



EDDINGTON
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Eddington Residents' Association Annual General Meeting 2025 Minutes

Location: Storey's Field Centre
Date: 24 April 2025
Time: 18:00 – 19:15
Attended: Iain McMath, Graham Horton, James Strachan, John Atkins, Patrick Sweeney, Lizzie Courtney
Around fifty residents.

Meeting started at 18:00.

1 Welcome by the Chair

The Chair of the Association, Iain McMath, welcomed all participants to the meeting.

2 Apologies and approval of Minutes

Apologies were received from Pieter Desnerck.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 11 April 2024 were accepted as a true record. All matters arising and listed on the meeting minutes have been actioned.

3 Chair's Report

Iain McMath (Chair) introduced his Report, as set out in an accompanying slide presentation. A copy of the presentation is included with these Minutes.

James Strachan (Communications) introduced his slide describing where information on the various organisations supporting Eddington residents could be found. He outlined the role of the Association in signposting residents to the appropriate resource.

4 Treasurer's Report

Graham Horton (Treasurer) introduced his report, as set out on the accompanying slide. He referred to the financial support that the Association received from Cambridge City Council and also the support in kind sought, and received, from Portal and from the commercial organisations operating in Eddington.

He also referred to the support received from Clarion Housing, which had enabled a number of new activities to take place. These had proved very popular with residents.

He appealed to residents to contact him or any member of the Committee if they had ideas for activities. The Association could for example approach grant giving bodies for funding for these activities to cover either startup or ongoing expenses.

5 Resignation of the current Committee

As required by the Constitution, current members of the Committee submitted their resignation and indicated their willingness to stand for re-election.



6 Election of the new Committee

The following members of the Association were elected as Committee for 2024/25:

<i>Chair</i>	Iain McMath
<i>Treasurer</i>	Graham Horton
<i>Secretary</i>	John Atkins
<i>Communications</i>	James Strachan
<i>Social Media</i>	(vacant)
<i>Supporting officers</i>	Pieter Desnerck Patrick Sweeney

The Committee were always pleased to welcome new members and the Chair invited any resident interested in joining the Committee to introduce themselves at the close of the meeting.

7 The Association going forward

The Chair (Iain McMath) introduced an open session where the future of the Association could be discussed and invited those present to raise any issues and make any suggestions.

- Residents were keen that the University and Portal learned from the experiences of Phase 1 when planning Phase 2. In this connection the provision of a snagging database by the Association (currently being researched by Steven Day and James Strachan) was of interest. A resident had a particular issue to raise with Hill and the Chair invited her to consult with him after the meeting to see if the Association could assist.
- It was pointed out that families with young children, and students, were under-represented within the Association. The Chair agreed to consider how in future these significant groups of residents could be better represented and supported.
- A resident referred to the noise generated by the M11, and the Chair reassured him that noise mitigation would be an important part of Phase 2 planning.
- A resident had had difficulties in securing a secondary school place for his child, and subsequently in accessing school transport. He was invited to contact the Association if these difficulties continued.
- There was a discussion about the arrangements for collecting (a) household food waste and (b) garden waste. The Chair reported that Portal were aware of the new regulations that obliged local authority to provide such arrangements and were currently investigating with the local authority how these regulations could be addressed. There were particular difficulties over communal bins shared between freeholders, such as those in place in Eddington. Within limits, and while avoiding confrontation, householders should feel free to challenge neighbours who were using bins inappropriately.
- It was pointed out that tenants of private landlords in Eddington were not necessarily being kept informed of Portal activities and meetings (including walkabouts and meetings for residents). Communications concerning these were sent to landlords who did not always pass them on to residents. The Chair agreed to see what could be done about this.



- The importance of social media in keeping residents in touch with developments on the estate, and with each other, was stressed by a resident. This important role of coordinating social media activity did not fall easily within the skills of existing Committee members and the Chair called for one or more volunteers prepared to take on the challenge.
- Security on the estate was referred to, particularly incidences of bicycle theft and anti-social behaviour. The Chair stressed the importance of reporting any crimes, however minor, to police (this is possible online for minor issues) and of always dialling 999 if criminal activity is witnessed. Without accurate reporting of incidents the Police will assume that crime in Eddington is lower than it actually is. The case was made for further CCTV installations to protect e.g. bicycle storage sheds and the Chair agreed to pass this request on to Portal or Lodge as the case may be – not that CCTV is necessarily a cure for all anti-social activity.
- In response to a question, it was noted that video doorbells appeared broadly acceptable across the estate – the Committee were unaware either of any residents who had asked permission or indeed any residents whose installation of these doorbells had been questioned. However one resident who had asked for permission to install CCTV to cover their property had had their request refused by Portal on the grounds that it was not compatible with the legal agreements they had signed on occupying their property.
- Two residents reported that U bus drivers had been rude and aggressive towards them. The Chair agreed to raise this as a general issue at the next Transport Eddington meeting. However individual cases would need to be taken up by the residents concerned, quoting the time of the incident and the bus line (U1, U2) in question.
- There were also issues with bus scheduling, caused largely by traffic difficulties in other parts of Cambridge making it difficult to stick to timings. This was a widespread problem not limited to Cambridge. However it was noted that some drivers turned off their GPS location systems and this did not help users of the Whippet App trying to track bus availability. Again the Chair agreed to raise this as a general issue.

The Committee were thanked for their efforts on behalf of the Association and the Eddington community.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 19:15.