



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on 21st March 2024 in Edlesborough Pavilion.

Open Forum

Mrs Lorna Cabbage thanked the Council for purchasing two extra long litter pickers and rings to hold binbags open when litter picking. She stated that these items are very useful to the litter pickers.

Cllr Booth formally opened the meeting at 7.31pm

Present.

Cllr Booth, Cllr Owen, Cllr Williams, Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Harpley, Cllr Cabbage, Cllr Wilkinson, Penny Pataky (the Clerk), Buckinghamshire Cllr Chris Poll, and one parishioner.

Apologies

Cllr Hurst, Cllr Wells, Buckinghamshire Cllr Peter Brazier, and Buckinghamshire Cllr Derek Town.

Declaration of Interests

None were declared.

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 15th February 2024

Council agreed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on 15th February 2024 with no amendments.

Matters Arising from the Minutes (not covered in the agenda)

Buckinghamshire Council Report

Including Community Board for Ivinghoe and Wing Ward.

The Clerk and Cllr Booth will meet with Michelle Parker, the new community board coordinator at 10am on 28th March. All other Councillors are welcome to join the meeting.

It has been confirmed that Michelle Parker will be the board coordinator for the next year. The Budget for next year has been reduced by 50% to approximately £45K.

The Next Community Board Meeting is Tuesday 26th March, at 6.30pm in Pitstone Pavilion – this meeting will inform the priorities for the 2024/25 year.

The Board focus will be more on helping communities and guiding them to help and support, opposed to funding projects. The Board cannot help with things that are statutory requirements of Buckinghamshire Council.

The Community Board meeting has been promoted on Facebook.

Action: Cllr Booth to attend the Community Board meeting. The Clerk and Cllr Owen will try to attend.

Buckinghamshire Cllr Poll reported that the Local Area Technician will investigate the issue with the road surface not being repaired at the entrance to Edlesborough Pavilion.

A copy of the Buckinghamshire Councillors report is available on the Council website alongside the minutes of this meeting.

Planning

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

Application Number	Address	Description	Parish Council Response
24/00516/AGN 15 th Feb 2024	Goose Hill Farm Ringshall Road Dagnall	Re-surfacing of existing farmyard and farm track	No objections Subject to no problems of surface water run-off onto Ringshall Road
24/00608/AGN 23 rd Feb 2024	Fair View Farm Main Road North Dagnall	Agricultural storage building	No objections
24/00734/APP 6 th March 2024	2 Dove House Close Edlesborough	Replacement of existing first floor window with French doors and a Juliette balcony	No objections
24/00755/APP 7 th March 2024	15 Barn View Edlesborough	Loft conversion with large flat roofed rear dormer	No objections Subject to officer approval that it complies with the Design Guide
24/00929/APP 20 th March 2024	Primrose Bungalow Dunstable Road Dagnall	Erection of dormer bungalow with garage. (Amendment to application 23/02332/APP)	No objections

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

Application Number	Address	Description	Parish Council Response	LPA Decision
24/00013/APP 26 th January 2024	7 St Mary's Glebe Edlesborough	Demolition of existing utility room and erection of a single storey rear extension	No objections	Permitted
24/00516/AGN 15 th Feb 2024	Goose Hill Farm Ringshall Road Dagnall	Re-surfacing of existing farmyard and farm track	No objections Subject to no problems of surface water run-off onto Ringshall Road	Permitted
24/00608/AGN 23 rd Feb 2024	Fair View Farm Main Road North Dagnall	Agricultural storage building	No objections	Permitted

Buckinghamshire Planning Forum – 27th February, at 2pm

Cllr Wilkinson and the Clerk attended the Buckinghamshire Planning Forum.

Land at Good Intent

The Clerk, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Ferguson, and Cllr Booth met with Mike Peters and Richard Taaffe from Jarvis Homes on at 2pm on 20th March. The meeting was useful to both parties in sharing the history of the site, applications, and obstacles.

Jarvis homes outlined their thinking for developing the site and Cllr Wilkinson explained the Council and parishioners concerns with the proposals for the junction.

Council generally agreed that a 9 house scheme across the entire site was their preferred option. It was recognised that a development of 9 four or five bed roomed houses would not meet the housing mix expectation of the LPA (reference Policy H6a of VALP), and that Policy EP3 of the Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan specifies a mix of homes ranging from 2 to 5 bedroom types for the site. Nevertheless, the VALP policy does state that the suggested mix is a guide and not a requirement and may be varied on the basis of specific circumstances. Also, the Neighbourhood Plan policy was based on the assumption that the development would be an extension of Damson Way and not Good Intent. Cllr Wilkinson proposed that Council consider supporting the argument that now it appears that the only feasible way of developing the site is as an extension of Good Intent, any development needs to reflect the existing character of Good Intent and not Damson Way. Good Intent is a spacious development, made up entirely of large, detached houses, and Policy EP12 of the Neighbourhood Plan specifically states that *"The layout, massing, scale and materials must reflect the immediate character and pattern of development."* Cllr Wilkinson would hope that the changed situation would help justify a deviation from the usual housing mix. Council has previously expressed concern about the cramped nature of earlier development schemes proposed for this site, and would strongly support a more relaxed, spacious development for this edge of settlement location.

The Old Oaken Cottage, Leighton Road, Northall

Buckinghamshire Cllr Brazier has informed the Council that the Buckinghamshire Council Planning Enforcement officer is clear that the new buildings at Old Oaken Cottage are on the residential area and will fall into permitted development.

Villages

The Clerk has been informed that Council may only apply for one free framed portraits of King Charles 111. More copies can be purchased later.

Information about the "Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Hub" has been added to the Council website.

EPC SURGERY

Cllr Booth and the Clerk are exploring whether this can be a regular monthly event held in Edlesborough Pavilion.

Action: Clerk to select a suitable day of the month and to confirm with ECSC CIO that this is feasible.

COMMUNITY GRANT – SCOUTS

Last year EPC awarded the Scouts a Small Community Grant to help improve the grounds outside the Scout Hall. Council is pleased to see the planters in full bloom and an invitation will be sent to the Scouts inviting them to the Annual Parish Meeting in line with the terms of their grant.

EDLESBOROUGH

- The broken railing on the bridge between the Rights of Way tracks EDL/3/1 and EDL/3/2 has been repaired.
- A resident has asked if the Council will consider hedgerow maintenance on The Pastures hedge along The Green.
Action: Clerk to investigate whether Buckinghamshire Council will fund 50% of any improvements to the hedge in line with the 50% contribution they make towards the hedge maintenance each year.
- Council agreed entry to the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition.
Action: Clerk to raise payment and submit the paperwork for the entry.

- The first Buckinghamshire Family Services drop in session took place in Edlesborough Pavilion. Four people attended, three were from Bedfordshire. Two more dates have been booked.
- Residents in Swansons and Pebblemoor have suffered because of this year's heavy rainfall and blocked ditches.
- A resident has knocked down part of their wall in High Street, Edlesborough. It is believed this is due to concerns over the safety of the wall.
Action: Council to report this to English Heritage and Buckinghamshire Council Enforcement Team.
- Crops have been planted on the right of way across the field at Slicketts Lane. This has been reported to the Buckinghamshire Council Rights of Way Team.

DAGNALL

AED at Red Lion, Dagnall

Prior to the meeting Councillors had been made aware of the response from the landlord of the Red Lion, Dagnall. The landlord has stated that he does not agree with how Council manages the AED at the Red Lion. He has requested a meeting with Council and that Council removes the device from the building and makes good the electrics.

Council agreed:

- that it was not prepared to relocate the device.
- that representatives would meet with the landlords and the six other people the landlord mentions in his communication to discuss the future of the device.
- that Council will offer two options at the meeting;
 1. the device will remain at its current location and continue to be managed by the Council in the same way as the other devices in the Parish.
 2. The device will be handed over to the landlord and Council will withdraw all its support of the device.

Action: Clerk to respond to the landlord with a range of dates for the meeting. Clerk to request the contact information for the six other people to invite them to the meeting once a date and time has been agreed. Clerk to send a summary of the events leading up to the meeting and the two choices to all attendees of the meeting with the meeting invitation.

- Cllr Owen wishes to enter Dagnall in the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition. She will check to see if the village meets the criteria for entry.
- A "job" has been raised for the two large potholes opposite Deans Meadow (ref 5727483).
- One of the village gates, the planter and grass verge was damaged by a van on Saturday 16th March. Buckinghamshire Green Claims Team have received the report from Thames Valley Police and intend to pursue a claim for the damages. The Clerk has asked MW Agri Ltd to inspect the planter and quote for any necessary repairs. Buckinghamshire Council Green Claims will include this in their claim if Council wishes them to.

NORTHALL

- The Speed Indicating Device was returned after repairs were carried out to the supporting pole.
- Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition – Cllr Cabbage has confirmed that the village does not meet enough of the marking schedule amenities to make Northall a viable entry.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HIGHWAYS ISSUES

- To date no response has been received from Martin Tett to the communication from the residents of The Pastures (sent on 4th December 2023) about the condition of the pavements in the road.

- The post at the start of the right of way from Brook Street towards Eaton Bray has been reported to Buckinghamshire Highways for repair.
- To date no repairs have been carried out on the sinking drain and damaged road surface at the junction of High Street and Brook Street.
- Patching repairs have been carried out on Summerleys, Brownlow Avenue and St Mary's Glebe.
Action: Clerk to ask if the repairs to South End Lane, Northall were postponed.
- The resident who raised concern about the hedge on Waterside obstructing the road and damaging the wall has been in touch with the Clerk and stated that she expected more of the hedge to be cutback. The Clerk has explained that under Buckinghamshire Devolved Services Council is only responsible for ensuring the hedge does not obstruct the carriageway. The Clerk has asked the Local Area Technician for advice on the matter.
- The Clerk has reported the overgrown hedge on Good Intent to Buckinghamshire Highways as it is unclear who the owner is. Cllr Wilkinson believes part of the growth belongs to the bungalow on the corner and the rest is the responsibility of UK Power Networks.
Action: Clerk to write to UK Power Networks and ask them to cut back the growth.
- Cllr Owen reported that the patching repairs on Studham Lane, Dagnall were of a very good standard.

Projects

EDLESBOROUGH PAVILION UPDATE

A site meeting will take place Friday 22nd March. Cllr Cubbage, Ken Holloway, Richard Diggles, and builders will be in attendance. The aim of the meeting is to establish how the water is entering the building and to ask the builders to quote for repairs.

Cllr Cubbage's attention was drawn to the fact that part of the guttering outside the meeting room has a significant drip and remains unsealed.

Action: Cllr Cubbage will raise this at the meeting on the 22nd March.

PHASE 2 – EDLESBOROUGH GREEN PLAY AREA

Led by Cllr Booth –

Cllr Booth has commenced meeting with suppliers.

The play area surface is proving to be a challenge. Cllr Booth has asked the suppliers to make recommendations for the surface.

TRAFFIC CALMING

MOVEABLE VEHICLE ACTIVATED SPEED DEVICE (MVAS)

The February MVAS Data is now available on the Traffic Calming page of the website.

- The Dagnall device is now on Studham Lane.
- The Edlesborough device has been turned 180° on the B440 near Sparrowhall Farm.
- The Northall device is now at the entrance to Northall as you approach the village from Edlesborough.

SPEEDWATCH – LED BY CLLR WILLIAMS

Cllr Williams reported that he has still not had a response from the Police about approving Speedwatch locations and Speedwatch activities resuming in the Parish.

The Clerk reported that in the latest letter from Matthew Barber, the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner the following was stated;

“Another area that I know causes great concern in many communities is speeding. Not only am I agreeing with the Chief Constable a new road safety enforcement team to provide a more flexible response to local

concerns, but I continue to support Community Speedwatch. The Community Speedwatch scheme has recently moved into the new Citizens in Policing portfolio within the Force, which means as well as the free equipment available through my office, I hope that we will be able to improve the support for volunteers.”

Action: Cllr Williams will write to Matthew Barber for support on the matter.

EDaN Updates

Led by Cllr Ferguson

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH ON THE HILL

Cllr Ferguson reported that due to the window repairs the Church is currently closed to visitors for safety reasons. However, The CCT are still allowing Champing bookings to go ahead.

EDAN BEAUTIFICATION TEAM

The team have had one person express an interest in joining them. More help is still needed.

Finance

ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH ENDED 29TH FEBRUARY 2024

Council approved the accounts for month ended 29th February 2024.

The Clerk has broken down the insurance costs across the various lines. Cllr Cabbage stated that Council should push for a detailed breakdown of the premium from the insurance company.

Action: Clerk to press insurance company for a detailed breakdown of the premium.

AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

- Council approved the February 2024 payments.
- Council agreed that it should take up the BMKALC Employee Assistance Programme for the Clerk but felt it was not necessary for Councillors.

Action: Clerk to set this up.

- Donation to Eaton Bray Good Neighbours

Council agreed to donate to this scheme as it supports residents of Northall and Edlesborough. The donation will match the donation given by Eaton Bray Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to ask Eaton Bray Parish Clerk how much they donated. The donation will be added to the April payments.

Preparing for AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

Cllr Ferguson attended a course on Preparing for AGAR. She reported that the Council and Clerk are working correctly.

As a result of the course, it is strongly recommended that Council does not keep all its money in one bank.

Action: Cllr Ferguson and Clerk to research alternative bank accounts.

2023/24 AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

The Clerk has received all the documentation from PKF Littlejohn LLP for the AGAR and will commence work on preparing for the AGAR in March.

Rialtas Training

The Clerk and Cllr Ferguson are attending a Rialtas training session about Ear Marked reserves on 22nd March.

Other Training

The Clerk and Cllr Ferguson are attending the Quotes Tenders and Contract Management training on May 7th, 8th, and 9th.

Parish Amenities

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL DEVOLVED SERVICES.

Buckinghamshire Council have produced new grass cutting maps. The Clerk and contractor have checked them and have returned them to Buckinghamshire Council marked up with all the areas Edlesborough Parish Council cuts for amendment.

Buckinghamshire Council's Devolved Services team have advised councils that they *"have retained the annual clearance requirement for Rights of Way for financial year 2024/25, however, we are looking at the possibility of removing this clearance from the devolved services for future years. We have started conversations with our colleagues in Rights of Way to this regard, but we need to undertake further works with them, as well as consultation with town and parish councils to understand your thoughts on delivering this element of the devolved services. We will therefore be arranging workshops in the future to discuss this topic and will contact you with more details in due course."*

Currently Edlesborough Parish Council undertakes ground clearance work on some of the rights of way in the Parish.

PARISH PATH MAPS

Buckinghamshire Council can only provide an A3 sized map. Council has a large map that is slightly damaged. The Clerk will ask the printer if they can reproduce three copies of it from the original map. If this is possible the Clerk will request a quote and whether they provide a laminating service.

AED'S & COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

The three AED & CPR Familiarisation Courses have been completed and were extremely successful and in total 27 parishioners attended. Tracy Mold the trainer impressed upon all attendees the importance of the devices and how and when they are deployed. At the end of each evening some attendees stayed behind to find out more about becoming a Community First Responder.

EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL

Hot Water Issue

After investigation it has been discovered that the immersion heater for the hot water in the toilets is broken and needs to be replaced. The initial quote for this was £120+VAT. However, when attempting to complete the work it was found that it will be necessary *"To drain the system, remove existing cylinder and supply and fit a new one like for like, with new immersion heater."* This will cost £750+VAT.

Council agreed not to proceed with this work as it is currently investigating revamping the toilet facilities and to date there have been no complaints about the lack of hot water in the toilet facilities.

The new heater in the kitchen has malfunctioned. The engineer has requested the manufacturer replace the faulty heater. Council agreed to waive the fee for Edlesborough WI's coffee morning hall hire as they have been inconvenienced several times recently due to the lack of hot water.

The Clerk drew one hall hirers outstanding invoice to the Councils attention.

Action: The Clerk will send a reminder email and inform the hirer that the invoice must be paid by 31st March 2024.

THE GREEN AND PLAY AREA

The Bootcamp sessions have now moved to The Rye in Eaton Bray as the ground is more forgiving. They hope to return to the Green in the future.

Carnival – 6th July 2024

The first Carnival Committee meeting will take place on 27th March. The theme is World of Sport.

The Clerk has provisionally booked a pitch for Edlesborough Parish Council to promote the Council.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Booth to liaise with Eaton Bray Parish Council to see if they wish to join forces.

SPORTS CLUBS

Edlesborough Cricket Club

Prior to the meeting Cllr Booth, Cllr Hurst and the Clerk had attended a meeting with representatives of Edlesborough Cricket Club and Dave Roberts from ECSC CIO. The purpose of the meeting was to review the agreement between the Council and the Cricket Club and to ensure that Edlesborough Parish Council were not seen to be profiteering from its asset. Cllr Booth, Cllr Hurst, and the Clerk believed the meeting had been positive and it was recommended that the sub-letting clause remain in the agreement. It was understood that the Cricket Club were still in negotiations with LTICC about subletting the pitch to them. Following the meeting the annual agreement and invoice was issued to Edlesborough Cricket Club. The Cricket Club responded stating that they would no longer be sub-letting to the LTICC Men's Team but would allow the LTICC Ladies team to use the pitch free of charge.

The Cricket Club informed the Clerk that they had changed the date of their "Get Set and Prep Day" from the 24th to the 23rd March.

Council agreed that they were extremely disappointed in Edlesborough Cricket Clubs decision not to sub-let to LTICC Men's Team and are very surprised at this change of events, as they had understood that Edlesborough Cricket Club were keen to promote and host lots of cricket this season.

The cricket club have not yet returned the signed agreement or paid their annual fees for the season.

Council agreed that an email would be sent to Edlesborough Cricket Club informing them that if the annual fees are not received by 3pm on Friday 22nd March they would not be permitted to hold their "Get Set and Prep Day" on the 23rd March. The club will also be informed that the agreement must be returned by 31st March. If the payment and agreement are not received the Council will withdraw permission for the club to use the Green and will offer it to another cricket club.

Council agreed that it would encourage Edlesborough Cricket Club to reconsider its decision not to sub-let the pitch to LTICC Men's Team.

Action: Cllr Booth to draft an email for Clerk to send to Edlesborough Cricket Club ASAP.

Council will consider the following at the April meeting provided the annual agreement and fees have been received:

- Edlesborough Cricket Club's request for Council to reconsider its decision to refuse the club permission to hold barbecues on the Green following matches. The cricket club now request they be permitted twice during the season – once for the Bucks Ladies Festival and once for their end of season match.
- Changes to storage area – once drawings are received from cricket club.

Luton Indians Town Cricket Club (LITCC)

As a result of Edlesborough Cricket Club deciding not to sub-let the pitch to LITCC Men's team, Council have received a direct request from LTICC Men's Team to hire the cricket pitch on a Sunday. Currently Edlesborough Cricket Club only play on a Saturday.

Council discussed the request at length and the difficulties this would pose due to the clause in the agreement with Edlesborough Cricket Club that states;

"Edlesborough Cricket Club are the only team permitted to prepare the pitch and wicket for all matches and will be responsible for the maintenance of the pitch and wicket". This clause was added because of the recent meeting with Edlesborough Cricket Club at which they stated that this was necessary due to standards set by the English Cricket Board and insurance matters.

Council agreed that it could only let the pitch to LTICC Men's Team directly if permission for Edlesborough Cricket Club to use The Green was withdrawn.

Council agreed it would wait until it was confirmed whether Edlesborough Cricket Club will be using The Green this season before replying to LITCC Men's Team. If they are not the Council will let the pitch to LTICC Men's Team. If Edlesborough Cricket Club are using The Green Council will respond to LTICC Men's Team

stating that it is with regret that due to the clause in the agreement with Edlesborough Cricket Club, it is unable to let the pitch to them this season.

Council will encourage LTICC Men's Team to continue negotiating with Edlesborough Cricket Club and hopes that there is a positive outcome for them.

Action: Clerk to respond to LTICC Men's Team accordingly.

Council will advise both teams that it invites applications from clubs wishing to use the facility for the succeeding season to be submitted to the Council by 1st October 2024 at the latest. Notification of the successful applicant will be given no later than 1st December 2024.

EB Lions FC Annual Awards Day – 15th June 2024

The Clerk has attended a meeting with the EB Lions FC chairman, Adrian Bush, and representatives from ECSC CIO and ECSC Trading Company about the EB Lions Annual Awards Day. The Clerk summarised the plan for the day, including wet weather contingencies to the Council.

Council agreed that The Green can be used for the EB Lions FC Annual Awards Day on 15th June 2024.

Council granted permission for;

- Players, their supporters, and families to gather in front of the pavilion.
- EB Lions to invite 3-4 food wagons to park on the Green between the Pavilion and the cricket nets for the duration of the event. This is subject to the Green being dry enough.
- The adult football pitch will be used as a car parking area to alleviate parking issues on the roads surrounding the Green (subject to the ground being dry enough). EB Lions will put traffic cones at pinch points around the Green. The Pebblemoor car park will be reserved for hirers of Edlesborough Memorial Hall.
- ECSC Trading company will sell drinks via the hatch and Pavilion bar (they have an off site licence that allows them to do this). Any drinks being consumed outside the building will be in cans or plastic glasses.
- EB Lions will have a comprehensive plan in place for litter picking, manning the pavilion doors, car parking, etc.
- EB Lions may erect an inflatable on the Green for the duration of the event. EB Lions must ensure all the correct insurances are in place for this inflatable.

Action: Clerk to confirm Council's agreement to EB Lions FC.

EDLESBOROUGH PAVILION

Nothing to report.

ALLOTMENTS

The water has been reinstated to the taps. One tap at Dagnall is broken. The warden has planned for this to be repaired/replaced.

There has been interest and some uptake in the vacant plots at Dagnall and The Green sites.

CEMETERY

One burial is scheduled for 26th March.

CHURCHYARD

Nothing to report.

BRIDLEPATH

Nothing to report.

WAR MEMORIAL

Nothing to report.

BUS SHELTERS

Nothing to report.

CAR PARKS, LITTER, RECYCLING AND DOG BINS

Buckinghamshire Council have now invoiced Town and Parish Councils for the annual dog waste service.

STREETLIGHTS

Bellway Homes have contacted the Clerk about transferring the streetlights on High Street, Edlesborough to the Council. The Clerk has responded reminding them of the Councils spec and that the light opposite the entrance to Tythe Barn is still not working despite this being brought to their attention numerous times. The communications with Bellway about the lights commenced in 2018, so the request for a six year warranty in line with our existing lights is now past the timeline.

The streetlight at the end of Orchard End is now completely engulfed in the trees. The trees at this location also completely cover the pavement and part of the road at this location.

Action: Cllr Wilkinson will approach the owner about the trees obstructing the streetlight, pavement, and road.

WEBSITE

Website Accessibility and GDPR

Nothing to report.

Social Media

Nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER MATTERS

- EPC representation on the Ashridge Estate Committee – It was agreed that Cllrs Wells will become the EPC representative.
- Cllr Booth met with Cllr Marie Brewer, the Chair of Eaton Bray Parish Council to discuss ways the two Councils can work together in the future.
- Cllr Booth attended a training session about Councillor Recruitment.

Items for future meetings when more information is available:

- *Re-Wilding – Led by Cllrs Owen and Wells*
- *EMH Status and refurbishment - led by Cllr Wilkinson*
- *Outdoor Gym Equipment on Edlesborough Green*

Items for the agenda for EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL meeting to be held on 18th April 2024 in Edlesborough Pavilion

The meeting closed at 9.51pm