



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on 19th September 2024 in Northall Village Hall.

Open Forum

A parishioner asked if the information shared on Facebook about planning applications could be simplified. She asked if the Council could provide more information on Facebook about the implications of the following application.

24/02589/VRC - Variation of Condition 10 (opening hours) relating to 23/02966/APP (Change of use of existing vehicle service garage to retail convenience store including associated external alterations, plant equipment, parking and servicing area.

2 Pebblemoor Edlesborough Buckinghamshire LU6 2HZ

This application seeks to vary the condition limiting the opening hours of the convenience store in the change of use permission granted under application 23/02966/APP.

Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr Booth thanked the parishioner for their feedback and comments and stated that this would be taken on board.

Action: Clerk to re share the information making it more explicit for parishioners.

Thames Valley Police (TVP)

PCSO Tina Hobson attended the meeting to share the latest crime statistics from June to August inclusive.

Edlesborough

1 x Road related incident – drink driver

1 x Dangerous dog

1 x Assault without injury

3 x Action fraud

2 x Criminal damage

Northall

2 X Theft

1 X Theft from a vehicle

2 x Assault without injury

1 x Criminal damage

1 x Residential burglary

Dagnall

1 x Suspicious vehicle

1 x Assault on Police

3 x Road related incident

1 x Criminal damage

PCSO Hobson impressed upon the Council that parishioners are encouraged to “leave a light on” and be extra vigilant now that the evenings are getting darker. TVP have a small supply of timer switches available. Anyone wishing to access a timer switch should contact the Clerk for more information.

She also informed the Council that TVP now have a Speed Gun available for use and asked for suggested locations for this to be used at.

PCSO Hobson left at the end of the Open Forum.

Action: Clerk to send a list of speed gun locations. Clerk to inform TVP of the date of the next Senior Lunch at Edlesborough Pavilion.

Cllr Booth formally opened the meeting at 19.43

Present.

Cllr Booth, Cllr Williams, Cllr Cubbage, Cllr Wells, Cllr Wilkinson, Penny Pataky (the Clerk), Buckinghamshire Cllr Chris Poll, and two parishioners.

Apologies

Cllr Hurst, Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Owen and Cllr Harpley

Declaration of Interests

Cllr Williams declared an interest in the Edlesborough Pavilion snagging list works.

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 18th July 2024

Council agreed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on 18th July 2024. With the correction of the spelling of the word perennial in the Open forum section.

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

Nothing was raised.

Buckinghamshire Council Report

Including Community Board for Ivinghoe and Wing Ward.

Community Board for Ivinghoe and Wing Ward

- The next Community Board meeting is on 17th October, Cllr Williams will represent the Council.
- Community Board Review – see email circulated 03/09/24

Consultations

The following consultations have been circulated to Council and shared via Facebook

- Taxi Policy Consultation [Taxi licensing best practice consultation - Your Voice Bucks - Citizen Space](#)
- Grand Union Canal Transfer – launch of public consultation https://guctransfer.co.uk/?fbclid=IwY2xjawFVKSRleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHXzQR2NkWk99KVnk8EhTiLAFGYVDvleknbagyGq1wcX7B7cMulK948k9tw_aem_MTI983FQCkEJtMPAQG7pGg
- Bucks Fire & Rescue Service Consultation https://bucksfire.gov.uk/public-consultation-launches-on-next-bfrs-plan/?fbclid=IwY2xjawFVKVxleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHQ_t_VaEiCXBR1Vfy8XSnb0KQEfex3UR-EI3IllyCsur9BHn0I7odwLeLCQ_aem_ZiMOTDHUWloYXsPfxoWQ_g

Buckinghamshire Council (BC) Cllr Chris Poll reported that Buckinghamshire Council had agreed on two motions to be put to Government.

1. **An objection to the removal of the winter fuel allowance** - The government's decision to withdraw winter fuel payments from all pensioners except those who get Pension Credit will mean that the overwhelming majority of pensioners in Buckinghamshire will no longer receive this vital payment. BC knows that there are some households who would say they can thankfully afford their heating bills without this payment, but for many pensioners, the winter fuel payment has been a crucial support that bridges the financial gap and allows them to put the heating on. BC believes that 93% of Buckinghamshire pensioners will lose the winter fuel payment because of the change in national policy. Because the payment will now be linked to Pension Credit, it's absolutely critical that those eligible for Pension Credit are signed up and are receiving it as there's a significant concern that a lot of people – all of whom are eligible for this support – are missing out. This is such a concern for BC that they have launched a special campaign to encourage pensioners and their families to check for eligibility. Please visit their [campaign page](#) to take a look and to be sure you're not missing out on an essential payment.
2. **Changes to the National Planning Framework** – Cllr Poll informed the Council that the new government's proposed changes to Planning rules could lead to large scale, unplanned development

across Buckinghamshire. BC's own response to the government's consultation is now submitted and you will be able to see more detail about this in the [news section of our website](#) once this is published. Cllr Poll advised that Buckinghamshire could be at risk from having to meet the unmet needs of Luton and High Wycombe. There is additional concern that if the Governments wish for Regional Mayors to be introduced for Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire is approved Buckinghamshire will also have to take the unmet needs of Milton Keynes.

Planning

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

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response
24/02149/APP 23 rd July 2024	Garage Block Site Chiltern Avenue Edlesborough	Demolition of existing garage block and erection of a 4 bedroomed detached dwelling.	OPPOSE Triple tandem parking provision considered unsuitable
24/02193/APP 31 st July 2024	Moat Cottage 8 Manor Farm Close Edlesborough	Replacement of existing conservatory with a single storey rear extension.	No objections
24/02374/AOP 20 th August 2024	20 Leighton Road Edlesborough	Subdivision of dwelling to create two dwellings.	OPPOSE Does not comply with Neighbourhood Plan policies
24/02466/APP 22 nd August 2024	Fleur De Lys Ringshall Road Dagnall	Two storey front extension and new porch.	No objections
24/02558/AGN 30 th August 2024	Home Farm Leighton Road Northall	Erection of farm office building.	No objections
24/02589/VRC 3 rd Sept 2024	2 Pebblemoor Edlesborough	Variation of planning condition to extend opening hours.	OPPOSE To protect the amenity of neighbouring properties
24/02559/AGN 9 th Sept 2024	Home Farm Leighton Road Northall	Erection of an agricultural building detached garage building	No objections
24/02741/VRC 13 th Sept 2024	Collyers Main Road North Dagnall	Variation of planning condition to amend siting and design of new dwelling	No objections

Buckinghamshire Council Cllr Chris Poll stated that that he BC Cllr Brazier and BC Cllr Town will call in the following application to developmental control - 24/02589/VRC, 2 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough. Variation of planning condition to extend opening hours.

Decisions notified by Buckinghamshire Council this month

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response	Decision
23/02130/APP (Amended) 1 st Dec 2023	Land North of Good Intent Edlesborough	Re-development of site to provide 18 dwellings (Previous approval was for just 14 dwellings)	OPPOSE	Withdrawn
24/01395/APP 14 th May 2024	Swallows Barn Leighton Road Northall	Part single, part two storey rear extension	No objections	Permitted
24/01616/APP 31 st May 2024	10 Dunstable Road Dagnall	Single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory.	No objections	Permitted
24/01702/APP 2 nd July 2024	Poppyn 29 Eaton Bray Road Northall	Conversion of a single storey bungalow into a two storey house, including a single storey rear extension..	OPPOSE Required off-street parking provision needs identifying (Note: Appropriate provision subsequently identified)	Permitted

COUNCIL NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION

Council agreed its response to the National Planning Policy Framework Consultation. A copy of the response can be viewed on the Council website along side the September Meeting minutes.

Action: Clerk to submit response and place a copy of the response on the Council website.

Villages

EDLESBOROUGH

- The Best Kept Village results have been circulated to the EDaN Beautification Team and full Council. A copy will be published in the October edition of Focus.
- The Clerk has received complaints about inconsiderate parking outside Edlesborough Primary School. The Clerk responded with information about where to report dangerous parking and contacted the school about the issues. The school have communicated with all families about the matter.
- Two fields have been subjected to burnt out vehicles. This is in addition to the burnt out vehicles in Eaton Bray. This issue was drawn to the attention of PCSO Hobson in the Open Forum.
- The missing stile at the end of Cow Lane has been replaced by three bollards. The missing gate to the field has also been replaced.

DAGNALL

- The Best Kept Village results have been circulated to the EDaN Beautification Team and full Council. A copy will be published in the October edition of Focus.
- The Local Area Technician (LAT) confirmed on 15/08/24 that an order has been placed to reinstate the broken “gate” and sign at the entrance to the village. The technician is aware that the sign is still stored in the Clerk’s Garden.

NORTHALL

- The Clerk has responded to resident’s complaints and requests for information about HGV’s breaching the Freight Zone.

*“If you believe vehicles are breaching the zone use the following link to report them;
www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/road-freight-and-heavy-goods-vehicles-hgvs/report-an-hgv-using-a-road-that-has-a-weight-restriction/*

You will need to provide your name, contact details and the:

- *date and time it occurred.*
- *location of the incident.*
- *direction of travel.*
- *registration, make and model of vehicle (if known).*

If you can SAFELY photograph the vehicle this will also be helpful when making the report.”

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HIGHWAYS ISSUES

- One damaged drain down Summerleys still remains damaged. The team arrived to repair it but went away again as they needed to close the road, and this had not been planned in advance.
- The damaged and uneven pavement outside Edlesborough Stores does not meet Buckinghamshire Highways criteria for repair or resurfacing.
- On 08/07/24 the clerk was informed that a job has been raised for the repainting of the white lines at the junction of Summerleys, High Street and Moor End. To date this work has not been completed.

Small Grant Applications

- The payment of the Small Grant has been made to Sparkles Supporting Children with Down Syndrome.
- The response from The Shakespeare Theatre Group was shared with the full Council.

Projects

EDLESBOROUGH PAVILION UPDATE

On 19/09/24 Cllr Cabbage, Ken Holloway, Richard Diggle and Darren Bennitt carried out a site meeting. Cllr Cabbage reported that there is still a small leak in the storeroom but that they believe the installed drainage gully is working.

The builder has been instructed to

- take down the rest of the ceiling to identify where the small leak is entering.
- Assess the long side of the balcony to identify if any works need carrying out. The removal of the cladding beneath has allowed the underside of the balcony to dry out over the summer.
- Quote to install two air bricks in the storeroom, one facing the tennis courts and one into the storeroom lobby. The air bricks will allow better air circulation.

Cllr Cabbage raised concern about the general maintenance of the building. The Clerk explained that she had drawn the ECSC Trustees attention to issues including a damaged plug socket, graffiti on the compound door, fuel being stored in the compound and clutter obstructing the fire exit.

It was agreed that Cllr Ferguson, as the Councils representative Trustee would raise Councils concerns about the lack of building maintenance with the Trustees.

PHASE 2 – EDLESBOROUGH GREEN PLAY AREA

Installation is scheduled to commence on 23rd September with a completion date of the week commencing 7th October 2024.

Council agreed not to proceed with the additional surfacing under the existing multi-play equipment. Relocation of bench – after seeking a quote from another contractor it was decided to proceed with Kompan’s quote to relocate the bench. This will ensure it is correctly located in relation to the play equipment as well as avoiding a further closure of the play area.

Kompan need a compound for their equipment and skip. It may be necessary to remove part of the grass bund at the end of Pebblemoor car park to ensure the compound is a safe distance from the football pitch. Kompan will reinstate the grass bund if this is necessary.

The Clerk has explored the feasibility of relocating the motorbike and elephant to Dagnall Rec. However, the costs for each item would be close to £1000. Therefore, the two items will be disposed of. The swing seats and chains will be retained as these could be reused at Northall or Dagnall play areas. If the contractor can remove the climbing wall without damage, it is feasible that this can be relocated to Dagnall Rec.

BIODIVERSITY AUDIT OF EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

The audit was carried out in the week commencing 9th September, Council awaits the report.

TREE SURVEY

The clerk is submitting the requested information to companies for a parish wide tree survey. Areas to be included are the allotments, Edlesborough Green, Edlesborough Churchyard and Cemetery.

Traffic Calming

MVAS

Following reports of devices being vandalised and batteries being stolen the Clerk took the decision to remove and store the devices temporarily.

The devices were reinstated at the start of September. The Northall device failed to work. Truvelo have attended to it and found a loose wire. The device is now working again.

NEW POST ON PEBBLEMOOR

As a result of parishioners raising concern about speeding vehicles on Pebblemoor the Clerk has looked into the process for installing a pole on this road.

Buckinghamshire Council requires the following:

- evidence of a conversation with your local area technician to confirm that installation of an MVAS in the desired location is possible.
 - *The Clerk has proposed to the LAT that the pole supporting the 30mph sign outside 37 Pebblemoor is replaced with a taller pole that supports the 30mph sign and the MVAS device (the same as the pole by Jack O'Walls in Northall). He responded with the following.*
 - “You will still need to apply for Section 171 licence if any digging is required, although I think it may be possible to get the charge waived as the works are for the parish council.
 - For further information/assistance you can contact streetworkslicences@buckinghamshire.gov.uk”*
- where you want the MVAS to be located – *on the grass verge outside 37 Pebblemoor*
- a risk assessment for each site – *to be completed*
- data to evidence the need for an MVAS at that location (for example speed tube data, resident feedback or police communication) – *Council has emails from residents on Pebblemoor requesting that something is done about speeding vehicles on Pebblemoor.*
- that you've consulted residents who live near the proposed location of each site – *clerk has written to six properties near the proposed site. To date four have responded supporting the proposal.*
- where the MVAS will be moved every 4 to 6 weeks – *we have the four sites in Edlesborough*
- evidence of a minimum of £5 million public liability insurance – *a copy of our insurance can be supplied.*

Truvelo have been asked to quote for the supply and installation of the post.

Council agreed to proceed with applying to Buckinghamshire Council for the installation of a post on Pebblemoor, Edlesborough to support the use of the MVAS device at this location.

Action: Clerk to proceed with the application.

SPEEDWATCH – LED BY CLLR WILLIAMS

No update.

EDaN Updates

Led by Cllr Williams in Cllr Ferguson's absence

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH ON THE HILL

Representatives of the FOTCOTHE group met with the new executive of The CCT (Churches Conservation Trust) to see if they can be more flexible about the use of the Church and what work can be carried out. To date there has been no response.

EDAN BEAUTIFICATION TEAM

Lorna Cabbage reported that work has begun on replenishing the planters with perennial plants. Ed Monnington has regularly watered the planters over the summer, which has been greatly appreciated by the team.

Lorna Cabbage has been provided with a key to enable the litter pickers access to the waste bin at Edlesborough Memorial Hall.

Finance

ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH ENDED 31ST JULY & 31ST AUGUST 2024

The July and August accounts were agreed having been circulated to the full Council prior to the meeting. Cllr Cabbage again expressed concern that Councillors did not understand the Accounts Reports.

AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

- Council ratified their approval of the August 2024 payments.
- Council approved the September 2024 payments.
- Council granted permission for the Clerk to raise payment for the annual insurance premium upon receipt of the updated invoice.

FIXED ASSETS

The Clerk has updated the register with the latest additions, new play equipment at Northall, EMH cooker and microwave, etc.

The Clerk has separated the surfacing under the wooden play equipment from each item.

The new play equipment being installed will be added as soon as installation is complete.

REINSTATEMENT OF COSTS ASSESSMENT (RCA) FOR EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL

This has been circulated to the Council and has been used as part of the annual insurance quote.

INSURANCE

The Clerk updated the Council about the annual insurance premium. There will be a further charge of £90.18 as a result of the RCA for Edlesborough Memorial Hall and the new play equipment on Edlesborough Green. The insurance company has also been advised about the play equipment being disposed of.

NOTICE OF CONCLUSION OF AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

This is now complete, and the Notice of Conclusion of Audit was posted on the Council website on 2nd September 2024.

The auditor PKF Littlejohn LLP informed the Clerk that the box 9 figure for Fixed Assets in 2023 needed to be restated as the original value not the insured value as stated in 2023.

The Clerk and Cllr Ferguson also responded to further questions about the fixed assets figures and raised questions to the auditor in an attempt to clarify what was being asked of the Council. The auditor did not respond to the questions but did complete the audit with no further questions.

BUDGET 2025/26

The Working Party Budget Meeting 2025/26 will take place in Edlesborough Pavilion on 5th December 7.30-9.30pm.

Parish Amenities

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL DEVOLVED SERVICES.

Following Buckinghamshire Council passing a report about the High Street pavement being obstructed by weeds, the clerk contacted the owner of the property to request that they clear the pavement. The owner refused stating that this was the responsibility of EPC. The Clerk instructed the council contractor to clear the weeds to ensure the pavement was clear in readiness for pupils returning to school.

AED'S

New pads have been purchased for all the devices as the current ones are reaching their expiration date. The device located at the Red Lion; Dagnall is now visible on <https://www.defibfinder.uk/>

EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL

The new oven and microwave have been installed.

The Clerk and cleaner have met with a Karcher rep and have tested new floor cleaning machines. Both felt the machines were not quite right, more research is taking place.

We have the following potential new regular bookings –

- Mondays – Mum & Baby Yoga & Chair Yoga
- Thursdays – Pilates

Plus, an enquiry for Baby Ballet on a Tuesday morning.

The clerk continues to work on new energy contracts, this includes investigating the feasibility of exiting the current contracts early.

THE GREEN AND PLAY AREA

The clerk has chased the repair to the damaged covering on the chain/rope for the ariel runway. The Clerk requested a repair from the suppliers in May 2024. The repair was chased in July and August. In August the company responded with *“Sorry not at the moment but as we said we will look at this when passing, please be aware the split isn't in anyway dangerous or have any effect on the use of the equipment.”*

The Clerk will chase again if it is not repaired by the end of September.

A parishioner asked if the wooden bars at the top of the ladder, cargo net, steps and slide on the wooden multiplay were necessary, as their child kept hitting their head on them. The Clerk contacted Playground Supplies Ltd who responded with the following statement, *“The wooden bars are all there to stop children jumping off the platforms and without them the unit would not conform to EN1176.”* The Clerk has shared this information with the parishioner.

The Clerk received a report that the motorbike in the play area had been broken whilst an adult male was “playing” on it. The clerk made arrangements for the bike to be removed and disposed of. Warning tape was attached to the broken spring, which will be removed when the new equipment is installed.

Tree Bench

The bench on Edlesborough Green is very rotten and fragile. Council agreed to its replacement with a bench made from recycled materials. Several options had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting.

Action: Clerk to purchase replacement bench and arrange for its installation.

Annual Play Area Inspections

The Clerk has booked the three play area annual inspections with the Play Inspections Company.

Further investigation revealed that the offer from Sovereign was for a maintenance contract and not the annual inspection.

SPORTS CLUBS

Cricket

Cllr Booth, Cllr Hurst and the Clerk have met with representatives of both Edlesborough and Luton Town Indians Cricket Clubs. It has now been agreed that the pitch will be let to Edlesborough Cricket Club with the agreed changes to the annual agreement. It is hoped that LTICC and ECC find a way to work together.

Council ratified its decision not to let the pitch to LTICC Men's Team for the 2025 season.

EB Lions FC

The season 2024/25 has commenced. The club are fully aware of the installation of the new play equipment and its implications for parts of the Green.

EDLESBOROUGH PAVILION

ECSC CIO have completed the car park surfacing works.

ALLOTMENTS

Anglian Water carried out inspection at Northall, The Green and Cow Lane, all sites passed the inspection. All tenants have been informed about the inspections and that allotment rents are due at the start of October.

One tenant at Cow Lane has been informed that their tenancy has been terminated due to the condition of their plot.

Cow Lane – the allotment site had an unauthorised excessive amount of wood chippings deposited on it last week. The tree surgeon was carrying out works for EBPC at Eaton Bray cemetery. He returned and relocated some of the wood chippings to another location on the site. The warden and Clerk made it clear that he must have explicit permission of the Council to deposit wood chippings to any of the allotment sites in the Parish.

As a result of this a chain and combination padlock has now been installed on the Cow Lane allotments gate. Tenants at all sites have been informed that they must seek the permission of the site warden or clerk before having large deliveries such as wood chippings to the allotment sites. They have also been reminded not to share the gate padlock codes.

The new gate at Northall allotments has been installed. A new chain has been purchased for this gate as the old one was not long enough to fit the new gate.

Council agreed to a Northall Allotment tenants request for leniency over the condition of their plot, with the following conditions

- The plot will be subject to monthly inspections for the next year and Council will expect to see regular and consistent work on the plot.
- Council will expect to see the plot being cultivated.
- Council will expect to see the rubbish being cleared from the plots.
- If at any time the tenant is unable to work the plot for a month or more, they must contact the Clerk or the warden to discuss this and explain why.

The tenant will also be reminded of the following clause in the allotment agreement - *“On termination of this tenancy, either by the Tenant or the Council, the Tenant will be expected to leave the Allotment in a clean and tidy condition. If the Council considers that the Allotment has been left in an unsuitable condition, it may seek compensation under the 1950 Allotments Act for the cost of making good any deterioration to the land.”*

CEMETERY

A relative has requested that the trees near the cremated remains area be pruned. She states that the falling leaves are damaging the lettering on her relatives Memorials. An inspection revealed that the trees are not overgrown. The relative has been informed that the maintenance of the memorials is their responsibility.

A topple test has been carried out in the cemetery. One Memorial was found to be wobbly. The relatives have been contacted with a request that this is made safe as soon as possible.

The gate to the entrance of the cemetery has been damaged, we believe it was hit by a vehicle. MW Agri has assessed it and says the damage will not affect the operation. He also advises that people are not engaging the bolt correctly when opening and closing the gate, this is leading to unnecessary wear and tear on the gate.

There will be an ashes interment on 14th October. Council has received one application for an erection of a memorial.

CHURCHYARD

Concern has been raised by the FOTCOTHE volunteers about falling branches from some of the trees and about trees growth around the power lines.

The clerk has made a report to UK Power Network.

The trees will be included in the upcoming tree survey.

BRIDLEPATH

Nothing to report.

WAR MEMORIAL

The Clerk has asked Mrs Cabbage to order the poppy wreaths in readiness for Remembrance Day 2024.

The old poppy wreaths will be cleared shortly.

BUS SHELTERS

The shelter at the top of High Street has suffered a spate of graffiti. The Council handyman is attending to this.

CAR PARKS, LITTER, RECYCLING AND DOG BINS

The large bin at Edlesborough Memorial Hall has been replaced with a new bin with a lockable lid due to other people using the bin to dispose of their waste. See notes under EDaN Beautification.

Part of the Pebblemoor car park will be closed for the duration of the new play equipment on Edlesborough Green.

STREETLIGHTS

Streetlight E23 in Good Intent was reported as failed, this was reported to UK Power Networks and is now working.

The clerk continues to work on new energy supply contracts.

WEBSITE

The contact page has been updated with all the correct information. The Clerks contact information has been removed from the page about Edlesborough Pavilion as the Clerk was fielding an increasing number of calls a week about the pavilion. The page has all the correct contact information for ECSC CIO displayed on it.

The Clerks contact information has also been removed from the pages about Dagnall and Northall Village Halls.

Items for the agenda for EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL meeting to be held on 17th October 2024 in Edlesborough Pavilion.

- Use of Pebblemoor car park by the planned new retail store.
- Electric Vehicle Chargers in the Parish

Items for future meetings when more information is available:

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

The meeting closed at 21.46