

The Minutes of a Meeting of the Edington Parish Council held at the Parish Hall on Monday 14th October 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mesdames Greening, O'Donoghue, Watts, Pike and Dorgan and Messrs Swabey and Forward and Mrs Wickham (WC). Mrs Lines was in attendance for part of the meeting

Apologies were received from Messrs Johns, King and Hardman.

- 1. The Minutes** of the Meeting held on the 9th September 2024 were adopted as read and signed.
- 2. There were no Matters Arising**
- 3. Planning**
 - a. Neighbourhood Plan (NP). Mrs Pike had attended the NALC zoom meeting but didn't feel it added very much to what the PC had already been doing.
 - b. The following applications had been received:-
 - i. PL/2024/08569/TCA - T1 (Yew) – Remove at Box Cottage, 5 Tinhead Road for Mr Taylor. This was an ancient and historic tree that had suffered some fire damage but seemed to be growing well. It was thought to be one of a series of trees that had been planted along the spring line going down Charlton Hill. The PC was not in a position to approve or oppose the application and suggested that the Tree officer carry out a full investigation.
 - ii. PL/2024/09239/TCA -T1 Maple, remove to ground level; T2 Ash, crown raise by 1 to 2m at 3 Lower Road for Acer Tree Surgeons – there was no objection
 - c. The following decisions had been received:-
 - i. PL/2024/07346 /TCA - T1 Holly - Remove. T2 Magnolia - Lift the canopy over the lawn by half a metre. T3 Magnolia - Prune the canopy back by one and a half meters on the south and west side of the tree at Orchard House, 2B Lower Road for Mr Pike – no objection.
 - ii. PL/2024/07357/TCA - Juniper, Lower Road - T1 Small sycamore crown reduce below cables. T2 Elder shrub crown reduce T3 Red Maple through prune. The Lodge, Lower Road - Beech side prune and through prune. Edington Cottage, Lower Road, - T1 Walnut through prune. T2 Ginko through prune all for Mr Gary Sims (SSE) – no objection.
- 4.** Mrs Lines had written to the PC. Her children were interested in helping to create opportunities for young people 13-16 in the village and she explained some of their ideas. Their concerns were that children's mental health, now that winter was coming, was generally not good since Covid and excessive screen time was an issue, and they thought it was worth a try perhaps using the parish hall as a base. If it worked it was hoped that it would be self-funding, but was asking the PC if it would help in the startup. The PC was supportive of this Initiative and confirmed that it would certainly offer funding to assist in the start-up.

5. Policing

- a. There was no Police report.
- b. Speedwatch. An email had been received from Mrs Nicholson asking to be considered as co-ordinator. This was agreed but she would need the appropriate training.
- c. SIDs. It was agreed to explore getting a SID for each of Lower Road and at the Tinhead end of the village.

6. Playfield (PF)

- a. Land Swap.
 - i. A new heads of terms had been received from The three Daggers and it was agreed to pass it to Mr Burgess for checking.
 - ii. It was not clear what arrangements had finally been made with the owners of the 2 bungalows at the Viillage Green.
 - iii. It was queried as to the benefits of the MUGA being tarmacked or astro/turfed.

7. Highway Matters/Footpaths/LHFIG

- a. Court Lane/Little Court Lane junction. The road markings that had been painted incorrectly were causing real problems as to who had priority which had formerly been those driving in Court Lane. Mrs Wickham had witnessed the confusion and had been in contact with WC Highways which would use, when it became available, a special machine for burning off the road markings. She thought it appropriate also to instal "GiveWay" signs in Little Court Lane and this was agreed and that there should be no cost to the PC.
- b. Mrs Wickham had sent the PC a copy of her objections to the Gypsy site proposals.
- c. She had also been in discussion with Highways regarding the signs obscured by the hedge of 2 Monastery Road. Highways did not consider them to be absolutely necessary but the PC took the view that the signs should be retained and the hedge cutback.
- d. Car park permissive path. Mr Cochrane had written again to the PC asking it to review its decision about funding for curtains to be provided. The PC maintained its view but would keep the situation under review.
- e. He had also written suggesting that there had been an historic footpath from the path between 38 and 39 Westbury Rd and then passing numbers 40 to 43 eventually emerging at The City which would provide a link with the gate in the field just beyond his property. The PC did not agree. Any path there not been a public right of way.
- f. He had written suggesting that the trees overhanging the road from The City to the Monastery Road junction needed cutting back. The PC was satisfied that both side and height clearances were in accordance with current highway policies.

- g. A suggestion had been made that a cover be provided for the seat on the triangle opposite Beech House to provide some shelter for those waiting for the school bus.
- h. Mr Johns raised the issue of the clearing and tidying of Smelly Lane as this was something that he was number longer able to do. It was agreed that he and Mrs Greening would discuss the matter and possible solutions.
- i. Water from Shore House. It was agreed to ask Mrs Wickham the results of a recent inspection by WC.
- j. The footpath at the lower end of the Parish Hall footpath was very slippery and should be resurfaced. It was agreed to refer it to Mrs Wickham

8. Wiltshire Council (WC) Report.

Mrs Wickham reported on the AB meeting on the 2nd October which had been attended by the Chief Constable and had looked at an overview of policing in the Westbury area

9. Rewilding/Coal Path Field. Mrs Pike reported that tree saplings would be arriving between the 5th and 11th November for the Coal Path hedge

10. Finances.

- a. It was proposed by Mrs Dorgan seconded by Mrs Watts and carried unanimously that the following invoices be paid or payment confirmed:-
 - i. JP Garden Services for BG Grasscutting Sept £60
 - ii. Refund the Clerk Webinar fee to NALC for NP Webinar £39.22
 - iii. Refund Mr Forward cost of Website Host Sept/Oct 2024 £15 and Defiant website additional protection £94.54 Total £109.54
 - iv. Parish Hall Hire May, June, July £60
 - v. Ideal Grounds Maintenance September £342.66
- b. The following had been received:-
 - i. WC £10500 2nd payment of Precept
 - ii. VAT Refund £2099.70

11. Correspondence

- a. WALC Circular October 2024
- b. Message from Avon Valley Runners that their annual run would be on 24th Nov

12. News items.

Consideration was given to items to be included

13. Date of next Meeting

This was fixed for Monday 11th November 2024 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm.