



**EDDINGTON**  
RESIDENTS  
ASSOCIATION



Eddington Residents' Association and Portal meeting  
Minutes of the meeting held on 11 March at 5.30pm  
at Estate Management Office

### **Those present**

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

Ian McMath, Chairman  
John Atkins, Support Officer  
James Strachan, Support officer  
Patrick Sweeney, Support officer

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

Geroge Martin, Facilities Manager, University Estates Division  
Lee Barnett, Deputy Facilities Manager, University Estate Division  
Irene Wong, Housing Service Administrator, University Estates Division

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

Ross Cull, Housing Operations Manager, University Estates Division

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

Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

#### Waste Collection

Discussion of waste collection included both general and green waste. After the recent refuse collection outage caused by a number of faults with the waste collection vehicle, critical spares were to be ordered and stored in the UK. A clear plan of action to be agreed with the Waste Authority. Mears would work with the Waste Authority to identify hot spots for extra bins. In response to residents keep putting waste into bin chutes and not euro bins, the Waste Authority was asked to lock bins in the future should service be suspended again, and to label all euro bins as general due to the colour of the bins that was causing confusion. Mears would be instructed to work overtime to clear any litter on the street.

The ERA queried what would trigger the purchase of the second waste collection vehicle, indicating that it would be an investment in a robust infrastructure to Eddington. Portal stated that there would be changes in legislation in 2026 enforcing food waste collection. Portal was in discussion with the Waste Authority and hoping the second vehicle could collect both food waste and act as a spare for current bin chute system. The ERA queried about costs when the University eventually would stop subsidising the development. Portal assured that the University had long term interest in Eddington. It functioned as a community to attract and retain talent.

[Action: Portal to report in 6 months.]



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Demarcation of crossings

While the relating road issues were awaiting transport review, the ERA raised questions regarding the raised tables on Turing Way outside the Hotel (Ridgeway) and the school crossing. The Ridgeway crossing was assigned to the Transport Team to explore improvement options. The primary concern of the school crossing was to make it safe. Portal suggested with the school about putting out a cardboard lolly-pop person at drop-off and collection times to make drivers aware of children. Portal was aware that road user perception of traffic signals was crucial for road safety, which could influence how individuals understand and react to signals. Hence there were careful considerations required before installing any traffic signals.

Security Camera

All CCTV cameras were installed. Portal was working with the University Security to ensure live feeds.

Regarding security in roofless cycle store, recommendations were made following the Police site visit. Portal was obtaining costs. The police commented on the overall crime level at Eddington that it was no different to elsewhere in Cambridge and that Eddington was not suffer from higher rate in bike theft, however significantly low in crime reporting. There were Bike Marking events scheduled each month to raise awareness of bike theft. Marked bikes were less targeted.

[Action: Portal to update in 3 months.]

Sports Pitches

Portal would continue to maintain the pitches as a grassed area for recreation use. Development Team was deciding the type of pitch to be re-build, in line with planning required. Decisions would not be made imminently.

Portal stated again that the sports pitches and the pavilions were not part of service charge.

ANPR

Portal provided an update to ANPR to replace bollard on Eddington Avenue. Planning in principle was accepted. The ANPR was in design stage, progressing by the Development Team.

Hard landscaping



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There was observation that landscaping standard seemed to slipped in some parts of Eddington. Portal confirmed that the signature oak on Huxley Row would be replaced. The ERA raised concerned with the condition of bedding around Milne Gardens.

Parking at Sports Pavilion

The ERA queried the status of car parking in that area. Portal stated that it was not an extension to school staff parking. The parking area was designated for users of the sports pitches and pavilion. Signage was seen ambiguous, however Portal intended to leave it as for flexibility. JA indicated that it was better to be clear to permitted user to avoid confusion.

Budget meeting with the ERA

In previous year, the ERA was involved in budget meeting to understand how the budget was set. Portal were collating information from Accounts and would confirm a date with the ERA.]

[Action: Portal to propose a date for the meeting.]

Allotments

The ERA expressed disappointment to the direction of "allotment", indicating that the Grow Club was not the same concept as an allotment. The Grow Club was a community garden project rather than participants taking ownership of a plot of land.

The Grow Club consultation event on 6<sup>th</sup> March was attended by 20 people, and 40 expressed interest.

[Action: Portal to connect the ERA with Emma.]

Long term district heating strategy

The ERA was interested to the long term strategy, particularly power source, of the district heating network. The discussion centred on how the DHN would be sustainable.

The ERA raised questions on the Heat Supply Agreement (HSA). The Mears helpline was on the Private housing/market housing HSA, whom was not be part of the maintenance team for their heating or hot water issues.

The ERA also noted that there were instances where engineer used "short cut" during HIU servicing, which in turn created an airlock.



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[Action: Portal to set up meeting for the ERA to get in touch with Core/HB.

Complaints to forward to HB for investigation.]

#### **4. AOB**

#### **5. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting on 10 June 2025; 5.30pm-6.30pm.