



ENVIRONMENT AND RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on **Tuesday, 13th June 2023** at Edgmond Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillor K Arbuthnot
Councillor R Higginson
Councillor G Jones
Councillor Y Brunger
Councillor M Barton
Councillor A Wilson
Councillor M Wilson

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Councillor J Brunger

E23/001 Welcome

The Clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited nominations for the position of Chairman for 2023/24.

E23/002 Election of Chairman

Councillor C Edwards Proposed by Councillor Higginson
Seconded by Councillor Barton

RESOLVED that Councillor Edwards continue as Chairman for 2023/24.

Councillor Edwards will read and sign the Declaration at the next meeting.

E23/003 Apologies

Councillor C Edwards Holiday Accepted

E23/004 Election of Vice Chairman

Councillor K Arbuthnot Proposed by Councillor Higginson
Seconded by Councillor Jones

Councillor Y Brunger Proposed by Councillor Barton

With one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Arbuthnot be elected as Vice Chairman for 2023/24.

Councillor Arbuthnot read and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the Clerk.

E23/005

Terms of Reference

As an addition to the Terms of Reference, Members are elected to the Committee in order to represent the entire community and it is noted that members have no additional rights or responsibilities and no delegated authority unless agreed by Council or the Committee at a meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor Barton and seconded by Councillor Wilson, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference be confirmed for 2023/24.

E23/006

Declarations of Interests

Councillor M Wilson	Footpath Users Group
Councillor K Arbuthnot	Edmond Wildlife Group
Councillor M Wilson	Edmond Wildlife Group
Councillor A Wilson	Edmond Wildlife Group

E23/007

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2023

It was proposed by Councillor Barton and seconded by Councillor Higginson, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2023 be signed as a true record.

E23/008

Let’s Play Edgmond - Children’s Play Area

It was confirmed that this group is a Parish Council constituted sub-committee of the Environment Committee and therefore Members do not need to declare interests as they will report back to the Committee.

Councillor M Wilson gave a report on the recent King’s Coronation Event – there is not final total raised, as yet. The table top sales will continue (at least until the end of the year).

It is now intended to apply for further funding, where matched funding will be required.

E23/009

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

TWC is responsible for the maintenance of this area – it is their asset. A request for maintenance will be sent to TWC. Richard Foden (TWC) has agreed to assess the site for the outdoor gym equipment – a set of four pieces is planned more suitable for older children and adults.

E23/010

Rights of Way

An update on the creation of the permissive path was included in the Minutes of the meeting with HAU (available on the website). There have been delays in getting the materials.

The Clerk will contact Richard Hooper to ask about the kissing gate and a timescale for this work and that at Birchmoor Lane.

The law states that dogs must be under control at all times, if necessary they should be on leads. Signage has been erected.

E23/011

Community Planters, Gardens and Wild Flower Beds

Concerns have been raised that the raised planters are not yet planted. A request for an outside tap will be sent to TWC, in the meantime watering cans are available and the water butts can be sited when the refurbishment of the Pavilion has been completed. The Clerk will ask TWC for a completion date.

The wild flower areas, provided by the Parish Council, have received many favourable comments and are looking good.

The various flower beds need some additional attention, thanks are extended to those who are maintaining them. The area at the end of Robin Lane is the responsibility of the Parish Council and we are very grateful to the neighbour who has been mowing it on our behalf. A discussion is necessary regarding the return of the wild flower areas to grass for easier maintenance.

Visibility is a problem on many junctions out of the village, especially at Cheney Hill, Longwithy and at the Lamb. These areas will be reported to Idverde for urgent action.

With regards to the bank to the car park in Shrewsbury Road, it would be helpful if the contractors took more care and were aware of the bulbs that are planted, this information will be shared with them.

E23/012

Climate Change

Councillor Wilson declared an interest as the Chairman of the TW Climate Change Partnership. Climate Change will be one of the major parts of the Parish & Town Conference on 4th October at Oakengates Theatre.

Grants are available for EV charging for community buildings – Cllr J Brunger will raise this at the VH meeting and report back.

E23/013

Other Matters

Memorial Bench

The bench has had to be removed from the area near the junction of Marsh Road on the B5062 and HAU propose to replace it with a recycled bench. It was proposed by Councillor Y Brunger and seconded by Councillor Higginson that £100 be offered as a contribution towards the cost. All were in favour.

HAU Liaison Meetings

Councillor Higginson raised the subject of the Edgmond Wildlife Group statement which Councillor Arbuthnot read to the Liaison Meeting. It was confirmed, after extensive discussion and disagreement that this statement was not a statement from EWG, but a statement from its Chairman which not all members had been made aware of.

Councillor Arbuthnot, on behalf of EWG, said that the Chairman had a separate relationship with HAU which is nothing to do with EWG and he had been frustrated and upset by matters relating to Rights of Way.

It was agreed that the report should not have been read to that meeting and that such an occurrence must not happen again, as it is damaging to the reputation of the Parish Council and all involved.

Sensory Garden

For information, there has been a wish expressed in the village for the creation of a memorial sensory garden. Discussions are taking place between J Lloyd and Rev Morby.

Playground Posters

Yr 6 has been asked to create posters for the playground.

Bulb Planting

Members agreed to make £250 available to purchase daffodil bulbs for planting in the Autumn. Locations will have to be identified and TWC informed so that they appear on the map, to try to prevent the grass cutters from destroying them too early after flowering.

E23/014 **Date of the next meeting**
To be arranged.

There being no further business, the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00pm.

SignedDate