 20th October 2022 with no amendments.

Matters Arising

Nothing was raised.

Buckinghamshire Council Report

Wing & Ivinghoe Community Board

Katrina Holyoake the Board Coordinator met with Cllr Williams and the Clerk on the 9th November. She shared information about the BC Warm Spaces Toolkit, Dementia Bus, and how she can point EPC and groups to sources of funding for different projects.

The issues with the installation of the posts for the MVAS devices was discussed. Katrina confirmed she will follow this up with the BC Councillors and do all she could to support EPC in this matter.

Cllr Williams briefly explained to the parishioners that the Community Board had replaced the old Local Area Forum. The Board has money divided into their priorities and that anyone can apply for funding not just Parish Councils. More information about the Board can be found at

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/improving-your-local-community/wing-ivinghoe-community-board/>

Katrina Holyoake attended the meeting and briefly outlined the role of the Community Board. She explained that there had recently been a change to the structure, budget management and process for spending money but now that all this was complete the Board could be more effective. The Board's priorities are set by BC. Currently the change of contractor for Transport for Bucks means that no further projects or funding can be spent on transport related projects.

Katrina is able to help Parish Councils and local groups deliver projects and can guide applicants towards funding sources.

The Board had a Small Grants Scheme of up to £1000 for small projects.

Grants of up to £15,000 can be made providing there is contributory funding.

The Board currently has £54K unallocated in this financial year's budget, this cannot be carried over to the next financial year.

BC Cllr Chris Poll

BC Cllr Poll informed everyone that last month's budget briefing highlighted that things are going to be very challenging moving forwards.

BC have now agreed a position on the Chiltern and Beechwoods Special Area of Conservation (SAC). BC will impose a fee of £566 per dwelling for new build homes to contribute to protection measures for the woods.

More information on the Chiltern and Beechwoods SAC can be found at

<https://www.dacorum.gov.uk/home/planning-development/planning-strategic-planning/new-single-local-plan/chilterns-beechwoods-special-area-of-conservation>

Cllr Williams clarified that any new developments/builds withing 12Km of the zone will be required to put funding into the National Trust's preservation of the Beechwoods.

BC Cllr Poll explained that EPC are not the only parish experiencing issues with TfB and installing posts for MVAS devices. He will speak to Amy Bridgford and Zoe Ford and try to progress the matter for EPC.

Cllr Wilkinson reminded BC Cllr Poll that there was still the outstanding issue of interpretation of policies in the Edlesborough Neighbourhood Plan by BC Planning Department.

Planning

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

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response
22/03711/APP 7 th Nov 2022	16 Brownlow Avenue Edlesborough	Two storey side and rear extensions. Partial conversion of double garage to residential use.	No objections

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

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response	LPA Decision
22/01005/APP 8 th April 2022	Ashridge Farm Bungalow Ringshall Road Dagnall	Demolish existing dwelling and garage and erection of detached dwelling and garage.	No objections	Permitted
22/02791/CPE 24 th August 2022	Hall Farm Slapton Lane Northall	Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of an outbuilding for residential use	OPPOSE	Permitted
22/02850/APP 2 nd Sept 2022	18 Jacksons Close Edlesborough	Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and addition of pitched roof to existing integral garage	No objections	Permitted
22/02971/APP 6 th Sept 2022	Arkleigh 15 Tring Road Edlesborough	Replacement of three rear dormer windows with one large rear dormer roof extension	No objections	Permitted
22/03047/APP 7 th Sept 2022	Littlewood House Main Road North Dagnall	Single storey garden room	No objections	Permitted
22/02920/APP 9 th Sept 2022	59 Summerleys Edlesborough	Erection of garage and workshop	OPPOSE Too large	Permitted

Villages

Edlesborough

Prior to the meeting Council had received a request requesting EPC put up signs asking drivers to “slow down for horses”, particularly around Edlesborough Green and warning drivers coming down from the B440 to the bend in Pebblemoor near Swallowfields.

Cllr Cabbage proposed that EPC should ask TfB to support the erection of such signs.

Cllr Owen proposed that EPC erect posters on its own street furniture.

Council agreed 5 to 2 in favour of Cllr Owen’s proposal.

Action: Clerk to purchase and arrange for the erection of posters asking drivers to “slow down for horses.”

High Street Telecom Mast

It has come to light that the address on the “How to Object” notice displayed on the equipment box next to the mast is incorrect. CK Hutchinson Networks (UK) Ltd filed a change of address with Companies House in March 2022. The notice was first displayed in late August 2022.

The Clerk has informed Greg Smith MP, the BC Cllrs C Poll, D Town and P Brazier as well as Mark Aughterlony, BC’s Development Management Manager of this issue.

The Clerk has written to CK Hutchinson (UK) Ltd questioning this and asking for an explanation and for the notice on the equipment to be updated asap. The Clerk has informed CK Hutchinson (UK) Ltd that they are in breach of the terms of the statutory notice as set out in Schedule 3A to the Communications Act 2003 (the “Code”), displayed on their notice.

Cllr Williams proposed that an official letter should be sent to CK Hutchinson (UK) Ltd on behalf of the Council objecting to the installation of the mast. All agreed.

Actions: EPC to inform parishioners of the correct address via its Facebook page, website and by attaching a notice to the mast equipment box.

Cllr Williams and Clerk to draft letter of objection to the mast.

Dagnall

The Clerk has circulated letters of objection to the proposed upgrade to the existing radio base station on Ringshall Road, Ringshall to the full council.

Northall

The Clerk is awaiting a response from the LAT re the pedestrian sign on Northall road.

Following a second letter to Amazon re the convoys using Eaton Bray Road, Northall, Shan Jayasinghe Regional Program Manager Community Operations UK & IE, Amazon responded informing the Council that “Safety is a priority at Amazon and all of the drivers are given correct training on how to adhere to the highway code regulations and speed limits.” He stated that the delivery station team will address this issue immediately with the Delivery Service Provider.

Cllr Cabbage informed the Council that there has been a noticeable reduction in the speed of the Amazon vehicles using the road.

Action: Clerk to inform parishioners that should they witness bad driving in the Parish by delivery drivers they should report this directly to the companies.

Increasing EPC Visibility

Nothing to report.

Projects

Edlesborough Green Children’s Play Area

– led by Cllr Mrs Booth

Following the site visit the Planning Inspectorate has granted permission for EPC to progress with the installation of new play equipment on Edlesborough Green. In his report the Inspector concluded *“that the proposed works are beneficial to the neighbourhood and that there are no issues of public interest preventing consent being given.”*

Cllr Booth has received an updated quote for the works that she is currently analysing. It should be noted that the quoted price has increased as a result of the delay in obtaining permission and world events, from circa £75,000 to £96,528

Katrina Holyoake for the Community Board has offered to help source funding for the project.

EMH Redecoration

– led by Cllr Mrs Thomas

The WI banner will be rehung in the near future.

EMH Status

– led by Cllr Wilkinson

The EPC working party met with The PCC representatives. The PCC has confirmed that a variation in the length of the lease will not be agreed to. Should EPC wish to sign a new lease this would normally only be for a maximum of 35 years, there is currently 44 years left on the current lease.

EPC would be asked to meet all the costs of a new lease and the terms of the new lease would probably be less favourable for EPC.

Cllr Nevard stated that the lack of accessible toilets is no longer acceptable and that this must be prioritised.

Cllr Wells asked who would be responsible if a complaint was lodged about the lack of accessible toilets under the Disability Discrimination Act.

Council debated the future plans for the hall and that prior to agreeing to any improvements/spending Council needs a clear plan of spending on the building for the future.

Council have already provided The PCC with an outline of required improvements and the estimated costs. The PCC are asking for more detail.

Currently EPC subsidises the running costs of the hall between £1500 and £4000 a year.

Council agreed that a working party meeting would be held in the New Year to discuss the way forward with EMH.

Re-Wilding

– Led by Cllrs Owen and Wells

Nothing to report.

EPC Small Grant Scheme

– Led by Cllr Harpley

No new applications have been received.

EDaN & Traffic Management Team Updates

Traffic Calming & MVAS

- Led by Cllr Williams

Prior to the meeting Katrina Holyoake informed Cllr Williams and the Clerk that she would follow this up with her manager, BC Cllr Poll and Steve Broadbent.

See earlier notes.

South End Lane 20mph

- Led by Cllr Harpley

Cllr Harpley outlined the position of the project so far. Following last month's meeting BC Cllr Chris Poll had informed Cllr Harpley that *“your ward councillors all agreed to support the aim of implementing a 20mph limit or zone on South End Lane. In fact, after I reached out to CB colleagues, there is evidently a clear*

majority in favour of such. The call I received though was to inform me that CB policy is not to assist in any funding toward these projects. If this implies a change of policy, I was informed that an updated policy document would be furnished to members from CB management. To date this has not been forthcoming.” EPC are disappointed in the change in policy about the funding of such projects.

Council agreed to continue with the application. Cllr Harpley will request that BC Cllr Poll arranges for the Community Board to confirm in writing their agreement in principle to the application. EPC understands that the BC policy now appears to have changed and they no longer provide funding for such projects but EPC believes their agreement in principle will be helpful once it makes a formal application to Buckinghamshire Council for the change in the speed limit.

Action: Cllr Harpley to obtain written agreement in principle from the Community Board.

FOTCOTH

A tree surgeon has attended to a branch that was hanging dangerously from one of the trees in the Churchyard. FOTCOTHE paid for the work.

Cllr Williams is in communication with The CCT about the increasing energy costs of the floodlights.

EDaN Beautification Team

The Council contractor will erect the two Christmas trees.

Christine Yates has organised volunteers to dress the Christmas trees.

Christine Yates will locate the lights to “dress” Edlesborough Pavilion.

Cllr Williams and the Clerk will “dress” EMH in lights.

EBPC have made a donation to EPC for the unused wreaths. The Clerk has written to all the previous wreath sponsors and has informed them that the wreaths will not be hung this year but that they could sponsor an EBPC wreath should they wish to or make a donation towards the EDaN Beautification Team.

Parish Amenities

Reports on all Amenities including Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services.

AED's

The AED located at EMH is still missing. EPC has been provided with a loan device. The Clerk is chasing the company weekly and has expressed disappointment in their response “it is lost in the system. It will surface at some point, but for now you have a brand new loan device.”

To date CU Medical have failed to provide the following information;

- The address the device was sent to.
- Proof that the device was rejected, as CU Medical have alleged.
- Proof that a lost item case has been raised with DPD.
- An explanation as to why the returned device was sent to the wrong address when both devices were collected from the correct address.

Marcus Marius of CU Medical is looking into the matter. The Clerk has informed him that EPC will not pay the invoices for the new batteries until the matter has been resolved.

Donation to Community First Responders

Cllr Williams has not received a response from Peter Cooper on this matter – defer to January meeting.

Devolved Services

It has been confirmed that BC will once again roll over the current Devolved Services contract for a further year. They will commence a full consultation in May 2023 with Town & Parish Councils which will include surveys and workshops to listen to their views on Highways Devolution for the future.

EMH

Following issues with a leaking roof, the roof was surveyed using a drone and promptly repaired.

Green

The Clerk will be meeting with a tree surgeon about pruning the trees overhanging the Pebblemoor car park and the Green allotments next week.

Sports Clubs

EB Lions

Asked that the Clerk convey their disappointment at not being allowed to mark out a further football pitch on the cricket outfield.

The Clerk stopped all football on the Green on 6th November due to the heavy rainfall.

ECC

Nothing to report.

E.T.C.

The Planning Inspectorate has granted permission for the new wheelchair friendly path between the tennis courts and the Pavilion. Council agreed that the Clerk will write to E.T.C. informing them of this decision and the required design of the path. At the January 2022 meeting E.T.C. requested the path and informed the Council that they had funds to pay for it.

Council agreed that the Clerk will invite the Council's two contractors to quote for the work and also advise E.T.C. that they can seek their own contractor but that the Council must approve the agreed contractor before work commences. The work must meet the design and specification set out in the planning application.

Play Area

It was agreed that "Accompanied Play Area Inspections" were not required in the future. Cllr Cabbage expressed his disappointment in the format of the report and stated that it was more useful to the company than to the Council. It was agreed to explore asking ROSPA to carry out the 2023 inspections.

Action: Clerk to ask ROSPA for a quote for the 2023 inspections, and to raise the necessary purchase order.

Edlesborough Pavilion

Footpath to join Pavilion path to pavement.

Work is underway, the laying of the tarmac is weather dependent.

The Clerk approved the installation of two bollards at the entrance to the green to ensure the access was not wide enough for vehicles. This will incur an additional cost to the original quote.

Update on Property

A further site visit has taken place and some of the outstanding issues have been addressed.

Insurance

The Clerk will issue ECSC with an invoice once the insurance premium breakdown has been received. Cllr Cabbage proposed the Clerk inform ECSC that the invoice will be deducted from EPC's annual donation to ECSC.

Action: Clerk will seek approval from the ECSC Trustees for this.

Allotments

Dagnall Allotments

One plot is available and is currently being viewed by a prospective tenant.

One tenant has not paid their rent and one has underpaid. The Clerk has issued further reminders with the additional £10 administration fee to be charged.

On 10/11/22 the site suffered an attack of vandalism, seven sheds were broken into. The matter has been reported to Thames Valley Police. All tenants have been advised to check their plots and have been given the crime reference number to use to report anything that has been stolen.

Cow Lane Allotments

All plots are let. One tenant is still to pay.

The Green Allotments

Trees need pruning – the clerk is obtaining quotes.

One tenant has alleged that another tenant has stolen plants from their plot.

Two available plots are being offered to people on the waiting list.

Northall Allotments

Additional Taps – the warden, clerk and contractor have agreed the tap and water tank locations. The contractor aims to complete the work before Christmas.

Following an allegation that cannabis was being grown on a plot the local PCSO's investigated and do not believe the plant to be cannabis, they will however keep an eye on the site.

One tenant that has two plots has not paid their rent and has not responded to the Clerk's messages, this tenant has now been issued with a final reminder with the additional £10 administration fee being charged.

Cemetery

Nothing to report.

Churchyard

See FOTCOTH.

Bridle Path

Nothing to report.

War Memorial

This was "dressed" by the EDaN Beautification Team.

Lorna Cabbage once again ordered the wreaths that have been laid at the Edlesborough and Eaton Bray War Memorials

Bus Shelters

Nothing to report.

Litter & Recycling Bins, Dog Bins, Car Parks

Nothing to report.

Streetlights

Bellway Homes are replacing the disposed of lights with three new lights that match the new light being installed in Dagnall.

Streetlights Energy Costs

The government energy relief has been applied to the bill by the supplier.

Council ratified their decision to agree the new SSE 12 month + 12 month contract with SSE secured by Utility Aid.

Taskers Row Bungalow Streetlight

Fairhive Homes have confirmed that their contractor will prune the trees obstructing the light. The Clerk will visit the site to ensure this work is completed.

Website, Facebook and GDPR

Facebook

Posts and discussions have focused on:

- Fireworks
- Halloween
- The return of food service at Edlesborough Pavilion
- Dogs being left unattended outside local shops and dogs eating food that could make them unwell
- Zebra crossing outside Edlesborough School

Accessibility & GDPR

Nothing to report.

Finance

October 2022 Accounts

The accounts for October 2022 were approved.

Cllr Cabbage expressed disappointment in the format of the accounts, he would like to see different headings on the reports.

Action: Clerk to contact Rialtas to ask if headings can be changed and for a quote to make it possible for the program to be accessed on more than one device.

November Payments

Council agreed the November 2022 payment run.

NALC – National Salary Awards 2022-202

The Local Government Association (LGA) has come to an agreement on the 2022/23 pay offer and with effect from 1 April 2022. There is a proposed increase, from immediate effect, of £1 p/hr for the Parish Clerk and is to be backdated to April 2022. All agreed.

2023/24 Budget & Precept

All Town and Parish clerks will be emailed their tax base by the 6th December 2022.

EPC must submit their precept request by 31st January 2023.

Buckinghamshire Council will set council tax band charges for 2023-24 on 22nd February 2023.

Cllr Nevard and the Clerk have commenced work on the draft budget. Currently working on a 10% increase. Council agreed to a budget working party meeting on 13th December at 7.30pm.

Action: Cllr Williams to book meeting room in Pavilion

Correspondence

Items circulated to Full Council prior to the meeting:

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Items for the December EPC Meeting

- 2023/24 Budget

Items for future:

- Parish Paths Maps
- Rialtas Training

The meeting closed at 22.50

Key to abbreviations:

EPC – Edlesborough Parish Council	FOTCOTHE – Friends of the Church on the Hill Edlesborough
BC – Buckinghamshire Council	EDaN Beautification Team – Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall
Cllr – Councillor	Beautification Team
EBPC – Eaton Bray Parish Council	The CCT – The Churches Conservation Trust
WI – Women’s Institute	The PCC – The Parochial Church Council
ECC – Edlesborough Cricket Club	TVP – Thames Valley Police
ETC – Edlesborough Tennis Club	LAT – Local Area Technician
CB – Community Board	