



ETON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Meeting

Eton Community Association Meeting
Wednesday, 22nd July, 7.00pm, The George Hop House, Eton

In attendance: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Bryn Lee, Sylvia Ellis, Anthony Cove, Tex Warnes, Anthony Eve, Celia Harvey, John Harvey, PCSO Liz Davidson, Dawn Palmieri, David Palmieri, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee, Chris Spence, Sandrine Cocks, Simon Carpenter, Kim Carpenter, Peter Eaton, Lloyd Beaumont, Cllr Devon Davies, Hugo Snell, Amanda Snell, Malcolm Leach.

Apologies: Shirley Young, Julia Gosnell, Steve Gosnell, Linda Tarbox, Cllr Mark Wilson, David Waddleton, Mike Blightman, Katherine Blightman, Ian Read, Theresa Read, Graham Read, Stewart Rogers, Katherine Rogers, Amanda Street, Mark Proctor, Katie Leach.

1. Welcome and Thames Valley Police Update

- i. The Chair opened the meeting, welcomed those present, and invited PCSO Davidson to provide the Thames Valley Police update.
- ii. TVP reported recent Eton incidents including theft from a bag on the Brocas, assault, drug-related offences, shoplifting reports and other crime reports. Eton Wick incidents were also summarised, including drug possession, a dog attack, criminal damage and other road-related, harassment, domestic and criminal damage reports.
- iii. TVP confirmed ongoing work on youth anti-social behaviour, cycling on the High Street, scooters and issues around the Brocas and river areas. Targeted patrols, school engagement, CCTV review and resident engagement continue.
- iv. Members stressed that residents remain concerned about youth ASB and some are avoiding the Brocas. TVP and members reiterated that incidents must be reported, even where residents believe police attendance is unlikely, because repeated reports create the evidence base needed for action.

Action: Residents to continue reporting incidents through the appropriate channels, including details, images, CCTV or registration numbers where these can be obtained safely.

v. Members discussed whether additional signage on College land could help encourage responsible use of the Brocas. It was noted that College should be made aware that existing signage is insufficient.

Action: Share examples of suitable park/Brocas signage with College and pursue improved signage for College land.

vi. Residents also raised concerns about motorbikes late at night around Barry Avenue and Goswell Road, including bikes with folded number plates. TVP explained that incidents are graded according to seriousness and available resources, but repeated reporting remains important.

vii. The Chair thanked PCSO Davidson and TVP for their continued support, noting the professionalism shown during recent disorder at the top end of the High Street.

2. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

i. Potholes: Members noted that, although some potholes had been temporarily or permanently repaired, others remain outstanding and in poor condition.

Action: Keep potholes on the action list and continue pressing for outstanding repairs, noting where issues have already been reported but not resolved.

ii. Parking review: Cllr Mark Wilson is expected to provide an update when further data is available. This will be carried forward to a future meeting.

iii. Monolith/signage at the bridge: Members agreed that, although improved town information would be desirable, RBWM is unlikely to prioritise the existing monolith. It was therefore agreed to remove the item from the active action list for now.

iv. Members discussed whether business, tourism or private funding routes might support an improved sign or information display for visitors, including possible advertising or Business Improvement District routes.

Action: Cllr Devon to investigate what information is available about possible funding or business-led routes for improved visitor signage/information and report back.

v. Cockpit: The owner has indicated that progress is being made. The roof/property is now standing independently and applications/conditions relating to the frontage, drainage and floor levels are with RBWM. Members noted the scaffolding is now more reasonable but the pavement will not fully return until the frontage is resolved.

Action: RR to respond to the Cockpit owner and, if appropriate, obtain photos for inclusion in Shout Out.

vi. EV charging: Cllr Devon reported that an online plan document refers to EV charging points. Members asked for the link and noted the importance of ensuring resident parking spaces are not removed. [Electric vehicle chargepoint implementation plan](#)

Action: Devon to send the EV charging plan/link so the proposed location and impact on resident parking can be checked.

3. Treasurer's Report

i. In SR's absence, BL reported that there was nothing significant to report and that finances appear to be in good shape.

ii. Members noted that additional costs will arise later in the year for Christmas lights and associated event requirements, including items previously covered or organised by RBWM.

4. Chair's Report

i. Christmas lights: RR thanked David Palmieri, Sandrine Cocks and Chris Spence for becoming involved in Christmas planning. SG remains central to the event, with additional support now in place for event organisation and artwork including posters, chapel tickets and programme material.

ii. A Christmas planning meeting is scheduled for the following day. The event is confirmed for Thursday, 12th November. Martin Cabble-Reid is expected to support the stage element, and Father Christmas has been identified.

iii. Members noted that, following changes at RBWM, ECA now needs to organise more of the operational delivery itself, including first aid, PA, stage and related arrangements, although insurance remains with RBWM.

iv. Eton College requirements have become more formal, particularly around safety, but members recognised that compliance is generally easier and that the intent is positive.

v. High Street and business update: The former Eton Pantry has a potential tenant, not yet confirmed. Cappadocia has submitted a planning application for the former Eton Mess premises and residents may comment in support, objection or neutrally. Number 61 is being fitted out as an estate agency. Premier/Eton Express/Londis has submitted a planning application to improve the frontage. The Eton Antique Bookshop window has been replaced. The private dentist at 137 is close to completion. Windsor Brides ownership has been clarified and contact can now be made directly with the owner. Willow is now available for rent. Gilbey's sale sign has come down. There is no further update on Box Sash Window Company.

vi. College and neighbourhood plan: RR reported a constructive meeting with College. Discussion included how College and the community might work together on policing, the Brocas, High Street, traffic, pollution and safety issues. College has indicated it would like to

revisit possible solutions for Eton and Eton Wick traffic issues and parking, drawing on previous neighbourhood plan work.

vii. RR confirmed that Eton College's £5,000 Christmas lights contribution has been reconfirmed.

5. RBWM Councillor Matters

i. Cllr Devon noted that matters were relatively quiet. Reports had been made about loose stones and an abandoned car, with responses received from RBWM.

6. Business and Community Update

i. Alexander Devine: Hannah Pickup attended to speak about Alexander Devine Children's Hospice, which ECA has supported through the Christmas event for many years. Hannah explained that the hospice supports over 200 children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions and their families, both at the hospice and through outreach to homes, hospitals and schools.

ii. Members heard that the hospice provides specialist nursing and care, play and developmental opportunities, sibling support, counselling, hydrotherapy, sensory facilities and bereavement support. It costs over £4 million a year to run, with only around 15% funded by government, leaving the hospice heavily reliant on community support.

iii. Members agreed to continue working with and supporting Alexander Devine through the Christmas event.

Action: Continue arrangements for Alexander Devine to be the supported charity for the Christmas event, including chapel collections and related support.

iv. Trunks Across the Thames: Members noted the two large elephants funded by Poors Estate, Eton College and Baldwin's Bridge Trust, located at Jubilee Square and Eton Wick. The Eton Information Centre elephant was funded by the local Rotary Clubs and painted by Eton College boys. Eton Porny School and Eton Wick School have also produced elephants which were funded by community residents and the parent/ teacher association of both schools.

v. Members were encouraged to visit the trail and donate via QR codes. A [PDF map](#) is available online in addition to the app.

Action: Kim Carpenter to ensure the Eton Information Centre is aware of the trail map/app information.

7. Eton Town Council Update

- i. ETC reported that children's posters about litter, traffic jams and pollution are expected to be displayed on the High Street in September, following a competition supported by the Mayor.
- ii. Quotes are being sought for improvements to the pathway at the recreation ground, which is currently in poor condition.
- iii. Following David Palmieri's resignation, interviews are being held to fill a Council vacancy. ETC is also seeking a temporary accounts clerk for approximately four hours per month and an ad-hoc caretaker to help set up for weddings.
- iv. Christmas lights: ETC reported that the cross street Christmas lights have had to be replaced at significant expense because existing lights are beyond their lifespan. The purchase cost is approximately £21,000, separate from installation and event costs.
- v. ETC has changed its RBWM Lotto cause from the pavilion to Christmas lights. Every £1 ticket generates 80p towards the lights, and promotional material/QR codes are available.

Action: Include the RBWM Lotto Christmas lights information and QR code/link in Shout Out.

- vi. The Chair thanked ETC for attending and noted that ECA intends to provide better updates to ETC from September onwards.

8. Events

- i. Pub walk: The recent pub walk to the Barley Mow was successful, with good weather and a route through the Long Walk, Copper Horse, Great Park and Englefield Green. Members noted that six miles may be too long for some and welcomed suggestions for future routes.

Action: Members to suggest future pub walk destinations/routes, including shorter options where possible.

- ii. Litter pick: The next litter pick will take place once foliage has died back, likely September or October. Date to be confirmed.
- iii. Quiz: A further quiz may be arranged in November, subject to SR's availability and avoiding Christmas planning clashes.
- iv. Informal drinks: The informal drinks on 16th July were successful, with around 14 attendees. Members were encouraged to tell new residents about ECA, Shout Out and informal drinks as ways to become involved.
- v. Remembrance and Christmas timings: Remembrance Sunday service is expected on 8th November, with Remembrance Day on 11th November and Christmas lights switch-on on 12th November. Volunteers will be needed to take poppies down on the morning of 12th November.

Action: Seek volunteers to help take poppies down on the morning of 12th November, given the tight turnaround before the Christmas lights event. Thanks to Hugo Snell for volunteering.

vi. Christmas dinner: The preferred date is 4th December, subject to confirming a suitable venue.

9. Eton Information Centre and Arts Week

i. Simon Carpenter reported that preparation for Arts Week 2027 will begin in October. The event appears viable as a fundraising activity, although final figures are still being reviewed.

ii. The Arts Week team currently includes Simon Carpenter, Julia Gosnell, Sandrine Cocks and Pernilla Kemp from the Information Centre. Additional volunteers and ideas are welcome.

iii. Members discussed keeping Arts Week fresh and broadening the concept of arts to include performance and other events, building on the success of the children's element in the previous year.

Action: Members to send ideas for Arts Week 2027 activities or volunteers to Simon Carpenter.

iv. The Information Centre continues to perform well but, like other community activities, remains financially dependent on fundraising and local support. The EIC Ball date is expected to be confirmed separately.

10. AOB

i. Windsor and Eton Society: Malcolm advised that the Society, now 80 years old, is seeking new and younger members, a Secretary, and someone to organise visits and talks. The annual dinner at the Castle Hotel is on 5th September.

Action: Include Windsor and Eton Society annual dinner information in Shout Out.

ii. Turkish barber parking: Concern was raised that vehicles connected with the Turkish barber are obstructing the High Street/loading area. Members noted this should be reported to RBWM/Highways with photographs, including number plates, where possible.

Action: Residents and Councillors to report repeated obstruction/parking issues outside the Turkish barber to RBWM/Highways, with photographs where possible. [Request parking enforcement](#).

iii. Broadband: BL reported an eight-to-nine-day broadband outage and concern that local Openreach infrastructure is in poor condition. Members discussed the current position with Openreach, BT/EE and Virgin infrastructure.

Action: Anyone with additional information or useful contacts regarding Openreach/local broadband infrastructure to pass this to BL.

iv. Eton Matters: Members were asked to say if Eton Matters had not been delivered to their address, as copies should be delivered to every Eton household up to the Eton Wick boundary, with College receiving it via intranet.

11. Actions Agreed

- Residents to continue reporting ASB, cycling, scooter and motorbike incidents, including details and evidence where safe. **ALL**
- Pursue improved Brocas/park signage with College. **RR**
- Keep unresolved potholes on the action list and continue pressing for repairs. **ALL**
- Cllr Devon to investigate possible funding/business routes for improved visitor signage. Cllr Davies
- Follow up with the Cockpit owner and obtain photos for Shout Out if appropriate. **RR**
- Send the EV charging plan/link for review, including impact on resident parking. **Cllr Davies**
- Continue Christmas planning, including operational requirements, artwork and Alexander Devine support. **SG/RR/DP/SCocks/CS**
- Ensure the Information Centre has Trunks Across the Thames trail information. **KM-C**
- Include RBWM Lotto Christmas lights information in Shout Out. **RR**
- Members to suggest future pub walk routes. **ALL**
- Confirm dates for the autumn litter pick and possible November quiz. **LB**
- Seek volunteers to help take poppies down on 12th November. Thanks to Hugo. Committee
- Confirm Christmas dinner venue for 4th December if possible. Committee
- Members to send Arts Week 2027 ideas to Simon. **ALL**
- Include Windsor and Eton Society dinner information in Shout Out. **RR**
- Report repeated parking/loading obstruction outside the Turkish barber to RBWM/Highways. **Cllr Davies/ALL**
- Pass any Openreach/broadband infrastructure information to BL. **ALL**
- Residents to advise if Eton Matters has not been delivered to their address. **ALL**

12. Next Meeting

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and for their continued support of the Association. There being no further business, the meeting closed with members invited to remain for informal discussion.

The next ECA meeting is confirmed for Wednesday, 9th September 2026.

Please e-mail AOB for next meeting to secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk.