

Edlesborough Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 21st July 2011

Minutes of the meeting of the Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 21st July 2011 at Edlesborough Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Present

Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Wilson, Cllr Williams, Cllr Mrs. Prys-Jones, Cllr Mrs Ratheram, Clerk-Lin Sargeant, PCSO Jackie Dodson, Mr. C. Nevard and 4 parishioners.

In the absence of Chairman Cllr Cubbage the meeting was chaired by Vice Chairman Cllr Wilkinson

Apologies:

Apologies had been received from Cllr Cubbage and Cllr Holt

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes were signed as a correct record

Matters Arising from the previous Minutes

Any matters arising are dealt with under the following Agenda headings.

Declarations of Interest – None declared

Open Forum

Mr. Nevard raised the question of the bad condition of many roads in the Parish, mainly the road leading to the Ford.

It was stated by the Clerk that Bucks CC would be revisiting the area to deal with outstanding dangerous pot holes and have been asked to pay particular attention to the area of the Ford, part of this road being the responsibility of Bedfordshire County Council and the Clerk would request that Eaton Bray Parish Council make contact with Beds CC.

Parishioners had attended to give their comments on the proposed extension to the Memorial Hall Car Park and were informed that no definite decision had yet been made by the Parish Council who would be consulting with parishioners, particularly close neighbours, before a decision was made. In answer to 'where are funds coming from?' Cllr Wilkinson explained that funds would come out of the parish precept. Concerns were raised regarding the problems in the existing car park at night and if the extension should go ahead the suggestion of some type of barrier was put forward to prevent cars being able to drive up and down the whole of the area. The problems with cars continually parking along Pebblemoor and the High Street was discussed at length and Thames Valley Police are making numerous patrols around this area and are at liberty to hand out parking tickets for any parking that constitutes an offence. Cllr Wilkinson also mentioned that the Parish Council have a meeting in August with Bucks CC to discuss the possibility of white lining in the High Street coupled with the marking out of additional road space for the Bus Stop at the top of the High Street to overcome the extremely dangerous present position of having cars parked between the existing Bus Stop pull in and the junction with the A4146.

Letters which have been received from parishioners would be receiving responses.

Police Report:

PCSO Jackie Dodson stated that there had not been any serious matters which had been reported to the Police but was concerned regarding the problems with the parking by the Bus Stop at the top of the High Street. On listening to the previous comments regarding a meeting with Bucks CC she was informed that PC Jared Levens had also been invited to attend that meeting.

Cllr Prys-Jones reported the 'scratching' of a neighbour's car whilst parked on the owner's driveway.

Finance Reports:

Accounts for the month of June were presented and the variance explained. There were no other questions on the accounts.

The Annual Return has been approved and should be received from the External Auditor shortly.

Councillors' Allowances- It was agreed to continue not to pay allowances to councillors.

Authorisation of cheques (July including VAT)

The following cheques had been authorised for payment:

Administration & Office expenses (including telephone) 63.59

Memorial Hall/Pavilion expenses (incl electric, water, gas) 476.97

Salaries (including PAYE/NIC) 1,505.91

Cemetery and War Memorial expenses 299.60

Churchyard expenses 560.00

Grass cutting Edlesborough & Dagnall, hedge cutting Edlesborough 2,893.32

EDaN expense (installing Planter at Dagnall 408.00

The Green expenses 137.00

Childrens' play area 30.00

Removing fallen branches from Dagnall allotments 52.50

Printing costs for Aylesbury Vale Neighbourhood Plan 144.00

Additional insurance premium for Northall extra play equipment 173.65

Miscellaneous 16.95

Total £ 6,761.49

Planning

The following applications had been received, were discussed by the meeting and the following responses were agreed to be submitted to AVDC

11/01141/APP 2nd June 2011	10 Good Intent Edlesborough	Extension to front dormer window	No Objections
11/01278/APP 20th June 2011	55 Cooks Meadow Edlesborough	Conversion of garage, demolition of conservatory and single storey rear extension	No Objections

11/01315/APP 24th June 2011	Scout Hut 71 High Street Edlesborough	Single storey front extension and access steps and ramp	<p>The Council is generally supportive of the proposal but that if the Officers are minded to approve the application the following suggestions should be addressed.</p> <p>1. The proposed windowless forward extension well beyond the current building line would do nothing to enhance the very stark appearance and the Parish Council would suggest that some high level obscured glass windows to the toilets on both sides of the extension would further soften and improve its appearance.</p> <p>2. The plans suggest that apart from a small section of the access ramp, the proposed extension would be beyond the tree canopy and so presumably the footings of the extension would not interfere with the root system. It is considered that a qualified arborist's report should be provided confirming that the root system of the tree would not be compromised by the proposed extension.</p>
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The following decisions had been received from AVDC

11/00908/APP 3rd May 2011	3 Pebblemoor Edlesborough	Single storey rear extension with green roof terrace and first floor bay	No objections subject to a condition that the flat roof must not be used as a balcony or terrace.	Permitted
11/00945/APP 10 th May 2011	The Grange Studham Lane Dagnall	Rear Conservatory	No Objections	Permitted
11/00066/APP 13th January 2011	Hall Farm Ringshall Road Dagnall	Two story side extension and insertion of windows	No Objections	Permitted

11/00746/AOP 11th April 2011	Yew Tree Malting Lane Dagnall	Site for one new dwelling and alterations to existing access	No Objections	Permitted
11/00837/APP 21st April 2011	Ivanhoe 7 Eaton Bray Road Northall	Two storey front bay extensions and part two storey, part single storey rear extension	No Objections	Permitted

Response from AVDC regarding the installation of a barrier at The Bell is "The barrier is not in breach of the recent condition but as it is a means of enclosure (not trees/hedgerows) around a listed building it requires planning permission in its own right. Mr. Holloway drew this matter to the attention of AVDC a number of weeks ago and AVDC consulted with their historic buildings team on the matter. The consensus is that a permanent structure of this type would not receive their support. Therefore, should an application be submitted Officers would recommend refusal. The applicant is within his rights to submit an application for the barrier and AVDC would not normally serve any enforcement notices until such an application has run its course."

Planning Issues/Rural Housing Exception Scheme

Cllr Wilkinson had attended a Local Council Planning Coordination Group meeting and raised some planning issues which are the subject of concern to the parish namely 'The Bell' and development in South End Lane, Northall. A meeting will be held to discuss these further with AVDC.

Prior to the next scheduled Agenda item (Affordable Housing) discussion continued on the subject of planning issues and the next step forward following information received on the responses given in the recent Questionnaire from Community Impact Bucks (Rural Housing Exception Scheme) regarding all registrants and the recommendation for type of properties required.

Affordable Housing

Council agreed that as a Parish Council on behalf of the parishioners to request Community Impact Bucks to progress the Rural Housing Exception Scheme proposal to the next stage. Cllr Prys-Jones declared an objection.

he Vale of Aylesbury Plan – Edlesborough Neighbourhood Plan

3 Questionnaires have been received to date. It was agreed to carry out a house to house letter drop and collection of questionnaires, if sufficient volunteers can be found.. EDaN to be asked if they would be prepared to assist. Additional printing of questionnaires to be undertaken.

County & District Councillors Reports

District Cllr Chris Poll's report

Firstly I must apologise for not being with you this evening. I am away on business but am still within the UK so can be contacted by personal email or mobile phone should the need arise.

Most of the last month for me has been occupied by the Speed Limit Review and its postponement. You will of course now know that this decision has been overturned. I must at this point congratulate all those that were involved in the campaign to reverse this arbitrary move, but most of all thank Councillor Martin Tett for listening to the very real concerns of residents throughout areas 12, 13 and 14. This I feel demonstrates that the concerted efforts of so many people can influence decision makers. I wrote a brief letter to the Bucks Herald and hope that it has been published.

I spoke last month about the economic development in the vale and requested any input from residents of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall. I feel this is a great opportunity for us to influence development and would be pleased to present ideas to the council on your behalf. I have already made a proposal and this is due to be considered amongst the other suggestions.

There is a proposal by Arla foods for the development of a milk processing plant in Aston Clinton that could create as many as 700 jobs. I would welcome any thoughts residents may have as I have requested a meeting with the company and will be pleased to present them.

The new strategy for waste collection was subject to a motion at the full council meeting requesting abandonment. This I feel was a little premature as the final decision has yet to be taken but might possibly create some extra scrutiny by the cabinet. In any case the decision will be subject to full scrutiny before implementation. The need for savings and an increase of recycling rates are both undeniable and desirable.

That concludes my report for July except for inclusion of the text submitted to the Bucks Herald.

Following the decision by Councillor Martin Tett to suspend implementation of the reduction of speed limits in the east of the vale and the subsequent decision to reinstate I felt I should say that a wrong has been righted. I had a site visit with Councillor Tett following the uproar from residents of Northall and was able to demonstrate the particular problem there. I noted his concern and also his wish to do the right thing for all residents in Bucks. Of course we applaud his decision to tackle the shameful state of our roads but were delighted when the funds allocated for speed reduction were reinstated. Councillor Tett deserves credit for listening to the residents of Northall.

Correspondence received

Chilterns ANOB – Grants available for good projects which help conserve and enhance the AONB/and or promote enhanced public understanding and awareness of the area's special qualities.

Chilterns ANOB – Chilterns Conservation Board Position Statement – Development Affecting the Setting of the Chilterns AONB

Avril Davies – Capital Maintenance programme – Ivinghoe Division

Thank you letter from St. Mary's Village Carnival 2011

Luton & South Central Bedfordshire Joint Core Strategy Development Plan document.

Transport for Bucks to re-inspect potholes in Pebblemoor only some of which have been filled.

Aylesbury Vale South Sports Council – now dissolved, monies returned to AVDC who will run a similar talented sports persons and coaches bursary scheme from approx November 2011

Community Impact Bucks newsletter

Fields in Trust Fund officially open for grants of up to £5,000 or £25,000 to be awarded to projects to improve Queen Elizabeth II Fields in a whole range of ways. Website fields@fieldsintrust.org

Bucks Fire & Rescue Service – Public Safety Plan Consultation – Public Safety Plan

Bucks CC – Proposed Lists of Local Requirements for the validation of planning applications – Consultation, comments required by 26th August 2011.

Press Releases from Bucks CC

County agrees capital asset transfer policy to help local communities

Council to retain revised in-house led Facilities Management Service.

County to work with Citizens' Advice Bureau to deliver equalities service

Delivering the Big Society in Bucks

Launch of corporate plan "Working with you for Buckinghamshire"

Community Impact Bucks Showcase Event Sept 27th 4.30 – 7.00pm Green Park Training & Conference Centre, Aston Clinton.

Thames Valley Police

Asking for help in reporting fly-tipping

'Blues and Twos' street rugby sessions starting in July in Weston Turville, Wendover and Pitstone free sessions suitable for boys and girls 6 to 15 years. From 6pm to 7pm for eight week period. No need to book.

Recruiting Special Constables

3 letters received from parishioners regarding concerns over the proposed Memorial Hall Car Park extension, each will receive a response from the Parish Council. GPC to discuss completion for change of registration of the Green. Cllr Cabbage to meet with the Edlesborough Tennis Club and a meeting to be arranged with the Football clubs.

List of items which were placed on the Councillors table

Wing South Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter July 2011

The Chiltern Society Newsletter July 2011

The Clerk Magazine July 2011

Clerk & Councils Direct Newsletter July 2011

Community Impact Bucks newsletter

EDaN Report

A parishioner's request for the bus stop at Travellers Rest to be on the Tring Road and not Leighton Road will be looked into by the EDaN transportation team.

The Planter has now been installed and planted on Dagnall roundabout.

The Northall sign will be unveiled on 1st October by John Bercow MP coupled with the official opening of the Northall Play Area Phase 2. Seeding and planting will take place at Knolls View, Leighton Road, Northall prior to the unveiling.

The Churches Conservation Trust are carrying out a Health & Safety check prior to removing scrub from the Churchyard.

EDaN propose that the area alongside the steps be turned into a wildflower meadow.

All but one of the sponsors for the village planters have responded.

There had not been much responsive action from the Carnival stall.

Community Car scheme is lacking clients.

EDaN endeavouring to acquire £40,000 funds for a cycleway from the Church to the School and would be approaching the Parish Council for a donation.

Traffic Management team are continuing to press for the A4146 to be listed as a B road

Hoping to take Speedwatch into Schools

The recent Concert was very good and an article will be put into Focus. The next Concert at Edlesborough Church will take place on 22nd October with Dagnall Choir.

Traffic Calming;

Speed Limit Review

At a Bucks CC Cabinet meeting on Monday 18th July the decision was given that the Area Speed Limit Review for Area 13 would go ahead as planned and be complete by the end of the year. Council agreed that Cllr Cabbage would contact Bucks CC on his return.

General Purpose Committee report

It had been agreed to retain the existing tree at the rear of 11 The Pastures but to maintain the hedge, previously reduced in height to 8ft, to be cut with other hedges around the Green.

Quotations for the refurbishment of the War Memorials at Edlesborough and Dagnall have been received. It was considered that further information should be sought as to the best way of cleaning the Memorials and will be further discussed at the GPC meeting in September before acceptance of a quote is ratified by full Council.

Obtaining contractor's views on the best way of dealing with the bare goal mouths on the football pitch.

New Cemetery gate will be installed on 25th July together with the appropriate signage.

Recommendations for replacement of Water Softener in the Pavilion and for the construction of a roof over the dustbin area at the Cemetery were ratified by the full Council.

HS2

Cllr Wilson expressed concern regarding the number of lorries which would be travelling through the parish villages taking soil from a tunnel to be created at Amersham to Landfill sites and it was agreed that he would look into what needs to be done to raise an objection on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Villages – (issues other than Traffic Calming and matters delegated to the GPC)

Edlesborough: Maintenance to be carried on watercourses throughout the parish.

Edlesborough: Results of Best Kept Village Competition: The Defraime Cup: 1st Stewkley Runner up Pitstone

Local Area Forum Report

County Cllr Netta Glover chaired the meeting

London Midland Update

A comprehensive update was given by Nicola Mott from London Midland rail who apologised for the problems caused during the Winter due to weather conditions. All up to date information is available on 'Twitter' and they carry out a Recognition Award Scheme for employees.

Theft of cabling was causing a huge problem,

Questions were asked regarding a 2 hour evening restriction and 3 hours for people departing to Cheddington and as to whether London Midland would consider having the 18.54 calling additionally at Cheddington. This would be looked into.

The proposed closure of Cheddington Ticket office was currently undecided.

Cllr Williams (Edlesborough Parish Council) raised a parishioner's concerns regarding theft of his car exhaust and a large amount of damage to the electrics whilst parked at Tring Station during daylight hours.

Area 13 Speed Limit Review Implementation

County Cllr Avril Davies echoed the utter dismay and frustration of those present at the meeting at having been informed that the new Leader of Bucks County Council, Cllr Martin Tett, has announced that the Speed Limit Review would be postponed in order that more money could be made available to improving the County roads. £50,000 would be required to finish off Area 13 out of capital funding. The people living in the Great Brickhill, Wing and Ivinghoe Local Area Forum area have been waiting 8 years for the Speed Limit Review to be finalised and were informed that this would be completed in the Autumn of 2011.

After considerable discussion it is agreed that a proposal should be put forward by the Local Area Forum to be submitted to Buckinghamshire County Council. This was duly agreed and acted upon and would be sent without delay to Cllr Martin Tett. Inspector Emma Garside of Thames Valley Police gave support to the proposal.

Bucks CC Update

Libraries: Discussions are taking place by Parish Councils who are affected by possible closures.

Wing and Ivinghoe Libraries are to become community libraries under the management of Village Hall Trustees.

Youth Clubs These are not progressing as well as anticipated due to lack of volunteers

AVDC Update

Elections 22 new members have been elected to AVDC following the district elections being:

Conservative 37; Liberal Democrat 17; Labour 2; UKIP 2; Independent 1. Turnout was 45.5% compared to 39.5% in 2007.

Cllr Chris Poll is the elected representative for Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall.

High Speed 2

Consultation ends on 29th July. A submission has been made to the Transport Parliamentary Select Committee from the 51M group of authorities (including AVDC and Bucks CC) outlining its responses to the main question areas with specialist evidence in support. The document will be available shortly on AVDC website. A separate submission has also been made by the Bucks authorities to the Transport Select Committee specifically on the environment question asked by the TSC.

Car parking in the Vale

New Exchange Street car park opens shortly. Aylesbury Waterside Theatre parking has been made easier. There is a flat evening fee of £1 until midnight and tickets can be purchased when they park if they arrive after 6.30 rather than after the show. Parking remains free all day on Sundays. Hampden House long stay car park is now open on Sundays from 7am until 8pm to provide extra town centre parking in Aylesbury.

Waitrose construction

Construction is due to commence mid June and work will also begin on the new car park and Travelodge Hotel which are part of the same complex. The new car park will be open 24hrs and be available for use by anyone.

The Vale of Aylesbury Plan

AVDC are working with Parishes who have come back to them (approx 2/3rds of all parishes) and advised how they want to be involved with the Plan. A timeline is being developed which will feed into the formal publication of the 'Local Development Scheme'. This will set out how we will develop the Vale of Aylesbury Plan. The first part of the Sustainability Appraisal is also being scoped.

A package of support is being developed for all parishes to call upon as they sit fit. It includes a toolkit explaining different ways in which parishes can involve their local community in the debate, examples of questions they might like to ask, and access to electronic survey software. In July an AVDC Cabinet report will set out in more detail what they are doing next with the plan. Available on AVDC website from the beginning of July 2011.

Thames Valley Neighbourhood Police Update

Aylesbury Vale has benefitted by additional officers. 5 PCSOs are now working in the area and a review of neighbourhood policing is taking place. A new telephone number 911 is to be implemented at the end of this year for calls that are non-emergencies.

Inspector Garside reported that cars with catalytic converters are being targeted to steal the precious metal.

Delegated Budget Report

The LAF devolved budgets and projects for the local priorities budget and the review of local priorities to be undertaken at the end of 2011 were reported by Jackie Wesley. The LAF meeting approved the following:

Expenditure for activities/events for young people £5,500

Great Brickhill, Wing & Ivinghoe pilot Freight Quality Partnership £5,000

Aston Abbots footpath phase 2 £8,100

The meeting was informed that unfortunately due to a change in cabinet the expected increase in the delegated budget for 2011/12 has now been reallocated into road resurfacing schemes to be agreed with each County Councillor individually.

Transport for Buckinghamshire

Area maintenance

Community and Road Fixer Gangs will be returning to the areas on a programmed basis to carry out community gang type work ie vegetation clearance, minor repairs etc. A list of when work will be taking place is available on <http://www.transportforbucks.net/Roadworks-Centre.aspx>

Local Transport Plan

LTP3 has been adopted by the County Council Cabinet. The strategy will supersede the LTP2 and come into effect on 1st April 2011. The final document and a Consultation and Engagement Report will be produced early in 2011/12.

Road Safety Team

The Thames Valley Safety Camera Partnership has, as of 31st March, stopped running in its original format. As a result of this Buckinghamshire now does not have a dedicated road safety constable.

Buckinghamshire will continue to receive both fixed and mobile safety camera enforcement from a partnership with the Thames Valley Police who are responsible for all matters concerning enforcement of traffic laws. However, requests from the public about speeding are considered for enforcement, either by Police presence/speed checks or mobile camera enforcement through a 'dealing with speeding traffic' scheme.

Passenger Transport

New timetables have come into operation on many services in Buckinghamshire from Sunday 15th May 2011. These follow reductions to the budget for evening and Sunday services, with many services revised and some journeys removed. A full summary is available on www.transportforbucks.net or on update leaflets around the County.

Design and Construction

Sites across the County that have been earmarked for surface dressing over the next two years are receiving some initial works to help prepare the surface. These initial works may include pothole filling.

Pilot Freight Quality Partnership

The A4146 is to be used as a pilot area to assess the number of HGVs passing through the villages.

The concerns of both Stoke Hammond and Stewkley were raised regarding the proposed installation of Wind Turbine Pylons which would be 124mts high which would have a detrimental effect on the surrounding landscape.

The next LAF meeting will take place on 20th September 2011 at 7pm at St. Michael's School, Chapel Square, Stewkley.

Items for the Agendas for the Council meeting to be held on Thursday 15th September 2011

The Meeting closed at 10.25pm

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 15th September 2011 commencing 7.30pm at Edlesborough Memorial Hall