



MINUTES of an Meeting of Edgmond Parish Council which took place in Edgmond Village Hall on **Monday 10th January 2022** at 7.15pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: A Wilson (Chairman)
R Higginson
G Jones
K Arbuthnot
S Bentley (arrived part 22/1891)
C Edwards
Y Brunger
S Burrell (arrived part 22/1891)
M Barton

In attendance: Katrina Baker, Clerk
9 Members of the public

22/1891 WELCOME AND PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman, Councillor Wilson, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

All members introduced themselves.

Public Session

Edgmond Wildlife Group (EWG)

Paula Doherty, representing the EWG updated the meeting regarding proposals the Group has put forward on how local green spaces could be improved following a letter from TWC. EWG has been in contact with TWC and it has been agreed that a site visit will take place on 25th January, with representatives of the Parish Council.

Suggestions for consideration include:

- Reducing grass cutting around the edge of the Shrewsbury Road playing field
- Reconfigure the entrance to the play area to include an area of uncut grass and planting new trees
- Thicken up the hedge along the NW boundary to improve habitat, including creating log piles and brash to make the boundary more inviting for wildlife
- Extra shrubs along the SE boundary

There were also suggestions for across the Borough

- Less verge cutting
- Access to specialist equipment for meadow management – available to volunteer groups

It is hoped that EWG and the Parish Council will continue to work together to improve local biodiversity. Future improvements to the environment of the play area will also offer an opportunity to increase environmental awareness and for the participation of the wider community, considering such projects as a bug hotel or beetle bank.

Log-A-Log

Work has taken place at the Log-A-Log site including the installation of doors and cladding to the east-facing gable. However, concern remains that the noise of the bandsaw is still evident in gardens and properties in the village.

Parking on Pavements

There are areas in the village where parking on pavements causes pedestrians to have to walk in the road. This also causes a dangerous situation for anyone with a disability or poor sight.

Smell of Sewage, Manor Road

Overgrown Hedges

In particular outside Edgmond Villa which has reduced the pavement width.

Planning Applications for The Lion Inn

Anonymous hand written notes had been delivered to some properties in the village. The Parish Council will be distributing an information flyer to keep all residents informed. The Parish Council will be arranging a consultation event for all residents but in the meantime, the Chairman reminded those in attendance that the Parish Council is only a consultee, the same as residents and that it is very important that people let Telford & Wrekin Council know their views.

Comments received at the meeting included:

- The application for 27 properties is contrary to the Edgmond Neighbourhood Plan and TW Local Plan
- The application documents contain inaccurate information and untrue statements
- Not all neighbours have received consultation letters from TWC
- There is no guarantee that this planning application will bring forward The Lion as an Asset of Community Value
- There remains some confusion as to why The Lion Roars Again community group, could not buy and develop the site to ensure the retention of the Lion Inn
- The loss of the car park would result in the loss of The Lion (ACV)

The Chairman had allowed an extended Public Session period (usually 15 minutes) in order to allow local residents to share their thoughts with the Parish Council.

The Parish Councillors were thanked for their work, which they do voluntarily, on behalf of the community of Edgmond.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and explained that they could stay for the remainder of the meeting if they wished to.

22/1892

APOLOGIES

Councillor S Burrell	Attending a TWC meeting	Arrived within 22/1891
Councillor S Bentley	Attending a TWC meeting	Arrived within 22/1891

22/1893

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr C Edwards	Log A Log	Non-pecuniary Interest
Cllr S Bentley	Budget	Personal Interest (Clerk's Salary)

DISPENSATIONS

All Councillors who are resident within the boundary of the Parish Council received a Dispensation to take part in the discussions regarding the budget and to set the precept for 2022/23.

22/1894

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 8th NOVEMBER 2021

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards and seconded by Councillor Higginson, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a true record. With one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the November meeting be accepted as a true record.

22/1895

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA, for information
Councillor Bentley – attending a TWC Scrutiny Meeting regarding APT Planning**

TWC resolved to change the name of the ‘business’ currently known as APT, which offered a planning and development service in the Borough and further afield. The Scrutiny meeting had taken place due to concerns raised by Councillors and the Public that there is a conflict of interest between the business (APT) and the role of TWC as a planning authority. It had been noted from examples that this can be an advantage to applicants, but also a disadvantage. Unfortunately, TWC resolved to change the name, but not the structure so at this time, nothing has changed.

22/1896

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

a) West Mercia Police & Parish Warden

A copy of the recent newsletter had been circulated.

Unfortunately, a new system has been installed at WMP and as yet it is not possible to gain information on a specific area (such as Edgmond). This is unfortunate, as it was always useful to have the local information from the Parish Warden.

b) Harper Adams University

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2021 had been circulated to Members, for information. It was good to meet Mr K Sloan, the new Vice Chancellor.

c) Helicopter Liaison Group

There had been no meeting recently, the next one is scheduled for March.

d) Edgmond Village Hall

Cllr Wilson, as the Parish Council representative on the VH Committee, reported that the next Village Hall meeting is to take place on 18th January 2022.

22/1897

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

a) Payments

There were no payments to be authorised.

b) Financial Report

The bank reconciliation had been circulated and showed a balance of £44,872.44.

c) Internal Audit and Finance Group

Cllr Bentley declared an interest and took no part in the discussion / decision

The Group had met on 6th January 2022, on zoom. Financial reports had been provided prior to the meeting along with a proposed budget, for consideration.

The balance in the current account is healthy and this will enable a number of the existing projects to be included as earmarked reserves. This includes the long-awaited Speed Indicator Device Project. The Parish Council also has budget headings for the Jubilee Events and the Play Area.

Members believed that local residents have had a difficult year, due to the affects of Covid restrictions and therefore it was proposed by the Audit and Finance Group that there should be no increase in the precept for 2022/23. This was seconded by Councillor Brunger, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the precept for 2022/23 should not increase and will be £21,777.00.

22/1898

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

a) Report

Log-A-Log, Edgmond

The TWC Planning Officer had confirmed that they were awaiting the results of a noise impact assessment before determining the current (retrospective) planning application.

Councillors A Wilson, R Higginson and G Jones had visited the site when the mounted circular saw was in operation. The owner had shown the Councillors the work undertaken so far, including the door and cladding, and explained that they are awaiting other equipment and materials before the work can be completed.

It was accepted that the noise can be heard further from the site, as well as on the site and a noise assessment is to be undertaken following completion of the work. The company understands that this is necessary prior to their planning application being determined.

The Chairman confirmed that an external independent noise assessment will be required both on the site and away from the site (in the village).

It was confirmed that the company now uses the sawdust for fibreboard and reduced disposal of waste wood by 'open air' incineration on site

Land adjacent to Egremont House

In an email on 14th December, the Planning Officer confirmed that she is still awaiting information relating to trees on the site. On receipt of all the amendments, a further period of consultation will take place. The application is to be determined by Planning Committee and Councillor Burrell will be attending to speak. Councillor Wilson confirmed that he would also attend to represent the Parish Council.

b) New Applications for consideration

Members had taken the opportunity to consider the attachments for the applications which are on the telford.gov.uk/planning website

TWC/2021/1208 The Lion Inn, Edgmond

Single storey flat roofed front store extension following demolition of existing store with chimney and extension of car parking

Members discussed the application and kept in mind their wish, on behalf of the community, to support the retention and re-opening of The Lion Inn as an Asset of Community Value for the Parish.

Members were mindful, however, of the second application for the site which included an extensive residential development to the rear of the Lion Inn and believed that the two should be considered together.

RESOLVED that Edgmond Parish Council would have no objections to the proposals in order to continue to support the renovation of the Lion Inn, as an ACV. However, the response will confirm that this does not, in any way, offer support to application TWC/2021/1220 at this time.

TWC/2021/1220 Land adjacent to The Lion Inn, Newport Road, Edgmond

Erection of 27 affordable homes (5 shared ownership and 22 affordable rent) associated access, landscaping and drainage

Members confirmed their commitment to consult with all local residents on any 'significant' planning application and therefore Members discussed how this could be achieved, due to covid restrictions. Members confirmed that it is vitally important that all local residents inform TWC, the Planning Authority, of their views on this application. This can be done on-line at telford.gov.uk/planning and searching TWC/2021/1220, emails can be sent to planning@telford.gov.uk and letters can be sent for the attention of Robin Jones, Senior Planner, apT, Wellington Civic Offices, PO Box 457, Telford, TF2 2FH

RESOLVED that Edgmond Parish Council would host a zoom consultation meeting, for all residents on Wednesday, 19th January 2022 at 7pm. The link will be publicised and available to all local residents.

Members are also keen to hear local opinions which can be provided by email to the Parish Council or in a letter, which can be left in the box on the side of Edgmond Village Hall, or handed to any Parish Councillor. Members will include all the comments received in their deliberations prior to responding to the official consultation.

Members are unable to comment in detail, prior to the public consultation, for fear of 'pre-determination'. However, there was sufficient concern that the application was contrary to the Edgmond Neighbourhood Plan and Policy H011 of the TW Local Plan to call in the application to be determined by the Planning Committee, rather than delegated to a Planning Officer. It was proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Higginson, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Edgmond Parish Council will call in application TWC/2021/1220 as it is contrary to the Edgmond Neighbourhood Plan and Policy H011 of the Local Plan. This will enable a Ward Member to speak at the meeting, a representative of the Parish Council and a member of the public, this results in 9 minutes being available for all points to be raised with the Committee, prior to their decision.

RESOLVED, that as applications TWC/2021/1208 and TWC/2021/1220 are linked and relate to the renovation of the Lion Inn, as an Asset of Community Value, the Parish Council will call-in both applications to be determined by the Planning Committee.

**TWC/2021/1222 Stockwood House, Birchmoor Lane, Edgmond
Erection of a single storey side and rear orangery extension**

RESOLVED that Edgmond Parish Council would have no objections to the proposals.

c) Other Planning and Development Matters

- i) A timetable for the sessions will be forwarded and all Members are encouraged to attend as many as possible, all are on zoom and at 6pm.
- ii) The Chairman had received an email today relating to a pre-application for 3 aerial masts on HAU land to provide 5G which will be required for effective autonomic equipment. The email shows three locations and the masts will be 25m high. The email will be circulated for information.

22/1899

ENVIRONMENT AND RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

a) Report

Councillor Edwards presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th December, for information.

b) Play Area

Further to the decision to work with TWC to enhance the play area, Members were awaiting the outcome of the recent RoSPA report which may identify work that is required. Members will be discussing proposals with the children and parents / carers with a view to enhancing the area for all to enjoy.

c) Flower Beds and Wild Flower Areas

Thanks were extended to Cllr Brunger and volunteers for their work to enhance the flower beds and to plant the spring bulbs in High Street.

TWC has completed the sowing of the wild flower seeds in the areas discussed at the site meeting.

d) Raised Planters

The raised planters (vegetable boxes) are in place behind the Pavilion. Thanks were recorded to Salop Groundcare for their support. Fruit trees are to be planted within the area of wild flowers adjacent to the planters.

e) Picnic Benches

It was proposed by Councillor Barton and seconded by Councillor Brunger that two picnic benches should be purchased for the Play Area. One is to be wheelchair friendly. Councillor Brunger will circulate the proposed design prior to ordering. Councillor Burrell offered to apply for £1000 from the TW Pride Fund towards the project.

f) New Matters

None

22/1900

HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

a) Report

There had been no Committee meeting. However, correspondence has been sent to TWC expressing extreme disappointment that the long-awaited SID project has not been installed in the Parish.

b) Highways and Road Safety

It is hoped that the Liaison meeting with TWC can be arranged in the near future as the new Highways Officer is now in post. This will be an opportunity for Councillor Wilson to raise all the outstanding matters included in his detailed report which was completed some years ago.

c) Community Speedwatch

We have eight new volunteers, new forms will be completed and Mark Booth will arrange an evening training session. When we have more trained volunteers, more sessions can be arranged.

d) Transport Survey

Councillor Brunger will collate the information and this will appear on the next Agenda for consideration and discussion.

e) Street Light Repairs

One LED light has been repaired. However, there is a faulty light near to the Lion Inn, and Eon have been unable to repair it so it is a network problem and has been referred to Western Power Distribution.

f) A41 Average Speed Camera Scheme

Mark Pritchard MP had written to ask the Parish Council to support his campaign for average speed cameras on the A41 to assist with speed control and to reduce the number of serious accidents.

The A442 is also of concern.

These main 'A' roads carry a lot of HGVs and the speed is unacceptable which results in a number of accidents, some fatal.

RESOLVED to support Mark Pritchard MP for average speed cameras on the A41 and to promote the need for a similar scheme to be available on the A442.

g) New Matters

None

22/1901

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

a) Report

Councillor Higginson presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2021, for information. Members were reminded of the importance of ensuring that any comments on social media refer to them as their personal opinions and not those of the Parish Council. Any comment to the Parish Council must be forwarded to the Clerk and will appear on an appropriate agenda, if necessary, for discussion.

Recent posts have included inaccurate and untrue comments from local residents and it is important that the Parish Council remains professional at all times.

22/1902

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Information, received for members, has been circulated. There have been no requests for it to be included on the Agenda.

b) Information from SALC – regularly circulated to Members for information

The AGM will take place via Zoom on 19th November, anyone interested in attending can contact the Clerk and a block booking will be made.

c) Edgmond Wildlife Group

The Parish Council was made aware of the proposals from Edgmond Wildlife Group, following correspondence they had with TWC. A meeting has been arranged for 25th January, for the Parish Council, TWC and the Wildlife Group to ensure that there is one plan in order to ensure maximum benefit for the community and Edgmond parish.

d) Boundary Commission Review

Members are reminded to consider and respond to the proposed changes for the Edgmond and Ercall Magna Ward. The proposal is to return to two, single member Wards. The proposals, however, are contrary in places to the Commission's desired outcomes for example they proposed to have similar numbers of electors in each Ward, however Edgmond will have 2513 and Ercall Magna 2942.

22/1903

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

A working group has been meeting to develop a series of community events for the Bank Holiday in June 2022. Details of the proposals were included in the January edition of the Edgmond Echo Newsletter. The Parish Council is holding funds raised for the activities and has arranged for the use of the Pavilion and Field. We will also be informing our Insurance Company of the activities taking place from 2nd to 5th June 2022. The Group will be submitting an application to TWC for funding. The next meeting is scheduled for 25th January.

Climate Change

The Chairman attended a meeting of the TW CC Group on 10th December, where they are reviewing the Climate Change Plan.

Members discussed the importance of referring to Climate Change when responding to Planning Applications. Developers should be ensuring that energy saving and efficiency is included in their plans, along with ensuring that properties have adequate and proper insulation so that they are sustainable into the future and will not be in need of retrofit in a few years' time.

TWC Planners should be including conditions in planning approvals and encouraging applicants to ensure that climate change is considered at every opportunity.

CLERK'S REPORT

The Parish Council has now signed the Lease with TWC for the land at the end of Robin Lane.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

None

22/1904

MATTERS FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor S Burrell reported that he has expressed his displeasure in the lack of progress following the Ward Walk in August 2021 where he and Councillor Bentley, showed officers around the Ward and agreements were in place that actions would follow. Details of progress with dates has now been requested.

22/1905

PARISH MATTERS

The Bag2School project is collecting clothes, bedding and soft toys – a leaflet has been distributed, the items will be collected on 31st January 2022. Funds raised will be donated to the Play Area Fund.

Some dog owners and walkers are not picking up after their dogs and this is a big concern in the village. An article will be included in the next Echo, to remind people that there is a fine, of up to £1000, for anyone caught not picking up after their dog. The dog warden has been informed and will be visiting the village.

Some trees have been donated for the mini orchard, adjacent to the Pavilion.

22/1906

NEXT MEETINGS

14th February 2022	7pm	Highways Committee	Via Zoom
14th March 2022	7.15pm	Full Council	EVH

There being no further matters, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm and thanked everyone for their important contributions to a successful meeting.

Signed**Date**

These minutes remain a draft (E & O A) until confirmed at the next Full Council meeting of the Parish Council in March 2022.