

**EDGCOTT PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF 'VIRTUAL' MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD**  
**AT 6PM ON MONDAY 25 JANUARY 2021**

(The meeting was held in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ("the 2020 Regulations") 4 April 2020)

**1/21 Attendance and apologies**

**Attendance:**

Cllr P Harper (Chairman)  
Cllr B Kay  
Cllr R Webster  
Cllr S Gassor

**In attendance:**

Cllr K Maloney, Chair GU Parish Council  
Cllr A Benfield, GUPC  
Cllr P Jackman, GUPC  
Members of the Public  
C Jackman (Clerk)

**Apologies:**

None

**OPEN FORUM**

Chair welcomed those present and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded and that the recording would be uploaded to the website. *[However, following complaints regarding the appalling language of a resident at the start of the meeting, and guidance from the Bucks & MK Association of Local Councils, it has been agreed that the recording will not be uploaded.]*

i) Cllr Maloney thanked the Parish Council for its input to the objections to the proposed new prison at Grendon Underwood. She explained that Grendon and Edgcott councillors, with two Edgcott residents who had come forward to help, had worked tirelessly to gather as much information as possible to oppose the proposal. Three virtual meetings had been held and 2 sets of information leaflets had been delivered to all houses in Grendon Underwood and Edgcott and Edgcott PC had sent emails to 20 other parishes asking for their support.

Detailed objections had been sent to Buckinghamshire Cabinet members. Our County Councillor, Angela Macpherson, had presented the objections to the Cabinet meeting on 25 January which voted to oppose the proposal with no objections and one abstention.

ii) A resident had emailed the Parish Council requesting that they all resign but had not given any reasons. During the Open Forum the resident gave his reasons stating that he believed Councillors' responsibilities were to:

- represent the local people
- provide services for the community
- improve quality of life and community well-being

and should be pulling the village together, which he believed they were not.

Following a question from Cllr Kay the resident stated that he thought the Council should have approached residents in person rather than writing letters regarding planning issues. He also claimed that there had been three wasted months with the prison proposal. (See Cllr Maloney's comments above regarding this comment.) Chair pointed out that the Council had joined Grendon on a joint working group as soon as it was aware of the MoJ plans.

Chair noted his concerns and pointed out that local elections would be held in May and residents would be

able to determine the composition of the council at that time.

iii) An Edgcott resident asked what the Councils had been doing since the MoJ's announcement and offered her management expertise. Chair explained what the Council had done since the notification from the MoJ (see Cllr Maloney's comments above). Councillors and a resident found it extraordinary that this question be asked, and assistance offered now, as the deadline for comment was only 4 days away on 29 January. It was pointed out that no residents had approached Edgcott Parish Council offering their help following the issues of the flyers and the ZOOM meetings.

It was pointed out that the proposal was likely to go to planning and expert advice might then be needed. The Parish Councils hoped that splinter groups would not dilute any action by the Parish Councils and urged that any ideas should be put to the working group (chaired by Cllr Maloney) or to the Parish Council Clerks.

## **2/21 Members Interests**

None.

## **3/21 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14 December 2020**

The Council agreed that the minutes of the above meeting were correct, and the Chairman will sign them at the next 'proper' meeting.

## **4/21 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **5/21 Planning**

### **a) Planning applications**

**20/00717/APP:** Linden House, Grendon Road, Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TN

Further documents from the Compliments and Complaints team at Bucks Council had been received and a response will be sent by the due deadline.

**Action: R Baker / R Behagg and Chair to put together a Stage 2 response by 20 February.**

**20/04357/ALB** | Removal of an existing brick garden wall and a small section of picket fencing, at the front boundary and replace with a new wooden picket fence | Lower Farm Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TN

Decision: No objection - This had been dealt with by email.

20/04382/APP | Erection of detached dwelling with 3 bay garage | Land Adj To Old Manor House Buckingham Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0T  
Objection submitted 31 December

The status of 2020 Planning applications is listed at Appendix 1.

## **6/21 Finance**

### **a) To note payment of accounts and receipts:**

Income and Payments December - January				
Date	Description\Supplier	Receipt	Payment	Chq
16-Dec	Bucks Lottery	£45.00		
31/12/2020	Bucks Council: Inv 2205024929 Traffic Data		£494.40	1071
05/01/2021	Bucks Lottery	£36.00		
25/01/2021	C Jackman: Clerk 1/3 of SLCC membership		£55.00	1072
22/01/2021	SSE: Inv 631774536 0023 Street lighting 2 Dec - 4 Jan		£5.13	DD
22/01/2021	SSE: Inv 741775810 0023 Street lighting 2 Dec - 4 Jan		£118.36	DD

### **b) 2021-22 Budget**

The 2021-22 budget was approved.

It was agreed that the precept be set at the same level as FY 2020-21 at £10,250.

**Action: Clerk to inform Buckinghamshire Council.**

## **7/21 Potential New Prison**

See Open Forum for comments.

Rod Baker highlighted that the Planners would have to take into account that the location of the car park could be on a ridge and furrow field, historically this could be very significant and Grendon Hall is Grade 2 listed.

Chair then emphasised that we were working on the many planning matters identified by the working group including the flooding implications. MoJ had informed Council that they had not looked at Bullingdon as an alternative, and other sites they have looked at is Commercially Sensitive information. Cllr Maloney pointed out that the MoJ had not responded to the questions from the ZOOM meeting within the 48 hours she had requested because the questions were numerous and the chat box had been taken up with questions totally irrelevant to the potential prison. The MoJ had employed an analyst to analyse all the questions so would not be responding until about the 29 January (the deadline for comments).

It was noted that the MoJ will be challenged about the validity of the consultation process.

So far there have been in excess of 600 responses – a lot of people are leaving their response until after the Cabinet meeting.

Any further questions should be emailed to the Chair.

Moving forward into the next phase, any planning expertise would be useful.

## **8/21 Village Hall**

### **a) Improvement update (Car Park)**

The car park should be finished within the next few days subject to easy access to the car park and weather permitting.

### **b) Committee update**

No updates were available.

### **c) Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust Development (VAHT) at Village Hall**

It was noted that the likely completion date is now the end of February 2021. Mains drainage has been connected, with just groundwork to be completed.

## **9/21 Highways and footways**

**a) Flooding** has been a problem in Buckingham Road. Water from the field near Fox Farm has been a problem for a long time which will be pointed out to the LAT.

Transport for Bucks (TfB) is aware that they have some more work to do, particularly where the pavement is almost at the same level as the road.

The TfB Local Area Technician (LAT) is getting the work costed to determine whether it can be completed in this financial year. It was thought that the original problem was caused either by TfB or Thames Water.

Other work which needs completing is the clearing of gulleys in Perry Hill and Grendon Road between Lower Farm and the traffic calming.

It was noted that TfB has been under a lot of pressure with the recent floods in other areas, however they should be congratulated on solving the flooding at Pond Cottages and the junction of Stone Road and Marsh Gibbon Road.

**Action: Chair to follow up with the LAT.**

The LAT has indicated that he will look into repairing Stone Road and Church Lane during the next FY (21-22).

**Action: Chair to remind LAT of this commitment during the next walk about.**

### **b) Grendon Road Land**

Council had made an application to Bucks Council (the owners of Grendon Road land) via TfB to plant trees on the land, in accordance with the Council's policy to create wild road verges.

**10/21 Speed watch /HGV's****a) Sentinel Camera**

It is still Thames Valley Police (TVP) policy not to allow the use of the Sentinel camera. It was noted that Edgcott Parish Council is on the waiting list to use the camera as soon as it is available.

**b) 20's Plenty Campaign:**

The 20's plenty campaign to try to get a speed reduction through the village is on-going.

**c) HGV's**

Council will carry out an HGV survey in the village as soon as weather permits. All the information will go to Bucks Strategic Freight Officer. Ideally, we would like to get HGV's re-routed or a weight restriction but that is probably not possible as Edgcott is on the main route through to the HS2 works. It was noted that the Council tried to get a weight restriction a few years ago.

**11/21 Street Lighting**

Council is grateful that Charles Harris continues to oversee the street lighting. Lanterns needing repair will be replaced with LED's as funds allow. The lanterns in Church Lane and at the junction of Lawn House Lane and Grendon Road will be replaced with LED's as soon as the contractor receives the part, but it is hoped that this will be completed by end of March. Chair said that he should be contacted if a light is not working.

**12-13/21****HS2 / East West Rail (EWR)**

Chair thanked Roger Behagg for overseeing the HS2 / EWR.

It was noted that:

- it is a constant battle with HS2 and EWR to ensure that they fulfil promises and adhere to all the terms of their contract.
- a response is awaited from ESK as to whether vibration monitors can be put into properties.
- any transgressions regarding non display of identifiers, bad driving, out of hours working etc. should be reported to the relevant bodies within HS2 and EWR.
- gritting was an issue – the Calvert Box committee is trying to make sure that the gritting is in place.
- there have been issues over weekend working – they are allowed to work on Saturday mornings but for any other time over the weekend they need special permission from Bucks Council.

**14/21 Oxford to Cambridge Expressway**

It was noted that this is still paused. If the Expressway is cancelled, the Expressway Group will have to refocus their campaign on any new housing.

**15/21 Aylesbury Vale Lottery**

The lottery continues to generate funds.

**16/21 Community Board**

The next community board meeting is on the 18 March.

**17/21 Correspondence, Circulars and Consultations**

All correspondence, circulars and consultations had been forwarded to councillors by email.

**18/21 Coronavirus update**

No updates were available.

**19/21 Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**20/21 Date, time and venue of next meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held 'virtually' at 6pm on Monday 8 March 2021.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Signed (Chairman) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX 1

### STATUS OF 2020-2021 PLANNING

Reference	Address	Status
20/00717/APP	Linden House Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TN	Approved
20/02927/APP	Clover Meadow Marsh Gibbon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TA	Awaiting decision
20/03142/ALB	Lower Farm Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TN	Consent Granted
20/03415/APP	Regency House Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TN	Awaiting decision
20/04357/ALB	Lower Farm Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TN	Consent Granted
20/04382/APP	Land Adj To Old Manor House Buckingham Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0TR	Awaiting decision