

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of the Edington Parish Council held at The Parish Hall, Edington on Monday 11th May 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mesdames Greening, Pike, Watts, O'Donoghue and Dorgan and Messrs Mitchell, Pollard, King and Hinton

Apologies were received from Mr Swabey and Mr Wickham (WC)

1. Election of the Chairman for the ensuing year. 2 nominations had been made namely Mr Mitchell and Mr Swabey. The result of a secret vote was that Mr Mitchell be elected Chairman by 6 votes to 3.

2. Election of Vice Chairman for the ensuing year. It was proposed by Mrs Pike seconded by Miss O'Donoghue, and in the absence of any other nominations, that Mr Swabey be elected Vice Chairman.

3. Casual Vacancy. The Clerk reported that no request had been received for an election and it was open to the PC to co-opt. Mr Christopher Johns from 4 Parsonage Lane had spoken to both the Clerk and the Chairman expressing an interest. No other applications had been received or interest shown and so the PC was unanimous in agreeing that Mr Johns be co-opted.

4. Appointments. The following were agreed:-

- (a) Cheque signatories: The Chairman, Mrs Dorgan and Messrs King and Hinton
- (b) Planning Liaison: Mr King
- (c) Highways Liaison: Mrs Greening
- (d) Footpaths: Mr Johns
- (e) Police Liaison, Neighbourhood Watch and Speed Watch: Mr Hinton
- (f) Website: Mr Pollard
- (g) Playfield: Mrs Dorgan
- (h) Westbury Area Board and CATG: Mr Swabey
- (i) News Contact: Mrs Pike
- (j) Burial Ground Maintenance Co-ordinator: Mrs Pike
- (k) Civil Emergency Plan: Miss O'Donoghue
- (l) Chairman of ERLAC: Mr Pollard

5. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th April 2015 were adopted as read and signed.

6. There were no Matters Arising.

7. Planning.

- (a) The following application had been received and there was no objection to it:-
 - (i) 15/03422/TCA Fell T1 Ash, Pollard T2 Ash @ 6 feet at The Filberts 5 Lower Road for Mr Garnett
- (b) The following decisions had been received:-
 - (i) 15/01576/FUL Construction of a first storey extension comprising 1 bedroom and 1 bathroom, above existing kitchen and bathroom. Change of bathroom to utility/shower room, with addition of external side door to property. Replace existing kitchen window and external door with external bi-folding doors at Monkswell Cottage 18 Westbury Road for Mr Robin Lines - approved
 - (ii) 15/01903/TPO T1 – Beech tree to rear of Pub reduce by 10%; T2-T6 Beech group crown lift 6m over road; T7-T8 remove dead elms at The Three Daggers for Conservation Contractors Ltd - approved

(iii) 15/02585/TCA Yew tree – 30% reduction, shape and deadwood at The Grange, 4 Inmead for Mrs Rhona Atterton – no objection

(c) Neighbourhood Plans and Housing Needs Survey. In the light of the presentation that Mr Simon Coombs from Limpley Stoke had given at the APM it was agreed to ask Mr Wickham to arrange for the WC Questionnaire to be provided as the next step in considering the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

8. Policing.

Mr King reported that an electric fencing unit had been stolen from the field below the PF.

Mr Hinton reported that Speed Watch did need more volunteers.

9. Playfield (PF).

(a) State of surface at the Pub gate. The work had been completed and was very good but it was noted that the gate post there might work loose and would be kept under review.

(b) Mrs Sue Hunt had made a request for a bench and possible positions for it were considered. In addition the Foss family would like a seat in memory of Bill Foss near the access to the Pub

(c) Mrs Dorgan had obtained new goal nets which were up. Discussion as to appropriate pegs to secure the base of the net to the ground took place. Safety issues were considered and it was agreed that tent pegs suggested by the net suppliers be tried.

(d) The main access was at risk of being obstructed and it was agreed that an appropriate 'access at all times' notice or similar be obtained.

(e) A tree branch was overhanging and it was agreed to ask Miles & Francis to deal with it.

10. Finances.

It was proposed by Miss O'Donoghue seconded by Mrs Pike and carried unanimously that the following invoices be paid:-

(i) Local Council Review annual subscription £17

(ii) WALC Subscription £271.26

(iii) Mrs Dorgan refund of £86.26 being the cost of goal nets £47.98, goal net clips £10.44 and APM Refreshments £27.84

11. Highway Matters/Footpaths/CATG.

(a) It was understood that WC would no longer maintain footpaths. It was agreed to put this on the Agenda for the June meeting and to consider reactivating a modified EVES.

(b) There was a continuing flow of water into Tinhead Road from Shore House not being drained away. Mrs Greening would again speak to the AHE.

(c) Mrs Greening would also speak to the AHE to deal with rotten trees on the edge of Little Court Lane

12. Car Park (CP). The Chairman reported that a positive response was still not forthcoming but that a further meeting with BT and the contractor was awaited. The PC was not at all happy with the delays in resolving the problem of the CP and agreed unanimously that if the expected meeting did not result in resurfacing being carried out then a formal letter would be sent to all involved parties stating that the PC would get the work done and pursue recovery of the cost from them.

13. Wiltshire Council (WC) Report

In the absence of both Mr Swabey and Mr Wickham there was no report.

14. The Village Green and Pond.

(a) The proposals to reduce the number of ducks had resulted in 2 objecting emails being received. Nonetheless the PC was concerned that rats were a continuing problem seemingly attracted by the ducks, eggs and the bread that was left and that the WC Pest Control Officer had to be called out. Rats were themselves a health hazard and particularly with water and the risk of it being contaminated. Not everyone was content with presence of duck poo in the area adjacent to the pond or indeed wherever the ducks may roam. The report that the PC had in December 2013 estimated that there were some 8.69 cubic meters of silt which would have to be tested before going to licensed waste handling facility. The Pond and Green belonged to the PC which had to care for it on behalf of the whole of the village. The PC would continue to keep the situation under review and make a final decision at a later meeting.

(b) Unfortunately one of the objectors had also complained that she had been referred to by one of the Parish Councillors in a very disparaging way. Mr King accepted that in talking to a work colleague he had used intemperate language concerning a number of issues in the parish and that she had been mentioned. Both he and the PC very much regretted that things had been said which should not have been said and apologised unreservedly for any hurt caused.

(c) The lower half of the Village Green. This had been maintained for years by the PC and it was agreed that to prepare for an eventual application to the Land Registry an appropriate fence would be erected. It was agreed that Mrs Dorgan would make enquiries as to an appropriate style of fencing.

15. Health Matters. Mrs Pike said that a request had been made by Mr Pearce of Westbury Town Council who was the Chairman of the Health Forum to save the Westbury Hospital site. He was asking for representatives from the villages to a meeting on the 18th May at 2.30pm.

16. Correspondence.

(a) SPTA News Sheet – May 2015

(b) WALC Newsletter – April 2015

17. News Items. Consideration was given to what could be included in the News. .

18. Date of next Meeting. This was fixed for Monday 1st June 2015 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm.