



Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting on Wednesday 3rd April 2024 at The Hop House, The George Inn

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Gill Eagle, John Hunt, Christine Barber, Mike Blightman, Kate Blightman, John Rowland, Wendy Rowland, Kim Carpenter, Simon Carpenter, Amanda Street, Julia Gosnell, Stephen Gosnell, Mark Wilson, Teresa Read, Ian Read, Malcolm Leach, Katie Leach, Hardip Virdee, Elizabeth McMahon, Maggie Waller, Barbara France, Amanda Snell, Lucy Ludovici, Stewart Rogers, Anthony Cove, Margaret Hayes-Powell, Darren Hayes-Powell, Monaliza Cadwallader, Hugo Snell, Sylvia Ellis

Apologies: Derek Ledger, Shahan Ledger, Katherine Russell, Katherine Rogers, Peter Eaton, Ann Currie, Ben Willcox.

1. Welcome & apologies

2. RBWM Councillor Matters

- i. Cllr Wilson hasn't challenged RBWM about criteria being used to approve or deny pavement tables and chairs.

Action: walk round to identify problems and inconsistencies

RR, Cllr MW

- ii. Eton Mess hoarding is temporary, awaiting the sale which may be imminent – see later.

- iii. Main cycleway signage confusions are by the Waterman's Arms and at the junction of Meadow Lane/Atherton Court, with sign for Eton pointing in the wrong direction, and unclear signage about the cycle path route. TVP PCSOs have suggested additional signage on the roads for when entering the High Street over the bridge.

Action: walk round to identify problems and inconsistencies

RR, Cllr MW

- iv. Lights on the bridge are still out.

Action: forward e-mail from RBWM officer to Cllr MW about beggar fiddling with lighting electrics

RR

Action: chase this

Cllr MW

- v. New Contracts Manager not yet appointed. Use Councillors as first point of contact if reporting an issue.

3. Minutes & Matters Arising

- i. RR: Dog poo bags by railway have been reported.
- ii. RR: PCSO to visit Eton Bank Court to identify uncollected dog poo offenders.

4. Chair's Report

- i. Flaming Cow is being sold. Likely to stay as it is but may extend the menu. They have a daily waste collection.
- ii. Winning bid for Eton Mess has fallen through.
Action: talk to Savills about the hoarding Cllr MW
- iii. Strobe light at back of Eton Mess is causing problems at night for residents. This has been reported to Savills.
Action: talk to Savills about the strobe light nuisance Cllr MW
- iv. The Eton Riverside alarm that rang for about 36 hours has been fixed.
- v. Box Sash Window Co have now finished setting up their premises.
- vi. Cockpit project has hit a stop in proceedings.
Action: meet Roger Line to look for a way forward Cllr MW, (RR)
- vii. Number 53 has been let to a beauty salon. Pavement will have temporary tarmac until flagstones have been obtained. Ask ETC to supply and RBWM to arrange installation. RR
- viii. Eton Information Centre Ball raised £12,000. The Information Centre has been given Goss china with Eton insignia, and these are available to buy.
- ix. Eton Action List continues, with RBWM funding only available for safety issues. Leaning bus stop in the High Street is deemed not to be unsafe. Work is planned for paving slabs outside No.53. and greenery. Bridge lighting is also a safety issue.

5. Treasurer's Report

- i. Accounts to 29/2/24 have been prepared and will go to the auditor on Friday 5th April.

6. TVP Update

- i. Unfortunately, representatives from TVP were unable to attend at this meeting.

7. Councillor Matters

- i. Recycling bins for 4-19 King Stable Street haven't been collected recently. SERCO consider the contents to be contaminated but there has been no sticker or information about what the contamination is. There are similar problems elsewhere in Eton, with passers-by dumping inappropriate rubbish in residential bins. Plastic bags and black bin liners should not be put in recycling bins. Dumped items can be reported as fly-tipping using the RBWM website. Cllr MW has asked for the bins to be completely emptied so we start with a clean slate.
Action: meet with Mike and Kate Blightman about 4-19 King Stable Street Cllr MW
Action: write to households asking us to photo blue bin contents if not collected Cllr MW
- ii. Eton College will empty bins on the Brocas.
- iii. Consultation has started on locations of EV charging points. Cllrs have nominated Meadow Lane Car Park, Eton Square and Tangier Lane, some of which are residential

permit areas. Not expected to take up more than a regular parking space. Nominations can be withdrawn if we so decide. Timescale probably over the next year.

- iv. High Street: seats between Costa and the river have been removed following a complaint from a local resident. Continue to pursue with College Cllr MW.
- v. Grass cutting is underway.
- vi. Promenade is still not being regularly cleaned.

Action: chase

Cllr MW

vii. Town Cllr Malcolm Leach supported by Town Cllr Hayes-Powell stated that:

- viii. Bob Austen is to retire as Town Clerk. If interested in applying for this role, contact Bob Austen. Cllr MW will pass on our appreciation to BA.
- ix. Town Council meeting tomorrow. Refurbishment is almost complete. Council is financially healthy and is looking for projects. The reason that the Eton Information Centre funding request was not supported is because Town Councils are not permitted to support funding for profit-making organisations. South Meadow Pavilion project is being taken forward. Eton Wick library will re-open soon – partially thanks to Cllr MW.

8. Eton Porny Update – Chair, Maggie Waller

- i. School is flourishing with continued engagement with both the local community and with the College.
- ii. Grateful for EPET (Eton Parochial Education Trust) support grant. Financially tight but ok.
- iii. Fully staffed, close to pupil capacity. Attendance is back to pre-covid level and is above the national average.
- iv. OFSTED 2018 included both good and outstanding.
- v. School might be nominated as a good cause for TESCO “Stronger Starts” tokens.
- vi. No funding to replace the lollipop lady.

Events

- i. Next pub walk is to the Fox and Hounds in Englefield Green on Sunday, 26th May, starting at 10:30 am outside the Eton Information Centre. To join, e-mail secretary@etoncommunity.org.uk
- ii. Litter pick will be Sunday, 9th or Sunday, 23rd June, dependent on availability of College boys.
- iii. Next Pub Quiz is Thursday, 4th July at the Crown and Cushion. To join, e-mail secretary@etoncommunity.org.uk
- iv. AGM (Annual General Meeting) will be at our next meeting on Wednesday 15th May and will include drinks and nibbles.

9. AOB

- i. SE asked if anyone has installed a heat pump in Eton, who can advise on the conservation area considerations. RR has.
- ii. NHS free COVID inoculations are now limited to fewer categories of people. Paid for (not free) COVID inoculations can be booked at Eton Pharmacy – cost £85.
- iii. Eton Information Centre is not currently open on Wednesdays, because Windsor Castle closes on Wednesdays for Investitures.
- iv. Discussion around whether we need a cashpoint in Eton. General opinion was not.
- v. RR has spare copies of “Eton Matters”, if you need a copy, please contact secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk

10. Next Meeting Date

- i. Date of next community meeting is Wednesday, 15th May, starting with the AGM.

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