

## **The Minutes of a Meeting of the Edington Parish Council held at the Parish Hall on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023` at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Mesdames Greening, Watts, O' Donoghue and Pike and Messrs Pollard, Swabey, Burgess and King; and Mrs Wickham (WC)

Apologies were received from Mrs Dorgan and Messrs Hardman and Johns

1. **The Minutes** of the Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were adopted as read and signed
2. **Matters Arising** – Updated WC Code of Conduct. This was unanimously adopted
3. **Planning**
  - a. Neighbourhood Plan. Mr Burgess had spoken to WC officers and understood they were gathering comments from other relevant agencies, but anticipated that the NP would be completed by the end of 2024
  - b. The following applications had been received and there was no objection to either of them:-
    - i. PL/2023/04275/TCA Fell Palm Trees T1 and T2 at High Bridge 1 Monastery Road for Mr T Tapley
    - ii. PL/2023/03814/LBC Replacement of rear Kitchen/Dining Room windows with single glazed casement windows at May Cottage 12 Tinhead Road for Mr Peter Davies
  - c. The following decision had been received:-
    - i. PL/2021/00701 Consent to display an advertisement: proposed lettering with exterior lights at the Three Daggers for Ashley Design Associates Ltd - approved
4. **Policing.**
  - a. Speedwatch. A new session would start in the village in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of July
  - b. Neighbourhood Watch. Mrs Greening was making ongoing enquiries as to the GDPR implications
5. **PC Priorities for the coming year.** The PC unanimously agreed to the following:-
  - a. Continue to work with Wiltshire Council to improve the safety for all road users of the B3098.
  - b. Work towards a conclusion to improving the playfield facilities
  - c. Continue with the Neighbourhood Plan
  - d. Develop further the opportunities offered from the first stages of the pollinator project.
  - e. Develop the Neighbourhood Watch programme for the village
6. **Wiltshire Council (WC) Report**
  - a. WC had issued Briefing notes on the Kerbside Recycling changes and for a Review of Bus Services
  - b. Pollinator Corridors. Mrs Wickham reported that there were a number of spare plants and it was suggested that these could be used at the area in front of the gate into the PF. Also some wrong plants had been received which could be used at the Coal Path Field
  - c. Refuse Collection of batteries.
  - d. WC was to apply for the development of 33 factory off-site constructed affordable homes in Devizes

- e. Solar Together. WC had issued a Briefing note to encourage residents to install Solar Panels at a cost effective way through a block booking arrangement by WC
- f. The AB and Westbury Town Council were holding a health and well being event in Soisy Gardens, Westbury on the 25<sup>th</sup> June
- g. An LGA Peer Review was being carried out at WC looking at Special needs and disability

**7. Playfield.**

- a. Land swap. There had been no update from the Three Daggers. The Chairman would contact them again
- b. Rotating See-Saw. This had broken and was out of use. It would be checked by Mr Hollburn-Thorburn
- c. Stile at entrance from Weir Field. This had broken and was potentially dangerous. There was a Kissing gate adjacent and so it was agreed to demolish the stile altogether

**8. Highway Matters/Footpaths/LHFIG (Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group)**

- a. Yellow Lines. A number of objections had been received following the public notification of the proposals. The Chairman understood from WC that a similar number had supported and the decision was now in the hands of the relevant Cabinet member.
- b. Footpaths 11 and 23. A member of the public had raised concerns that cattle were congregating at the gate at the top of these two FPs and were intimidating to those wanting to continue to the top of the hill. It was agreed to raise it with the landowner but the general understanding was that there was nothing illegal in the cattle being there and that they were there infrequently because they moved around to other parts of the escarpment
- c. Water from Shore Hall. The AHE had had 2 conversations with the owners and it was understood that they were thinking of tanking the cellar which would solve the problem
- d. Permissive path from CP. This was in progress which would include a further meeting with Mr Cochrane
- e. White lining from Lower Road to the Church CP. The lines were very worn. WC were not treating that sort of work as priority but it was on the list to be done
- f. Kissing gates still waiting to be installed. Mrs Wickham would check with the FPs Officer but she said he was every busy
- g. Parish Steward. He would be in the village on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June. It was agreed to ask him to deal with the triangles in Monastery Road, Greater Lane and at the top of FP 22, Smelly Lane, Cowleaze Lane and the vegetation around road signs in the village

**9. Grasscutting generally.** The Chairman had prepared a plan showing all the areas that needed to be maintained with a note as to who was currently doing it. It was agreed that it needed to be rationalised. The PC would review it at the next meeting with a view to seeking tenders for one person or company to take on the whole of the village other than what PS would do

**10. Car Park.** A request had been received to effectively let out a space for someone in the village without a garage or parking facilities to park in the CP. This was not agreed but the PC would explore if other arrangements could be identified

**11. Finances**

- a. It was proposed by Miss O'Donoghue seconded by Mrs Pike and carried unanimously that the following invoice be paid or payment confirmed:-
  - i. JP Garden Services for BG cutting 13<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May £70
  - ii. Miles & Francis (June 2022) £530 for Village maintenance, PF and CP
- b. There were no receipts to be noted
- c. Audit 2022/2023. The Internal Audit had been completed and no issues had been raised. The Register of Assets had been updated to include the Additional SID pole at Longlands Close and the AGAR having been prepared for approval and circulated was discussed in 3 parts:-
  - i. Certificate of Exemption. The PC complied with the requirements enabling it to certify that it was exempt from a "Limited Assurance Review" and did so at 2040
  - ii. The Annual Governance Statement. The PC went through each of the numbered points and was satisfied that the answer to each was "Yes" save for one "N/A". The Notice for 2022/2023 of Public Rights and Publication of the AGAR would be posted on the PC Website on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 to commence on the 15<sup>th</sup> June through to the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The PC unanimously agreed the Annual Governance Statement at 2044
  - iii. Accounting Statements 2022/2023. The Clerk, as Responsible Finance Officer, certified that the Accounting Statements in the Annual Return presented fairly the financial position of the PC and its receipts and payments for the year. These were explained by the Clerk including the "Explanation of Variances". The PC unanimously agreed that the Accounts be adopted and approved and they were ready for signature at 2045
- d. The Internal Auditor had decided that he did not wish to charge the PC for his Audit but asked that the PC make a donation to Parkinson's disease in memory of his late wife

## **12. Correspondence**

- a. WALC Newsletter May 2023

## **13. News items**

Consideration was given to items to be included

## **14. Date of next Meeting**

This was fixed for Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm