

Business Development and Employment Report for Parish Meeting

An open meeting was held in the Parish Hall on February 7th to discuss business development and employment within the village with interested parties. The following is a summary of the points raised.

Communications.

Broadband speeds were, for many, too slow for efficient working although a few were able to achieve good speeds

Mobile phone signals were adequate for most purposes but some were experiencing difficulty, possibly depending on the network being used.

Many people were doing at least some work from home and therefore good service is important domestically as well as at business premises.

Transport

Bus service was thought by many to be inadequate although it is not clear that this is limiting business or employment within the village. Many thought that cycleways and improved facilities for cycling would be beneficial.

More than half of the businesses questioned had a van or lorry delivery at least once a week. Concern was expressed regarding the traffic problems related to the B3098 and the smaller roads within the village.

Development Sites

It was felt that there should be more development of business within the village and that the most obvious place for additional sites is the Edington Station Yard. Representatives of ESY confirmed space was available subject to planning permission.

Other

More advertising of existing business within the village could be achieved, perhaps through the village website or promotional events.

Tourism should be promoted. The location, history, facilities and general attributes of the village would appeal to visitors.

The concept of a business hub supporting nearby business was also well supported.