

EDGCOTT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
AT 6PM ON MONDAY 17 MAY 2021
IN EDGCOTT VILLAGE HALL

OPEN FORUM

Questions answered during meeting.

68/21 Parish Council Election: to confirm new Councillors

The result of the Parish Council Election held on 6 May 2021 was as follows:

Name of Candidate	Number of Votes	Elected
BENN Andrew David William	33	
BUSH, Esther Evelyn Whittington	52	
GASSOR, Stephanie Diane	109	Elected
HARPER, Peter William	104	Elected
HAWES, Angela Jane	100	Elected
KAY, Robert William	85	Elected
SUTCLIFFE, Christopher	25	
WEBSTER, Robert John	82	Elected

The result has been posted on the Parish Council notice board and website. The Register of Interests has been forwarded to Democratic Services at Buckinghamshire Council.

69/21 Attendance and apologies

Attendance:

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

In attendance:

3 Members of the Public
C Jackman (Clerk)

Apologies:

CC Angela Macpherson and Cllr A Hawes who was recovering from a hip operation

70/21 Election of Chair

Cllr Harper, proposed by Cllr Kay and seconded by Cllr Webster was unanimously elected as Chair.

71/21 Election of Vice-Chair

Cllr Webster, proposed by Cllr Harper and seconded by Cllr Kay was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

72/21 Allocation of Responsibilities

a) Community Board

Cllr Harper

b) Community Board sub-groups

i) HSW/EWR: Roger Behagg agreed to represent the Parish Council on this sub-group

ii) Flooding / Speeding and HGV sub-groups

Cllr Harper agreed to attend these sub-groups.

c) New Prison

Rod Baker agreed to represent the Parish Council.

d) Energy from Waste Facility

Cllr Webster

73/21 Confirmation of Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

Clerk was confirmed as the RFO.

74/21 Members Interests

None.

75/21 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting remotely held on Monday 8 March 2021

The Council agreed that the minutes of the above meeting were correct, and the Chairman signed them.

76/21 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held remotely on 21 April 2021

The Council agreed that the minutes of the above meeting were correct, and the Chairman signed them.

77/21 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

78/21 Planning (2020/21 Planning applications are at Appendix 1)

a) Planning applications

21/01876/APP: Change of Use of land for the Creation of 4 Gypsy/Traveller Pitches comprising the siting of 1 mobile home, 1 touring caravan, and the erection of 1 dayroom per pitch | Land Adjacent To Lawn Hill Edgcott Buckinghamshire (deadline for comments 3 June 2021)

A traveller from the site attended the meeting and explained the reasons why they had moved onto it. Currently there are 3 mobile homes, 2 caravans and one camper van on the site. He noted that they cannot improve the site because of the injunction served by Buckinghamshire Council. He explained that children on site ranged in ages of between 8 weeks to 15 years and that two of them were sick, with one needing an oxygen supply, hence the generator. He did add that they were considering getting a silent generator.

He was unable to clarify what arrangements would be made for the installation of utilities (water, electricity / drainage) and the disposal of sewage as they did not want to incur expense without knowing that they could stay. However, he did indicate that a "portaloo" might be hired. He added that the ideal situation would be for them to be able to have a permanent base on Lawn Hill. Councillors thanked him for attending the meeting, he then left.

Decision: Councillors agreed to object to the application on the following grounds:

- Change of use from Agriculture to Residential
- Not in the National Planning Policy Framework / Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan and outside the footprint of the village
- Lack of utilities: water / electricity / drainage (sanitation)
- Noise
- Vehicular access

b) 20/00717/APP: Linden House, Grendon Road, Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTN

Council have been informed that a response to their Stage 2 questions should be received by 20 May.

Council have been advised that a response to their Stage 2 complaint will not now be available until 17 June.

It was noted that planning applications are taking far too long to decide, and it was agreed to ask our County Councillor why there is a delay.

Action: Clerk to write to CC Angela Macpherson

c) **The following was noted:**

Objections had been submitted for the following applications:

21/01314/AOP | Outline Planning Application with all matters reserved except access for a residential development of up to 18 dwellings (Affordable housing exception site) and an allotment. Dunsty Hill Farm, Edgcott Road, Calvert Green, Buckinghamshire OX27 0BJ.

CM/0016/21 | Application for the construction of solar array / solar park comprising of ground mounted solar PV panels and associated works including: Distributor Network Operator (DNO) switching station, client switching station, battery containers, general storage container, access track, fencing, security cameras and cabling for a temporary period of 35 years at Calvert Landfill Site. | Solar Park Development On A Capped Part Of The Calvert Landfill Site, Brackley Lane, South Of Calvert Village, Buckinghamshire. Easting (x) 468935 Northing (y) 223160.

d) Council had received further complaints about the marquee in the field behind Grendon Road. It was noted that a planning application has not been submitted and is in the hands of Buckinghamshire Council.

79/21 Finance

a) **Payment and Receipts**

Payment of accounts and receipts at **Appendix 2** were noted.

b) **Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)**

It was noted that the Internal Audit had been carried out on 10 May and the accounts signed.

i) The Annual Governance Statement was approved

ii) The Annual Accounting Statement was approved

Action: Clerk to forward the approved accounts to the external auditor.

c) **Photographic work**

Councillors approved the cost of ~£100 for photographic mapping of the footpaths to support Prison objection and the 20's Plenty campaign.

80/21 Potential New Prison

Rod Baker explained the status of the potential new prison at Grendon Underwood which can be seen at **Appendix 3**.

81/21 Village Hall

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

The cost of a barrier to prevent unauthorised parking has not yet been received.

Action: Cllr Kay to chase the contractor for the quote.

It was noted that access to the village hall grassed area is now restricted by the new fence and gate.

Action: Chair to investigate the best option for future mowing.

b) **Committee update**

Cllr Gassor reported that the hall had been prepared for opening and that the risk assessments had been put up in the kitchen.

The cleaning bill of £101 had been sent to the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust who originally had agreed to pay ½ the cost, but now want to off-set it against any over-payment of the water bills.

Action Clerk to check the water invoices.

c) **Notice Board**

It was noted that sometime ago £200 was donated to the Parish Council toward the cost of a new notice board. However, it was agreed that this should be put towards the cost of repairs as the current notice board was still quite 'solid'.

Action: Clerk to ask HMP Springhill whether any help is available to make the repairs.

d) It was noted that the boundary fence between the village hall and the new development was very open.

Action: Cllr Gassor to speak to the village hall committee to enquire regarding the possible installation of 'stock fencing'.

82/21 Highways and footways

a) **Drainage/gulley cleaning**

It was noted that the path work and drainage/gulley cleaning had started on Buckingham Road.

b) **Spring on Grendon Road**

The Local Area Technician has the work in hand to divert the spring on Grendon Road in front of Hill Farm.

c) **Parking on Verges**

It was noted that more cars are parking on the verge on Grendon Road, despite the result of the village consultation and residents being requested not to by Buckinghamshire Council.

It was agreed to look into the Bucks Council and Queen's Jubilee tree initiative and get some trees planted along the verge.

d) **Hedge Buckingham Road**

The hedge along Buckingham Road adjacent to Leonard Close had not been cut reducing the vision splay and making it difficult for residents along Grendon Road to pull out of their driveways onto the road.

Action: Cllr Gassor to report on Fix My Street.

83/21 Speed watch /HGV's

a) **Sentinel Camera**

The Sentinel Camera has been booked from 7-11 June.

Action: Chair and Clerk to get a list of trained volunteers and to check how long the camera can be used each day.

b) **Road Tube Exercise**

The road tube exercise has taken place and when the results have been collated, an application can be submitted for a reduction of the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph through the village. The results also will be sent to Thames Valley Police requesting that they carry out speed enforcement.

c) **Vehicle Activated Signs**

HS2 Safety funding for the VAS has not yet been announced.

d) **HGV Survey**

Arrangements will be made with volunteers to carry out the survey.

84/21 Street Lighting

The installation of LED units continues.

85/21 HS2

Roger Behagg (RB) reported that he now has a direct line for the HS2 Traffic Manager. He also noted that:

- The number of HS2 vehicles using the village is at about 72% of their capacity.
- A heavy tank has been reported for going over a bridge with a 7½ ton weight limit.
- There will be more transporter lorries using the road whilst the haul roads are built.

86/21 East West Rail

RB reported that:

- EWR now have marshalls patrolling more regularly and have speed guns checking lorry speeds.
- Although EWR vehicles have been stopped from coming through the village, there will be approximately 12 movements a day while work on a bridge is carried out.
- 2 x smiley face cameras can be located in the village.
- He has been asking for vibration monitors since November but has not been given any details of when they are likely to be available.

87/21 Community Board

No updates were available.

88/21 Street Furniture

i) **Commemorative Bench/Litter Bin**

Chair reported that the commemorative bench is now awaiting installation.

Action: Cllr Gassor to get costs for a litter bin.

ii) **Seat Repair**

EWR have asked for photographs of the benches to be repaired / reinstated which Clerk has in hand

89/21 Coronavirus update

There were no updates. This item can be deleted from the agenda.

90/21 Correspondence, Circulars and Consultations

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

91/21 Any Other Business

It was agreed to produce a quarterly newsletter from the Parish Council and to invite input from the Church and Village Hall committee to inform parishioners of the current issues faced by the Parish Council and to ask for volunteers with, for example, Speed Watch.

Action: Chair and Cllr Gassor to liaise on the production of the newsletter.

92/21 Date, time and venue of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 6pm on Monday 28 June 2021 in Edgcott Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed (Chairman) _____ Date _____

STATUS OF 2020-2021 PLANNING

Reference	Address	Status
20/00717/APP	Linden House Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTN	Approved
20/02927/APP	Clover Meadow Marsh Gibbon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTA	Awaiting decision
20/03142/ALB	Lower Farm Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTN	Consent Granted
20/03415/APP	Regency House Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTN	Awaiting decision
20/04357/ALB	Lower Farm Grendon Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTN	Consent Granted
20/04382/APP	Land Adj To Old Manor House Buckingham Road Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTR	Awaiting decision
21/00672/APP	8 Lawnhouse Lane Lawn House Lane Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTX	Awaiting decision
21/01314/AOP	Dunsty Hill Farm Edgcott Road Calvert Green Buckinghamshire OX27 0BJ	Awaiting decision
21/01482/AGN	Ash Tree Farm Lawn Hill Edgcott Buckinghamshire HP18 OTT	Refused
21/01876/APP	Land Adjacent To Lawn Hill Edgcott Buckinghamshire	Awaiting decision

Appendix 2

Income and Receipts					
Date	Description		Payment	Income	Ref
01/04/2021	CIB	Inv 5286 - Community Buildings subscription	30.00		1081
07/04/2021	Bucks Council	Lottery		45.00	
20/04/2021	P Harper	Screwfix Disabled parking sign	29.99		1082
20/04/2021	Bucks Council	Half Yearly precept		5125.00	
23/04/2021	SSE	Inv 631774536 0026 - Street lighting elec 2 Mar - 1 Apr	4.95		DD
23/04/2021	SSE	Inv 741775810 0026 - Street light elect 2 Mar - 1 Apr	108.27		DD
22/05/2021	SSE	Inv 631774536 0027 - Street light elect 4 Apr - 4 May	5.13		DD
22/05/2021	SSE	Inv 741775810 0027 - Street light elect 4 Apr - 4 May	115.00		DD
17/05/2021	Community He	Inv 8715 - Defibrillator pads and battery	60.60		1083
17/05/2021	Melanie Rose	Inv 10 May 21 Internal Audit	50.00		1084

Update on recent developments on the proposed prison: 18th May 2021

1. Still not clear when an OPA will be submitted but anticipating one once the wildlife surveys have been completed?
2. Meeting with Steve Bambrick, Head of Planning at Bucks Council arranged by GU PC Clerk
 - a. Very helpful and open discussion;
 - b. Further details on key contacts, process, timings;
 - c. Can ask for longer than 21 days to review the OPA;
 - d. Likely to go to Strategic Planning Committee but a Case Officer will be assigned to arrange all aspects of the case;
 - e. Validation of an application should only take 2-3 days and then will be posted on the portal;
 - f. The review is likely to take 12-14 weeks before a final decision is made;
 - g. Quality of objections is key and must be Planning Balance relevant!
3. Ongoing Surveys
 - a. Some on land on the northern side of the prison site;
 - b. Possibility that three options under consideration by the MoJ;
 - c. NO CPOs been initiated as far as we know. It is a lengthy process, might follow later?
 - d. Pond surveys for newts and also surveys for reptiles (rectangles of felt and corrugated metal placed in 'car park' field and on the area where the main construction site would be;
 - e. Newt surveys involves two stages. Stage I – 4 visits a week apart and if newts found two further surveys to estimate the population;
 - f. Three surveys carried out so far on the ponds at Lawn House (3), the catch pond opposite Avalon and the one in Andy Benn's field;
 - g. Some ponds not yet surveyed but the contractors have been informed of two;
 - h. They stated last week that they had detected so far more GCNs than they expected but no details on which ponds they were found in yet;
4. Working party
 - a. Still meeting regularly;
 - b. One key point being addressed is 'site selection and 107 local councils in the SE contacted to see if they have had any pre-planning discussions with the MoJ (to undermine the claims made by the MoJ);
 - c. Considering the 'end game' in terms of objections by the PCs and residents;
 - d. RB drafting Information sheets for each key topic that will be considered in the Planning Balance; (Objections, background info, other references, NPPF, Local Plan relevant details/policies;
 - e. List of topics as a 'menu' and residents to select the factors they feel most strongly about;
 - f. Two versions of Info Sheets, one suitable for everyone and a more detailed one for the PCs and anyone else who wants to go into more depth, will be made available on line or by hard copy;
5. Landscape
 - a. Map and Martin Rogers photos from around the whole area looking towards the prison to highlight the visibility of any new prison
 - b. Similar exercise to be carried out on footpaths from Perry Hill to Grendon Underwood Church