



**EDDINGTON**  
RESIDENTS  
ASSOCIATION



Eddington Residents' Association and Portal meeting  
Minutes of the meeting held on 9 September at 5.30pm  
at Estate Management Office

## **Those present**

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

Ian McMath, Chairman  
John Atkins, Support officer  
James Strachan, Support officer  
Pieter Desnerck, Support officer  
Graham Horton, Support officer

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

Ross Cull, Housing Operations Manager, University Estates Division  
Rhys Farrent, Contracts Manager, University Estates Division  
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**

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed.

## **3. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

### Food waste management

There would be legislative changes in September 2026 that local councils would be required to collect food waste on weekly basis. Recommendation would be set forth to the Portal Board. Currently there were two options in discussion: one was a ground-level hatch where a food collection cubicle sits. Another one was converting the 3<sup>rd</sup> bin chute to food collection and purchasing a smaller bin truck. Recommendations would set out quality, costs and viability.

[Action: Portal to update in the next meeting.]

### Speed limit on secondary and tertiary roads

Stewart B would be invited to the next walkabout.

### Allotments



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The ERA understood from university colleagues there were plans to put a community garden in cricket pitch. Portal was not able to verify this.

### Mobile Signal

There was discussion of weak mobile signal reception in Eddington. It was commented that buildings at Eddington form a faraday cage effect on mobile signals. Unfortunately there was not expertise in the team to improve signal reception. It was suggested that the ERA could raise this with Development Team for current and future phase development.

### Fire emergency compliant locks for bollards

The ERA queried the use of bollard and lock on Florey Terrace. Portal explained that Florey Terrace was a pedestrian zone that vehicles should not access. However there had been occasions that vans and personal vehicles drove through or parked which breached the planning condition of the designation of the street. To enforce the pedestrian zone and protect children playing on the street, Portal installed collapsable bollard with a combination lock. It was then changed to a fire brigade compatible lock although the combination lock would not impede access of emergency services.

Portal noted that if the street was accessed without authorisation, a parking charge notice would be issued.

### Ongoing maintenance issues

It was raised by a resident that a number of issues had not been resolved. Paving outside the beauty salon would be restored by Portal as there was not a timescale to Cambridge Water returning to conduct water meter connection works. The two bins on Turing Way were locked due to water ingress and were in a process of being rectified. The bended lamppost on Kendrew was damaged by Hill and was repaired in the beginning of September 2025.

### Communicating with residents

The concerns lies with residents renting from private landlord that they might not be aware of community notices sent by Portal. As part of the Trigger Notice distribution, Portal put a



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“sign up to Portal mailing list” leaflet into each letterbox. There were 9 responses from the letter drop.

#### Emergency access to charity collection bins

Portal contacted British Heart Foundation regarding retrieval procedure and if there was any emergency retrieval provision. Portal had not heard from BHF. ERA and Portal agreed that residents should call the number on the bring bank for retrieval of items accidentally dropped into the bring bank.

#### Confirmation of specification for Huxley Oak

Portal shared the planting scheme for the signature oak on Huxley Oak. It was specified that an 8m canopy semi-matured English oak should be planned.

Following residents complained about the tree, Hill agreed to replace the tree. However there was not an oak of that size available and the species was deemed unsuitable so University colleague decided on an Acer. It was indeed poor communication of the decision made however the current species would establish better in the built environment.

#### Streetlights on Market Square

There was observation that the lights were constantly illuminated. Portal acknowledged that there were issues with the lighting programs. Mears instructed staff to switch it on and off to override the program until the program was reset.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

#### Portal events

Portal to send 2026 dates of Portal walkaround and resident forum to ERA.

#### Sand and gravel on Eddington Ave

There was sand and gravel material on the section of Eddington Ave towards Madingley Road. Portal assured that there was street sweeping programmed in. This would be reviewed.



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#### ANPR

Portal confirmed that ANPR would be replacing rising bollard on 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

#### Landscape

Grass at Milne Garden did not seem to grow well. There were bare patches. Portal would review the little hills and soil quality.

#### **4. AOB**

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

Next meeting on 9 December 2025; 5.30pm-6.30pm.