

The Minutes of a Meeting of the Edington Parish Council held at the Parish Hall, Edington on Monday 9th June 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mesdames Greening, Pike, O'Donoghue, Henning and Watts and Messrs Johns, Hardman, Forward and King and Mr Phillips (WC)

Apologies were received from Mrs Dorgan

There was one member of the public, Mrs Wickham, in attendance for part of the meeting

1. **The Minutes** of the Meeting held on the 12th May 2025 were adopted as read and signed
2. **Matters Arising.** Notice boards: Mrs Greening reported that her husband would be able to lower the notice board at the entrance to the Parish Hall footpath and he would also check the re-siting of the one at Tinhead, possibly within the bus shelter. A check had been made of the bus shelter roof and it was considered that all that needed replacing were the fascia boards
3. **Planning**
 - a. Neighbourhood Plan. The PC was still awaiting to hear when the new tranche of grants would be available
 - b. The following decision had been received:-
 - i. PL/2025/03824/TCA - T1 (Leylandii) - Remove. T2 (Birch) - Remove the two lower branches on the south-east side of the tree that are growing over the thatched roof. T3 (Birch) - Remove the lower stem on the south side of the tree that is growing over the roof at The Firs, 8 Charlton Hill for Mr Swabey – no objection
4. **Policing.**
 - a. Mrs Greening reported that the PCSO was going to come to the village on 28th June
 - b. The PCSO had also checked and understood that there was no change to the status of the B3098 as simply a B road.
5. **PC Priorities for the coming year.** These remained Highway Safety, PF swap and Neighbourhood Plan
6. **Wiltshire Council (WC) Report.** Mr Phillips reported that the Liberal Democrats were now leading WC being the largest party but with no overall majority. He hoped that they would continue to manage the budget and finances carefully
7. **Playfield.**
 - a. Land swap. Two issues had arisen.
 - i. Three Daggers sought to have the right to lock the gates from the pub into the PF for security reasons. The PC took the view it should have a similar right.

- ii. That Three Daggers was seeking to impose covenants on the PC. This was not agreed in relation either to the remaining land belonging to the PC or the new area that was going to be acquired

8. Highway Matters/Footpaths/LHFIG

- a. A meeting had taken place with the AHE to discuss:-
 - i. Steps from CP Permissive path. Regulations, it seemed, meant that the steps could not go down onto the pavement. It was agreed to drop them down into the CP itself
 - ii. The accidents at Crossroads Farm. The AHE would come up with suggestions
 - iii. The slabs at the foot of the Parish Hall footpath. Again the AHE would check
- b. Speed monitoring had taken place on the B3098, Lower Road and Tinhead Road:
 - i. B3098. Over the period the average speed was 29 mph with 43% over the limit. It was acknowledged that it was not the best place to have carried out the monitoring
 - ii. Lower road average 25.3 mph with 80.7% exceeding the 20 mph limit
 - iii. Tinhead Road average 24.7 mph with 78.7% exceeding the 20 mph limit.
- c. The hedge beside the path from Green Hills to Tinhead Road was again discussed as to whose responsibility it was
- d. There was concern that the plants and vegetation alongside the Parish Hall path were obstructing it and needed to be cleared. The clerk was asked to contact the adjoining owner
- e. A finger post sign had gone From Monastery Rd
- f. It was not clear who was responsible for the maintenance of the footpath from the pond but it was suggested that Ideal be asked to do it
- g. It was proposed by Mr Johns seconded by Mr Hardman and carried unanimously to proceed with the purchase of a second SID from Stocksigns at a cost of £4203
- h. Mrs Wickham wished to thank the PC for the retirement gift but she also said that she had written to WC asking them to deal with the burning out of the road signs that had been incorrectly painted at the junction of Little Court Lane with Court Lane

9. Finances

- a. It was proposed by Mrs Watts seconded by Mr King and carried unanimously that the following invoices be paid or payment confirmed:-
 - i. JP Garden Services for BG 10th and 20th May £60
 - ii. Parkinsons UK donation in lieu of Internal Audit fee for year ended 31.03.25 £50
 - iii. Refund the Clerk £530.48 re Insurance premium
 - iv. Ideal for Grounds Maintenance June '25 £342.66
 - v. Refund Mr Forward IONOS Website Host 18th May '25 £16.20
 - vi. Refund Mrs Greening £100 for the gift voucher for Mrs Wickham
 - vii. Refund Miss O'Donoghue £276 for defibrillator battery pack
- b. Audit 2024/2025. The Internal Audit had been completed and no issues had been raised other than to note the extent of the PC reserves. The AGAR having been prepared for approval and circulated was discussed in 3 parts:-

- i. It was accepted that because the PC had receipts in excess of £25000 the Certificate of Exemption did not apply and was therefore liable for a “Limited Assurance Review”; and did so at 2100
- 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 2023/2024 of Public Rights and Publication of the AGAR would be posted on the PC Website on the 10th June 2025 to commence on the 11th June through to the 22nd July 2025. The PC unanimously agreed the Annual Governance Statement at 2109
- iii. Accounting Statements 2024/2025. The Clerk, as Responsible Finance Officer, had 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 2114
- c. The Internal Auditor had again 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 and this was noted at 9.a.ii. above.

10. Emergency plan. Miss O’Donoghue raised the question of how to effectively get information out to the parish in the event of an emergency. After a discussion it was agreed that she would do a note for the website

11. Correspondence

WALC Newsletter May 2025

12. News items

Consideration was given to items to be included

13. Date of next Meeting

This was fixed for Monday 14th July 2025 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm