



## Communication Committee

**MINUTES** of the Communication Committee meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 8.00pm via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** Councillor R Higginson                      Cllr G Jones                      Cllr G Williams  
Councillor A Wilson

**In Attendance:** K Baker (Clerk)                      Cllr Y Brunger                      Cllr C Rogers

**C2020/146      WELCOME & PUBLIC SESSION**  
Councillor Higginson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**C2020/147      APOLOGIES**  
Councillor I Pryce                      Work Commitments

**RESOLVED that the Apologies be accepted.**

**C2020/148      DECLARATION OF INTEREST**  
Yvonne Brunger                      Editor of Edgmond Echo  
Chloe Rogers                      Admin for Edgmond Chit Chat  
These positions are not related to their role as a Parish Councillor

**C2020/149      MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**  
It was proposed by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Higginson that the Minutes of the meeting held in February be accepted as a true record. All were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that the Minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

**C2020/150      MATTERS ARISING**  
The grant for £200 towards the Edgmond Magazine had not been paid to the PCC as the Church Magazine had not continued.

**C2020/151      COMMUNICATING WITH THE COMMUNITY**  
The Edgmond Echo is a printed newsletter, delivered to every house in the Parish and whilst it started as part of the Community Support Project (led by Yvonne Brunger), it has now applied to be a CIC with Companies House, in order that it can accept income (such as from adverts) and apply for grants.  
Yvonne was invited to the meeting as she is currently the Editor and the Parish Council considered including a monthly article whilst considering the options available for its Annual Report and regular newsletters.

There was a view that the local community did not understand the work of the Parish Council or the role of Parish Councillors and it was agreed that initially, the articles would include these details and also how to contact the Parish Council. Articles have to be with the Editor on 23<sup>rd</sup> of the Month, any points that Councillors wish to be included must be with the Clerk by 20<sup>th</sup> and a draft copy will be circulated to all Members before submitting to the Editor.

After a few editions, the Parish Council will consider the Councillor's monthly reports being re-introduced in the Echo. All Councillors will be asked for permission to use their photographs from the website in a future edition of Edgmond Echo.

**C2020/152**

### **NOTICEBOARDS**

Thanks were recorded to the volunteers who maintain the noticeboards, and for displaying updated material when available.

The noticeboards, at Marsh Road and Shrewsbury Road, are now in a good state of repair.

Thanks were extended to the Village Hall Committee for the provision of a noticeboard in the new foyer. This will be well used when the Village Hall re-opens.

**C2020/153**

### **EDGMOND PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

The Parish Council website contains all the relevant information, taking into consideration The Transparency Code and the Local Government Acts. It is compliant with the regulations relating to Parish & Town Councils and meets the requirements of the recent Accessibility Regulations.

Thanks are extended for the help received to keep the website up to date. Details relating to activities in the Parish can be added as a News Item. Residents can sign up to receive email notification of new information. This means that they will get a message in their inbox and that there is no requirement for them to have to look at the website regularly to see what has been added.

The Auditors require that a Parish Council has an appropriate website and this is also a requirement of the AGAR. Anyone asking for details about the Parish Council and its work can be directed to the website. There is also a 'Contact Us' link to send emails direct from the website. This is well used, as the PC often receives requests for information via the website.

**C2020/154**

### **USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

Chloe Rogers had been invited to attend the meeting as she has recently taken on the role of Admin for Edgmond Chit Chat and explained some of the benefits of using social media. It was suggested that the use of a website is now outdated as more local residents would prefer to use social media platforms, such as facebook or nextdoor.

**After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Committee would recommend to Full Council that a new Facebook Page (Edgmond Parish Council and Community) be created. Chloe (as a Parish Councillor) offered to act as the Admin for the page and to publish news items from the Parish Council and to actively engage with the community so that more residents become aware of the role of the Parish Council and who the Parish Councillors are.**

Whilst this is to be supported, it is important to ensure that only official Parish Council responses are included. Members are referred to the Council's Social Media Policy.

As previously agreed, Parish Council articles can be included on social media following publication as it is accepted that some people do not read written correspondence.

If Parish Councillors have their own Pages, they may consider a separate Parish Councillor Page – this will help to ensure that residents are aware of when they are acting in the role of a Parish Councillor and when they are offering their own personal views.  
However, it is also important to remember that the National Code of Conduct confirms that Members are Parish Councillors at all times, and that the Code of Conduct is therefore relevant at all times.

**C2020/155      OTHER MATTERS**  
None

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

Signed .....Date .....