

## **The Minutes of a Meeting of the Edington Parish Council held at The Parish Hall, Edington on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mesdames Greening, O'Donoghue, Pike, Henning, Watts and Dorgan and Messrs Johns, Hardman, Forward and King

The PC unanimously resolved at its meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025 that due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed the press and public should be excluded from the meeting. Although public notice of this had been properly given no representations had been received

There were 2 Items on the agenda:

1. To review the Draft contract and transfers and if satisfied resolved to proceed and
2. To appoint and authorise the Chairman and one other to sign the contract and in due course the transfer documents preparatory to completion of the transaction

3. **The draft contract and transfers.** These had been circulated to all councillors. Some comments had been received regarding technical words and phrases and referred to the PC solicitor who had responded and there were no outstanding points. The meeting then went on to consider the principle of the terms being presented

The Chairman, Mrs Greening, opened with a statement outlining the chronology of the negotiations with The Three Dagers (TD) since the public meeting held in September 2021. The Clerk then explained the discussions that he had had with Julian Sandoe the surveyor appointed by the PC and read his draft findings in relation to the outcome of the negotiations represented now in the draft contract and transfers. On balance he was of the opinion that the deal on the table was reasonable and probably the best that could be achieved.

Mrs Henning raised a couple of points: that the advantage was all in favour of TD and not best for the children; and it looked like there had been poor governance. This led to a discussion in which it was confirmed that the negotiations had continued, sometimes haphazardly, until after a long delay it was understood TD were looking at an alternative arrangement for access to the car park via adjoining land. In the event that was not pursued and negotiations resumed on the basis of the land being given up by the PC would be slightly less than it was receiving and that it was accepted that the skateboard park was now little used and potentially dangerous and would be lost, but a multi-use games area (MUGA) would be provided at a potential cost in the region of £80,000 and accommodation works that would be carried out with a bund and hedging to provide screening for the proposed car park. On the question of governance, the subgroup had been tasked to carry out negotiations and bring those negotiations to the PC when finalised. A meeting had taken place in September 2025 when the initial draft contract and transfers had been prepared and were considered by the subgroup with the PC solicitor.

There was further discussion on the moving and condition of the existing equipment on the land the being given up, the re-siting of the same and any necessary levelling of the area of land being received.

Mr Johns queried the state of ownership of TD but it was accepted that title to the land was vested in the company that owned TD and the solicitors were happy.

There then followed a general discussion identifying how the Village would like to see the that new playfield being used and on fundraising events to which TD would be committed to match funding.

Mrs Dorgan then proposed that the draft contract and transfers be approved and to proceed with the proposed land swap. This was seconded by Mr Forward and on being put to the vote was carried unanimously

4. It was then proposed by Mrs Dorgan and seconded by Mr Forward that the signatories be the Chairman Mrs Greening and Mr King