

The Minutes of a Meeting of the Edington Parish Council held at The Parish Hall, Edington on Monday 8th February 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mesdames Watts, O'Donoghue, Pike and Dorgan and Messrs King, Swabey, Johns and Hinton

Apologies were received from Mrs Greening and Mr Pollard

Also in attendance was Mr Wickham (WC) and for part of the Meeting PC Rosie Smith

Mr Hinton had written tendering his resignation. His house had been sold and on completion he would be moving out of the village. He had considered it a privilege and an honour to represent the village – he had been a Councillor for 12 years – and he wished the PC and the Village all the best for the future. The Chairman, endorsed by the whole PC, expressed his thanks to Mr Hinton for all he had done as a Councillor and for the village.

1. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th January 2016 were adopted as read and signed

2. There were no Matters Arising.

3. Planning.

(a) No applications had been received

(b) The following decision had been received:-

(i) 15/12691/TCA Crown lift Lime tree by 2 meters at Ashlington House 1 Inmead for Mrs S Pinson – no objection

(c) Neighbourhood Plans and Housing Needs Survey (HNS). Mr Swabey and Mr Pollard had had a meeting with Mr Wickham and the Link Officer appointed by the WC. The planning policy for small villages such as Edington was that development would be limited to infill. The village would need to consider if it wished to move away from that and if so to identify areas that could be included in a Neighbourhood Plan and to consider the sort of development it would wish to see. It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) which the PC fixed for the 25th April would be the appropriate forum for beginning this exercise. It was hoped that the Link Officer or a colleague would be able to attend and brief the Parish.

(d) 5 Long Hollow. This had been the subject of a planning application that the PC had considered in October. The Owner had written alerting the PC to the fact that the land between the house and the highway had an historic highways easement and they would have to apply for a Stopping Up order.

(e) Update on Priory Farm properties. Mr King had had a recent meeting with Mr Sheridan who had advised on progress/plans for the estate. The gate 'hanging' for the gate from the Three Daggers to the PF had been done by Peter Hailstone who had expressed some concern that the gate was really too heavy for the post. They would shortly be starting work on the Garden Shelter at the Three Daggers and would do the dogproofing of the fence at the same time. The Coal path work had been done and the PC agreed that it was looking good. The footpaths across the fields at Priory Farm would be improved. The house at Hillside would stay as it was but it was hoped, possibly in discussion with WC Planners, to work out what to do with the adjoining building since the builders left the site some months ago. It was intended to renovate Tudor Cottage with a view to letting and plant apple trees in the field.

4. Policing.

(a) PC Rosie Smith explained that she was a member of the Community Policing Team (CPT) based in Warminster. There had been little local crime other than a vehicle being set alight near the Barn at the top of Long Hollow. Current priorities were the importance and impact of missing persons and the CPT report explained that in detail.

(b) Mr Hinton confirmed that Speedwatch had been continuing but with his impending move from the village there would be a need to identify a new Co-ordinator.

5. Playfield (PF).

(a) Mrs Dorgan had spoken to the mole catcher who seemingly suggested that he had already done the work. No other Councillor had made arrangements with him and so Mrs Dorgan would recheck.

(b) The tractor was not really fit for purpose and really need a complete overhaul which Mrs Dorgan would discuss with Alex Mackintosh

(c) Mrs Dorgan had noted that Playdale offered a small toddler slide and climbing frame for approximately £4000 which she considered appropriate and suggested that Councillors viewed it on the Playdale website.

(d) The flag would need to be replaced. It was agreed to buy a new one but to only have it flying during summer months

6. Finances.

(a) The following invoice had been received:-

(i) Three Daggers Operating Ltd £750 being 50% of the cost of the cost of the new ramp from the Pub to the PF

(b) A donation had been received from Edington Station Yard of £500 for the PC "to be used at the discretion of the PC for the benefit of the residents of the Village". Thanks were expressed for such a generous donation

(c) A bank error had been made in connection with a cheque authorised by the PC. It had necessitated the Clerk spending a couple of hours at least to rectify the error including the making of a formal complaint at the highest level. The Bank had acknowledged its mistake and had paid £200 for the embarrassment and inconvenience caused and a further sum of £50 for the Clerk's time in having to deal with the matter.

(d) It was proposed by Mrs Dorgan seconded by Mrs Watts and carried unanimously that the Invoice in (a) (i) above be paid and that the sum of £50 detailed in (c) above be paid to the Clerk.

7. Highway Matters/Footpaths/CATG.

(a) Hand over of WC Speed Indicating Devices. Mr Wickham reported that all 5 Parishes had agreed to the WC proposal and it was proposed by Mrs Watts seconded by Mr Johns and carried unanimously that the PC do proceed on the basis of the costings detailed in the February Minutes.

(b) Notice had been received of the temporary closure of the B3098 from 21 March to 8 April to carry out kerbing, carriageway resurfacing/patching work, road marking and adjustment of ironworks.

(c) Provision of Traffic Cones. Mrs Watts raised the issue of acquiring Cones for occasional use in the village. These tended to be more often needed by the Church for various events and it was agreed to leave it to the Church although the PC would pay for 12 for its own use

8. Wiltshire Council (WC) Report

(a) There was nothing to report from the AB meeting held on the 4th February that specifically related to the Village

(b) The Litter Pick would be arranged for Saturday the 5th March.

(c) The Public Transport Strategy Review. The Clerk would forward various emails received.

9. Correspondence.

(a) SPTA News Sheet – February 2016

(b) WALC Newsletter – February 2016

(c) Lise Griffiths had written explaining the arrangements for the closure of the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator Service on the 31st March 2016. The PC regretted this but expressed its appreciation to Lise and her work and commitment to the scheme and those she had had contact with.

10. News Items. Consideration was given to items to be included in The News.

11. Date of next Meeting. This was fixed for Monday 14th March 2016 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm.