

The Minutes of a Meeting of the Edington Parish Council held at the Parish Hall, Edington on Monday 13th October 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Apologies were received from Mrs Dorgan and Mr Forward

1. **The Minutes** of the Meeting held on the 8th September 2025 were adopted as read and signed; and thanks were expressed to Mr Forward for preparing them
2. There were no **Matters Arising**.
3. **Planning**
 - a. Neighbourhood Plan (NP).
 - i. Arrangements had been instigated by WC to carry out a Housing Needs Survey between the 3rd and the 24th November
 - ii. Mrs Pike reported that following discussions Mr Forward would rewrite elements of the NP. The Village design statement would need to be reworked covering long-term objectives in more detail and in order to do so it was suggested that either the original groups be asked to reconvene to review the various objectives or set up a small group to carry it out
 - b. The following applications had been received, and there was no objection to either of them:-
 - i. PL/2025/08022/TCA: T1 Birch - reduce crown by 3m to leave a finished height of 9m. Tree is growing too large for the area; T2 Southern Beech – remove 2 lowest limbs growing toward neighbouring tree to give more space and light; T3 Alder – crown lift to 6m above ground level to give clearance of neighbour's garden at the Old Vicarage, Westbury Road for Mr D'arcey
 - ii. PL/2025/04170/FUL: proposed single storey glazed veranda installation to SE elevation at Bonshommes Cottage, 2 Monastery Rd for Mr and Mrs Fiander
 - c. The following decisions had been received:-
 - i. PL/2025/06782/TCA - fell variegated holly tree at Brackenfell Charlton Hill for Sonia Heywood – no objection
 - ii. PL/2025/06791/TPO - T1 Weeping Beech tree - side prune by 1m at Seymour House, 2 Greater Lane for Mr Edward Arnold - approved
 - iii. PL/2025/06792TPO - T1 Lime tree - 30% crown reduction at Playing Field to rear of The Three Daggers for Mr Edward Arnold - approved
 - iv. PL/2025/06789 /TCA - T2 Walnut tree - reduce by 30% at Greater Lane Farm for Mr Edward Arnold – no objection
 - v. PL/2025/06626/TCA re-coppice trees on the bank: Ash, Spindle, Hazel and 1 Beech. There is also Elder, at Brackenfell, Charlton Hill for Sonia Heywood – no objection

4. Policing

Mrs Greening reported that a Mobile Police Station would be set up in the Church car park on the 5th November between 5.30 and 6.30 pm. In addition PCSO Alice Moore would be at the Three Daggers coffee morning on the 18th November.

5. Playfield (PF)

- i. Land Swap. A meeting had taken place between the subgroup and the PC solicitor. A number of points had been raised for clarification including the schedule of works and MUGA but it was expected that when the redraft of the contract had been received a special meeting would be arranged for the PC to discuss it and make a decision.
- ii. PF signage. The ROSPA Report had advised upgraded signing be provided and Mrs Henning had obtained examples which were discussed, both as to size and content. It was agreed that the signs should include “no beer glasses”.
- iii. Mrs Henning had also made contact with Playdale with a view to their coming to investigate the state of the equipment and possible redesigns and siting.
- iv. ROSPA required there to be regular weekly checks of the equipment which Mrs Henning had been carrying out but she needed cover for a forthcoming holiday.
- v. Christmas tree. The suggestion was for a larger one if possible and Mr Hardman would speak to Three Daggers. The PC was prepared to make a contribution.

6. Highway Matters/Footpaths/LHFIG

- a. Crossroads farm junction. Our MP was asking for more investigation and police were supporting this.
- b. Car park permissive path. The only remaining items were for the fence to be done and Permissive Path signs put up.
- c. The Parish Hall footpath. Mr Forward would be asked to make further contact with LHFIG.
- d. Footpaths. There is annexed Mr Johns’ report following a site visit with the WC footpaths officer.

8. Wiltshire Council (WC) Report.

Mr Phillips reported on a number of matters.

- a. It was proposed that badge holders would get free parking.
- b. The new Wiltshire Plan.
- c. Parish Councils should be expecting to receive shortly claims for election expenses.
- d. Hare Coursing. A number of arrests had been made.
- e. getsafeonline.org – there was a new AI driver which was excellent for scam checking. It was called “ask silver”.

9. Finances.

- a. It was proposed by Mrs Pike seconded by Mrs Watts and carried unanimously that the following invoices be paid or payment confirmed:-
 - i. CreativeXolutions for dedicated website hosting for 10 years £2299.
 - ii. PKF Littlejohn (External auditors) £252.

- iii. Refund Mr Forward cost of Website Host Aug/Sept and Sept/Oct 2025 £32.40.
 - iv. Parish Hall Hire July and September £40.
 - v. Ideal Grounds Maintenance September Inv 20 £352.82.
 - vi. Refund Mrs Greening cost of PF bark from Bradfords £455.71 and Sydenhams £290.38. Total £746.09.
- b. The Clerk reported that the external audit had been completed with no adverse comments. In course of correspondence they had asked for more detail on the explanation of variances which had been supplied.
- c. The following had been received:-
- i. WC £10500 2nd payment of Precept
 - ii. Burial fee re Mrs Southern £150

11. Correspondence

- a. WALC Circular September 2025
- b. CPRE Countryside Voices: Autumn/Winter 2025

12. News items.

Consideration was given to items to be included

13. Date of next Meeting

This was fixed for Monday 10th November 2025 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm.

Annex

Re Footpath 12 Mr Johns would ask the adjacent landowner to both clip back the shrub to allow visible sign of the board and also the hedge on the footpath side (along with the other landowner — Peter Gale)

Re FP 21 It was a good conversation about ownership of the trees ‘ in the hedge line’ and a difficult one to be clear about re adjoining land owners. It was agreed to try and get land registry plans

Re FP 9 The variable width in places was noted. It was understood that WC would send hedge/ fencing adjustment letters.

Re FP 19 The barriers at the bottom are both historical and act as a safety measure to children (well used by them and parents) running down the lane with the very dangerous junction and bends at the bottom onto Lower Road/Inmead and he urged that the barriers should be retained

Re FP2 There was one section of the footpath that gets very muddy in the Winter and the PC would monitor the impact of last year’s repairs.

There was an overall discussion about the pressure group seeking ‘open’ gates etc. While the principle of access for all is commendable there are geographical restrictions on some paths in Edington which would make it impracticable. There are also stock issues in some fields.

However re Kissing Gates, of which we have many we would wish to discuss further re a couple more to replace difficult stiles.