



**EDDINGTON**  
RESIDENTS  
ASSOCIATION



Eddington Residents' Association and Portal meeting  
Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 November 2021 at 4.30pm  
Virtual meeting held via MS Teams

### **Those present**

#### **Eddington Residents' Association (ERA)**

Pieter Desnerck, Chair (key worker housing now private resident)

Vipul Gupta, Support Officer (key worker housing)

Marcus Maier, Support Officer (key worker housing)

Margreet Vogelzang, Secretary (key worker housing)

#### **Portal / University of Cambridge**

David Attridge, Operations Manager at Eddington, University Estates Division

Pauline Haggar, Health and Safety Coordinator, University Estates Division

George Martin, Facilities Manager at Eddington, University Estates Division

Biky Wan, PR Manager, University Estates Division

### **1. APOLOGIES & INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed the group. Introductions were made.

Apologies were received from Graham Horton.

The Chair asked BW about the changes in personnel and it was explained that the University had formed a Property Board and Group: part of the changes saw the integration of the North West Cambridge Development team into the University of Cambridge Estates Division.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and are on the ERA website.

### **3. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Speedwatch:** An Eddington local branch of Speedwatch has been established and activities will restart soon after some low frequency events. PD stated that a report with the data will be shared alongside traffic monitoring information and compared with information held by the Transport Stakeholder group in order to gain a common base of speeds at Eddington to the discuss any next steps.

**Estate Service Charge:** There was limited appetite for the residents meeting on the Service Charge and the Accounts were provided in August. PD sought a meeting in order to raise points about the Service Charge, for example there was an acknowledgment of lower staff numbers due to COVID-19, but savings have not been reflected in the future budget. **[Action: Estate Service Charge meeting request to be considered by Portal. Post-meeting note: The University is engaging the services of a consultant and expect to feed back on progress in the new year when the meeting option can be reviewed]**



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Survey results: The Eddington Post-Occupation Survey was undertaken in Spring 2021. The Committee and residents are keen to see the results in a presentation format at an evening meeting to maximise attendance. **[Action: BW to arrange an evening meeting]**

#### **4. REPORT OF ACTIVITIES**

ERA:

- ERA applied for a community grant to obtain £2200 to support activities for the year March 2021-22.
- Social activities have restarted: 1 film club of Aladdin and more film screenings planned.
- Eddington Open Door restarted for informal gatherings on the first Wednesday of the month; Eddington Eats and Board Games at Post Doc Society to restart.
- Eddington Explorers for young families' initiatives on hold for now until social distancing allows.
- Diwali event scheduled on 21 November.
- AGM held two weeks ago and committee re-elected. Their discussion included topics in the matters arising.

Portal:

- School hosted fireworks for Diwali celebration with Portal involvement on Estate Management.
- Zumba due to start at Storey's Field Centre as funded through the Eddington Placemaking strategy
- The Hotel, Bar and Restaurant opened.
- Planned preventative maintenance has been happening.
- The speed hump by veteran oak tree is to be investigated and remedial work to the slant will be undertaken. Tarmac on haul road is being undertaken. For works to Turing Way, discussions to change the bus terminus from Eddington to the Park and Ride will take place as a temporary route as there is no turning circle at Eddington while works on the road would take place.
- Construction by Hill continues.
- PH introduced the work of her department in the University Estates Division as Health and Safety. She stated that in the unlikely event that someone has an accident caused by something that we have put in the homes/buildings, her team are keen to know about it when it happens: the team would attend site straight away or ask for photographs and know the individuals are ok and support where necessary. ERA welcomed the point of contact. **[ACTION: GM to circulate Incident page to ERA to be added to the ERA website.]**



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PD asked when the bollards on Eddington Avenue would be reinstated as the residents will welcome it. GM explained that the emergency services need access to it and we are looking at staffing in terms of how it is managed and then it will be reinstated.

## 5. MATTERS ARISING

- Responsibilities between Portal/Encore for Hill

A block management meeting organised by Encore looking after Athena buildings resulted in some confusion about Encore/Hill/Portal responsibilities. GM explained that Encore is the FM provider for Hill's development. Portal takes responsibility for the wider estate. The side roads are Hill's responsibility until they are handed over to Portal. The Estate Service Charge map includes the areas which are managed by the Estate and Portal.

**[ACTION: PD to provide details to GM to enable coordination for detail and maps. David asked for FAQs]**

There were concerns about waste near podiums – Encore said they are not responsible for the waste. **[GM to investigate]**

- ERA meetings in Portal newsletter

BW confirmed we can support this signposting to the ERA website. **[Action: BW to arrange signposting and where appropriate inclusion of ERA references in the fortnightly residents' newsletter]**

- Update on Phase 2 of the development

PD explained that residents are interested in the allotments and Brook Leys parkland extension which is the reason for the interest in Phase 2.

BW explained that works on Phase 1 are still underway with housing parcels in design and construction. For Phase 2, the university is taking stock on the success of phase 1 and examining what works and what needs to work better taking on-board resident comments, so the brief can be updated and agreed upon before commencing further design and starting on site. Start on site 2023/4.

- Access to apartments and advance notice

PD raised that some residents have expressed concern that permission had not been given for contractors to enter properties and there was the expectation that people would be given a specific day, rather than a week window for works. Assurances were given but ERA have seen incidents when the commitment was broken and requested Portal investigate the procedures.

DA reported that they had met with senior staff from the contractor, Mears urging people to make appointments and stick to them. DA explained that the majority of appointments did take place as planned but will revisit the procedures.



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- Update on the actions after residents' letter to the VC

David is happy to review the contents of the letter. BW confirmed that a Residents' Forum for University key worker housing is planned for 23 November. PD confirmed that they would continue to support the publicity of the Forum as some residents have not received notification.

- Eddington Heating Strategy

PD mentioned that private residents were enquiring into the shift in strategy away from fossil fuels. DA confirmed the strategy is currently investigating Air source heat pumps.

- Composting bins in Knights Park;

Green composting is available at key worker homes but none in Athena. **[Action: DA and GM to investigate]**

- Nursery situation in Eddington

Places available are limited and prioritised working staff while private residents are finding it difficult to obtain a spot. BW explained that it is a workplace nursery with an allocation of spaces for the community.

## **6. AOB**

None.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting in December 14<sup>th</sup> 2021; 4.30pm-5.30pm.