



# MINUTES FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025 in Edlesborough Pavilion, The Green, Edlesborough, LU6 2JF.

## Open Forum

Nothing was raised

Cllr Owen formally opened the meeting at 7.33pm

### 1. Attendance

*Edlesborough Parish Councillors Present*

Cllr Owen (Vice-Chair), Cllr Williams, Cllr Wells, Cllr Harpley, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Cabbage and Penny Pataky (Clerk).

*Others in Attendance:*

Buckinghamshire Councillors Chris Poll.

Two parishioners were in attendance.

### Apologies

Thames Valley Police and Buckinghamshire Cllr Peter Brazier.

*Council approved the following apologies for absence.*

Cllr Booth – work commitments

Cllr Ferguson – holiday

Cllr Hurst - Holiday

### 2. Declaration of Interests

None were declared.

### 3. Minutes

Cllr Owen proposed the approval of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025. All agreed and the minutes were signed with no amendments.

### 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters were raised.

## Representatives

### 5. Buckinghamshire Cllr Chris Poll reported that

- Temporary repairs had been carried out on Slicketts Lane, Edlesborough. The Buckinghamshire Council Local Area Technician (BC LAT) has the road on his radar for a more permanent solution in the near future.
- Local Government already spends 72% of its budget on statutory responsibilities. This leaves very little money for other projects/spending.
- There is still concern about the Governments plan for Regional Authorities. If Buckinghamshire Council is merged with Milton Keynes for example, that could give Milton Keynes more power over planning decisions in the Bucks Council area and would greatly reduce local peoples say/control on local matters. With suggestions that planning powers may also be limited to only larger developments of more than 100 and possible compulsory purchase powers being used, local democracy could be at risk.

Prior to the meeting Council received the following from Buckinghamshire Council Cllr Peter Strachen:

- ***Members' access to planning application representation.***  
Council have been informed of the following by Buckinghamshire Council.

*“From tomorrow (Tuesday 18 March) we are making changes to the planning comments/representations section of Buckinghamshire Council Website (Public Access). Individual public comments will no longer be published on the website. This is because there have been instances of personal data and information being shared and we have a duty to protect the personal information of individuals under GDPR rules.*

*People will still be able to put forward their views on any planning application they are eligible to comment on – and these views will be fully considered when determining the application, as has always been the case.*

*Representations from statutory consultees such as Highways, Town and Parish Councils and the Environment Agency will continue to be published on the Council website through Public Access (subject to GDPR).”*

This will impact on Parish Councils awareness of public support or objections to planning applications.

6. Cllr Williams had attended the Community Board for Ivinghoe and Wing Ward on 11<sup>th</sup> March. Prior to the meeting he had circulated notes to all from the meeting.

## Planning

Prior to the meeting Cllr Wilkinson had provided the Council and Buckinghamshire Councillors with a list of the outstanding planning applications for the Parish. He informed the Council that he has been contacted by parishioners who are becoming increasingly frustrated with the lack of decisions/enforcement on planning applications.

7. Applications received this month

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response
25/00596/COUAR 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Whistle Brook Farm Slapton Lane Northall	Conversion of two agricultural barns to create 8 dwellings	No Objections

8. No Local Authorities decisions on the Planning Applications were received this month.

9. Housing Needs Survey

Cllr Owen proposed that Council should proceed with the Housing Needs Survey. All agreed.

**Action Cllr Owen to work with Ashleigh Stent on Housing Needs Survey.**

## Elections

10. The Clerk has published information about the elections on the parish noticeboards, Council website and Facebook page - [Upcoming Elections - 1st May 2025 - Community Information - Edlesborough Parish Council](#)

All Councillors confirmed that they will be standing for election with the exception of Cllr Alan Williams.

## Villages

11. Council received the following updates/information about the villages.

### 11.1 Edlesborough

The Clerk and Cllr Williams have received reports about the increasing number of caravans and people living on the RAF land in Edlesborough. The Clerk has advised people to report their concerns to the Buckinghamshire Council Planning Enforcement Team via [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-issues-breaches-and-enforcement/](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-issues-breaches-and-enforcement/)

The Clerk has also drawn this matter to the attention of the Buckinghamshire Councillors. BC Cllr Brazier is looking into the matter.

A resident has informed the Council that Buckinghamshire Council are investigating the site under reference NC/24/000485/COU

Council ratified its agreement to make the following statement in the April Focus report *"The Parish Council is aware of a "Wild Magic" rewilding project that is being promoted on the ex-RAF Edlesborough land. Readers should be aware that the site in question is currently the subject of an investigation by the Buckinghamshire Planning Enforcement Team for a possible breach of planning policy."*

**\*\*** Following the meeting Buckinghamshire Cllr Poll advised the Council *"that enforcement are aware and that it is with the legal team so may take some time with little update. Especially within this period of purdah."*

**11.1.1** Council agreed to Edlesborough entering the Best Kept Village Competition and for the Clerk to pay the entrance fee.

**11.1.2** Slicketts Lane road surface issues – see notes under item 5.

**11.2** Dagnall

**11.2.1** Council agreed to Dagnall entering the Best Kept Village Competition and for the Clerk to pay the entrance fee.

**11.3** Northall

Nothing further was reported.

**11.4** To date no responses have been received to the Vehicle Crime Survey. This will be published in the April Focus report. Council observed that some vehicle owners may be reluctant to report issues for fear of insurance premiums increasing.

## Projects

**12.** Council received the following Project updates:

**12.1** *Edlesborough Pavilion Update*

BPB Electrical has completed the emergency lighting works at Edlesborough Pavilion. The invoice is £70.74 less than quoted due to the replacement of a twin spot not being required.

The repair works to the boiler flue in Edlesborough Pavilion have been completed.

Cllr Cubbage informed the Council that the balcony and guttering work had still not been completed and that it had not been possible to contact the builder. Mr Holloway is currently trying to engage another builder. Cllr Williams informed the Council that a parishioner who is a guttering specialist has offered their services in relation to the matter.

Cllr Cubbage and Malcolm Plaats an ECSC CIO Trustee will be meeting next week to discuss the building.

**12.2** *Edlesborough Green Play Area Phase 2*

Once the weather improves the Clerk, Cllr Booth and the Council groundsman will agree a way forward to repair the damaged surface.

**12.3** *Parish Tree Survey*

Council approved the quote for the trees identified as needing a "climbing inspection" in the Churchyard.

**Action: Clerk to raise a purchase order for the climbing inspection of the trees in the Churchyard.**

**12.4** *Pastures Hedge Improvements*

The Clerk will schedule a meeting with the contractor to discuss the next stage of the project.

**12.5** *Outdoor Fitness Equipment on Edlesborough Green*

Cllr Owen reported that the equipment on Dagnall Rec is used. The Clerk and Cllr Owen are developing a questionnaire/survey to be circulated to parishioners about outdoor fitness equipment.

The Clerk reported that ECSC CIO have no objections to the idea of outdoor fitness equipment on the Green.

## 12.6 Biodiversity Audit of Edlesborough Parish

A draft report has been received by Cllr Owen. The final report is due in the next week – 10 days.

**Action: Cllr Owen to circulate the report upon receipt.**

## Traffic Calming

13. Council received the following updates about:

### 13.1 Moveable Vehicle Activated Speed (MVAS) Devices

The February 2025 MVAS Data is on the Council website.

The damaged MVAS Device has been collected for repair.

### 13.2 Speedwatch

To date four parishioners have responded to the Speedwatch flyer volunteering their time. Cllr Williams will contact the volunteers about the next steps.

More volunteers are needed to make Speedwatch viable (a minimum of 6 are required).

**Action: Clerk and Cllr Williams to create a post of Facebook calling for more volunteers. Cllr Owen to contact Dagnall residents who have expressed an interest in Speedwatch.**

## Voluntary Groups

14. Council received the following reports from the Voluntary Groups:

### 14.1 Friends of the Church on the Hill

A deceased badger in the churchyard was disposed of.

EdleFest is organised and tickets are selling.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> May there will be an event to celebrate the restoration of the west window. This is being published in Focus.

Volunteers continue to tidy the graves.

### 14.2 EDaN Beautification Team

Mrs Cabbage will look to organise litter picks in the near future.

## Finance & Accounts

### 15. January Accounts

Having been circulated to all prior to the meeting Council approved the accounts for the month ended 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

### 16. February 2025 Payments

Council approved the authorisation of February 2025 payments. Approval was also given for the entry fees for the Best Kept Village Competition and the payment for the Pastures Hedge work on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### 17. New Bank Account

The Clerk is progressing the application for a current account with Unity Trust Bank.

### 18. Council approved the amended Financial Regulations.

## Clerk's Report

19. Council confirmed that they had read the Clerk's report on all amenities including Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services prior to the meeting. A copy of the report can be viewed on the Council website alongside these minutes.

19.1 Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the notes from the meeting with ECSC CIO regarding the Edlesborough Pavilion lease and other Pavilion matters.

It was agreed that should ECSC CIO decide to continue arranging their own buildings insurance an amendment to the lease would be required and the costs of this would need to be met by ECSC CIO.

19.2 Cllr Cabbage confirmed that the Northall Village Hall (NVH) Committee has now arranged cover for its children's play equipment. Cllr Owen confirmed that the Dagnall Village Hall (DVH) Committee

will be addressing the cover of the Dagnall Play Equipment at its next meeting.

Council agreed that the Clerk will inform Zurich that the cover is no longer required on the Council's insurance policy and will request a refund for this part of the premium.

Cllr Cabbage and Cllr Harpley confirmed that NVH Committee will not seek reimbursement for the cost of the insurance.

**19.3** Council ratified its agreement to sign and return the Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services Agreement for 2025/26.

#### *ALLOTMENTS*

Council agreed to the renewal of Mr Mineikis's licence for Churchyard management.

### Correspondence & Consultations

- Cllr Booth was unable to attend the St. George's Parade and Renewal of Promises. No other Councillor is available to attend. The Clerk will decline the invitation.

### Items for Next Meeting to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

- Biodiversity Audit of Edlesborough Parish
- Parish Council Handyman
- Housing Needs Survey
- Appointment of Internal Auditor & Scope of Audit
- Amendment to Allotment Agreement
  - Trees
  - Trampolines & children's play equipment

The meeting closed at 21.17.

### Items for future meetings when more information is available:

- Edlesborough Memorial Hall Improvements

### Minutes Approved Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_