

EDGMOND PARISH COUNCIL

Katrina Baker MBE
Oaklands
Waters Upton
TELFORD
TF6 6NP
edgmondpc@btinternet.com

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on **Monday 22nd June 2015** in Edgmond Village Hall at 8.20pm.

Present: Councillor G Jones
Councillor D Ryan
Councillor R Higginson
Councillor P Doherty
Councillor P Hughes

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)

C2015/12 Welcome

The Clerk welcomed members to the first meeting of the Communication Committee of this municipal year.

C2015/13 Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr P Hughes and seconded by Cllr R Higginson that Councillor Jones be Chairman for 2015/16. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Gwyn Jones be elected as Chairman.

C2015/14 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Councillor Jones read and signed the declaration, witnessed by the Clerk.

C2015/15 Apologies for absence

C2015/16 Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr D Ryan and seconded by Cllr R Higginson that Councillor P Doherty be Vice Chairman for 2015/16. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Paula Doherty be elected as Vice Chairman.

C2015/17 Declarations of Acceptance of Office

Councillor Doherty read and signed the declaration, witnessed by the Clerk.

C2015/18 Terms of Reference

Members confirmed the Terms of Reference which were signed by the Chairman.

C2015/19 Declarations of Interest

None

C2015/20 Community Website

Members discussed the advantages of the community website, as opposed to a single use site for the Parish Council. It remains disappointing that the local groups and organizations do not take advantage of this 'free to use' facility. Councillor Doherty continues to manage the site and has undertaken an initial review of the users of the site. Councillor Ryan agreed to update the Parish Magazine, highways page and the area of Worship. Some groups to take advantage of the site by simply linking their own sites to it, such as the school, Edgmond Owls, Village Hall etc. HAU is now linked and this is working well. One of the main advantages of this website, is the ability to register for email alerts, in order that the user knows when a new item has been added. However, few residents are taking advantage of this facility. More work will be undertaken to monitor and update the site. Councillor Higginson would raise this at a Village Hall meeting.

Linked to this will be the Edgmond Parish Council Facebook page, currently managed by Rebecca Hayhurst. Cllr Doherty agreed to check out the current Facebook presence.

C2015/21 Noticeboards

The Parish Council is grateful to Mr & Mrs Sahota, at Edgmond Stores, for agreeing that a new noticeboard can be erected on the wall outside of the shop facing High Street. This is an ideal site. A new noticeboard will be required to fit the space available and Cllr Higginson agreed to visit the shop to confirm the size with Mr Sahota. The materials required for the construction of the noticeboard will be funded from a Co-Operative Fund grant from the TWC Ward Members. Councillor Doherty kindly agreed to produce the Parish Council notices for the three noticeboards in the Parish and laminate them accordingly. This will ensure that relevant contact details are available to the community. It was further agreed that the old noticeboard, which is now too big for any location available, should be sold.

C2015/22 Working With the Community

Members agreed that this should continue to be a regular item on every Full Council Agenda. Working with the Community is an essential element of the role of the Parish Council and members are grateful to everyone for their help and support in our work.

PACT – Partners and Community Together

Initially a police-led initiative, this is now led by the Parish Council. We are grateful to Mr Martin Reid who has continued in the role as Chairman. The PACT meetings are an opportunity for the police, parish warden and parish council to meet and discuss topical issues and to select priorities for the coming months. Members of the community are invited to attend.

EVA – Environmental Visual Audit

In recent years, these have taken place prior to a PACT meeting, in order that the Committee (as above) has information to feed into their decision regarding priorities. This is an ideal opportunity for local residents to walk around the Parish (with officers of TWC and the police) to identify work that is needed or areas of concern.

It was suggested that the EVA and PACT meeting could be synchronized with the Annual Parish Meeting. A discussion will take place regarding this idea.

Edgmond Primary School

The minor local authority no longer has a Governor assigned to a role at the school. The Parish Council has introduced termly meetings with the Headteacher and Staff which are proving very useful and informative.

Harper Adams University

The regular meetings between the Parish Council and the University are working well. Notes of the meetings are available on request. The next meeting will take place in September. Anyone can ask for an item to be added to the agenda.

The Parish Warden and Neighbourhood Watch

Members of the local community have recently requested information regarding the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Mr Keeping has kindly agreed to attend a future Parish Council meeting to share information about his role as Parish Warden and the local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

It is understood that a meeting for Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinators will take place in July.

Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Parish Council is grateful to everyone who represents the community on other outside organizations. Reports will be requested and can be included on a relevant agenda. A list of outside body representatives is available on the website.

The Parish Council is pleased to consider applications for grant funding from local organizations, who would then be asked to report back, in line with the grants policy, to the Parish Council regarding how the funding had been spent.

C2015/23 Edgmond Magazine

The Parish Council wished to record its thanks to the editorial and distribution teams for the Edgmond Magazine. It was confirmed that a £200 donation would be paid to support this excellent publication which is a great asset to Edgmond.

C2015/24 Other Matters

The DCLG has recently confirmed the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities. The website will be essential for us to meet the requirements of this Government Directive.

It has not been possible to continue to visit new residents with an Information Pack. However, anyone aware of new residents may wish to contact the Chairman who will visit and suggest they access the website where a lot of local information is available.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

SignedDate