

# EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

## Annual Parish Meeting

Location: **Edingale Village Hall**

Date: **Tuesday 5th May 2026**

Time: **7pm**

### Draft Minutes

Present: Cllr Startin, Baughen, Cliffe, Maskery, Mason, Meikle.

Head Teacher for Mary Howard School; Chair of Edingale Village Hall Committee ; Mrs K. Pritchard (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

**1. To approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, 13th May 2025.**

Approved.

**2. To receive reports from village organisations**

**Mary Howard School** – The Headteacher reported that the school continues to grow, with 47 pupils currently on roll. There are no children in Year 2 this year. Promotion of the school remains a priority, with word-of-mouth recommendations proving effective. A further five new starters are confirmed for September 2026.

Behaviour across the school is described as outstanding, with pupils making excellent progress and demonstrating that they are happy and settled in school. The school's key USP is its small size, enabling a nurturing environment where children thrive.

Mary Howard continues to perform strongly in wider activities, placing 3rd among Tamworth schools for swimming and athletics, with an emphasis on inclusion and participation. The school is also in the top three Tamworth schools for Year 6 outcomes. Former pupils regularly return for work experience, reflecting positively on the school community.

The school retains a Good SIAMS rating and a Good Ofsted judgement, with Outstanding for behaviour and attitudes. Staff are described as highly supportive and committed.

The Friends of Mary Howard remain active and dedicated in their fundraising efforts to enhance school provision. Current projects include growing potatoes and herbs with the children. The school is also participating in the Tesco Blue Token Scheme, and residents were encouraged to support this.

Looking ahead, the school is exploring the possibility of establishing nursery provision to support local families and secure the long-term sustainability of the school.

The Headteacher expressed thanks to Cllr Mason for regularly attending school events and offering ongoing support.

**Edingale Village Hall** – The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee attended the meeting and reported that the 54th AGM was held in March. The Committee continues to maintain the park and open spaces, provide community events and amenities, and

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work to build a stronger village community. The Committee remains small and volunteer-led, with thanks expressed to all who contribute their time.

The 2025 Events Committee was praised as an exceptional group of volunteers and described as the “heartbeat of the village”. Thanks were given for their hard work, including the successful 2025 Summer Show and a well-received theme night, with particular thanks to Clare Kerry. Appreciation was also expressed to Brian Maskery for running the bar, which continues to generate profit for the Village Hall.

The monthly coffee morning is proving successful and will continue. Regular bookings have declined: karate sessions have ended, while yoga and the weekly line dancing group continue. The Hall is also hiring out the car park for residents’ vehicle storage, and the school continues to hire the Hall for PE sessions.

The toilet refurbishment, completed in 2025, was noted with thanks to Paul Mitchell for his work. A £6,000 grant has been secured for a new cooker. The 2025 fire risk assessment has been completed, with the main actions now addressed.

Looking ahead, the Committee is exploring improvements to the outside tarmac area to support events such as weddings. The Committee is also seeking quotes for heating improvements and storage capacity in the Main Hall.

The Chairman thanked the Parish Council for its continued support, including funding for playpark repairs and the annual insurance, which represents a significant cost. Thanks were also given to Mrs Cliffe for the donation of new curtains.

A full programme of events is planned for 2026, including a quiz in June, a BBQ in July, and further activities throughout the year. Volunteers are welcomed and encouraged to join.

The Chairman concluded by thanking the Committee for their hard work, commitment, and good humour throughout the year.

**Holy Trinity Church** – Unable to attend this year.

- 3. To receive questions, comments and suggestions from residents.** None received.

Closed at 19:26pm