



EDDINGTON
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Eddington Residents' Association Annual General Meeting 2021 - Minutes

Location: Storeys Field Centre - Studio
Date: 01/11/2021
Time: 19:30 – 21:00
Invited: All Eddington residents

The meeting was opened at 19:35.

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR
2. APOLOGIES
Patrick Sweeney
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4. CHAIR'S REPORT
See appendix 1

Question from the public: How many people live in Eddington?

Pieter Desnerck (chair): There are around 700 key worker housing properties, varying in size. In the Knights Park area, there are close to 150 properties currently inhabited.

Question from the public: Are you aware of plans for another nursery at any time?
The one in Eddington is completely overcrowded.

Pieter Desnerck (chair): We are not aware of any such plans. There were talks of a secondary school in Darwin Green, but the city council felt that this was not needed. We are aware that this is a concern of quite a few parents with children in Eddington. We will bring this up at the next North West Cambridge Community Group meeting.



5. TREASURER'S REPORT

See appendix 1

Question from the public: Other than from the city council and the Eddington Eats donation, are there additional sources of income for the Residents' Association?

Pieter Desnerck (chair): Part of the funding that we applied for includes the premise that we organise activities at subsidized rates, so we can charge visitors a few pounds as well. Besides this the Residents' Association does not have additional sources of income.

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

No amendments suggested

7. RESIGNATION OF CURRENT COMMITTEE

8. ELECTIONS OF NEW COMMITTEE

8.1. Presentation of candidates

See appendix 1

8.2. Elections to committee

The proposed committee is unanimously elected by all meeting attendees.

The 2021-2022 committee will consist of:

- Chair: Pieter Desnerck
- Treasurer: Graham Horton
- Secretary: Margreet Vogelzang
- Supporting officers: Vipul Gupta
Marcus Maier
Patrick Sweeney
- Volunteer: Nikki Wu

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Question from the public: I have a question on crime in Eddington. One of my neighbours was robbed in Eddington recently. Is this an isolated incident or are there more such cases known?

Pieter Desnerck (chair): The main crimes we are aware of in Eddington are related to bicycle theft. In addition, the access gates to the underground car parks were malfunctioning for a while in the last year, which led to break-ins and sometimes even car theft. We have obviously raised these issues with Portal. Portal have responded with the idea for a neighbourhood watch to be started by the residents themselves.

Graham Horton (treasurer): Eddington has relatively low crime rates in comparison to other Cambridge areas. This can be checked on the police website.

Question from the public: What is your experience with Portal? They don't seem set up to provide good service to their residents.



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Pieter Desnerck (chair): Last year a letter with complaints was drafted and signed. This letter was sent to VP of the university – and forwarded to Portal. Portal's reply diverted responsibility to others, and did not mention any concrete solutions. We will follow up on this in our next meeting with Portal.

Question from the public: Who are Portal regulated by?

Pieter Desnerck (chair): This is unclear. We have asked why we do not have an ombudsman, but this is a voluntary scheme. We feel that we should have the ability to go to an independent party.

Follow-up question from the public: Have you had interactions with your representative in the city council about this?

Pieter Desnerck (chair): No, but this is a good idea. We will look into it.

Question from the public: It is still early days, but I am quite keen for the school to play a role in the community concerning growing food as well as composting. Are there composting provisions in Knights Park?

Pieter Desnerck (chair): There are composting bins in the key worker accommodation area, but not in Knights Park. We will take this up with Portal.

Follow-up question from the public: And how about food growing? It would be good for educating children.

Pieter Desnerck (chair): There will be an allotment area in phase 2 in Eddington, just north of Madingley Park and Ride. However, it will likely take some time before this is realized.

Follow-up question from the public: What can we as residents do about this? What would you suggest?

Pieter Desnerck (chair): We will bring it up at our next meeting with Portal and also at our next meeting with the North West Cambridge Community Group. As an independent resident, you can also send them a message about your ideas or concerns.

The meeting was closed at 20:30.