



Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting on Wednesday, 2nd March 2022 at The Hop House, The George Inn

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Ben Willcox, Teresa Read, Ian Read, Shirley Young, Tarek Elawadi, Oonagh Pearman, Marion Mackenzie, David Treder, Christine Barber, Bryn Lee, Stephen Gosnell, Julia Gosnell, Roger Line, Olga Line, Anthony Morgan, Anthony Cove, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee, Karen Waller, Barbara France, Councillor Samantha Rayner.

Apologies: Sylvia Ellis, Malcolm Leach, Martin Cabble-Reid.

1. Welcome & Apologies

2. Minutes & Matters Arising

Minutes are available on www.etoncommunity.co.uk.

- I. Faceology at 41 High Street – owners emailed again to advise on black façade but no response as yet. Owner is currently away but Ben Willcox will reach out to them if possible. **BW**
- II. Additional Swan Support ‘Do not feed the swans’ signs to be erected – this has now happened. Further advice given to not feed the swans near the road at Barry Avenue as there has been an incident where a swan was hit by a car and was unfortunately killed.
- III. Removal of vegetation on Eton Bridge – see section 5.
- IV. Refuse collection/black bags – see section 5.
- V. License status of the Bollywood film crew – it is of the understanding (still to be confirmed) that they do have the necessary paperwork to film in and around Eton/Windsor.
- VI. Eton Travel have now removed the hoardings on the windows/building works that were visible as you enter the High Street.

3. Chair’s Report

- I. The beggar that had been frequenting the archway near Costa has had further engagement with the relevant organisations and therefore is no longer present in Eton. We have been informed that he is accepting the help offered and hopefully this will resolve the issue going forward.

- II. Barnes Pool project – the flow of the water on the West side is compromised and College have taken back the responsibility and are now accountable for rectifying this.
- III. Street lights – now installed down the High Street and all old bulkhead lights and electricity junction boxes which were old/in disrepair have been/are being removed. Placement of the lamp posts, which look random, are in fact placed where there are no cellars under the pavements, that they allow a wheelchair or buggy to pass freely on the pavement and put uniformly, distance wise, down the street in order to obtain the right light spread. We are waiting for decorative bases/collars and bars to be added to finish off the ‘heritage’ look, as well as a couple more posts to complete the installation.

Anyone who has an issue with light shining through their windows at night may be able to have the option of a black-out shield being placed within the lampshade itself; email chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk to be connected with the route for this to be considered.

- IV. South Meadow/Meadow Lane – when works are being done down Keates Lane, there is a problem with traffic flow; this is being discussed and is a >2-year-old development proposal. SR
- V. Eton Matters – now printed and delivered to all households in Eton. Please let us know if you did not receive a copy.
- VI. TVP update – PCSO Searle was unable to attend the meeting but informed us that the only crime in Eton that has been reported were burglaries at Eton College.
- VII. Suggestion given by the leader of RBWM having cigarette bins in the High Street, we may consider this in the future. ETC via RR
- VIII. Input was received from an attendee at the litter pick that recycle bins that are prevalent in Windsor are not here in Eton. This needs to be queried and potentially addressed. SR

Eton Action List – Please continue to report anything that you feel is in need of repair i.e. wobbly paving stones, street lighting not working etc – please use secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk for this purpose and it will be actioned and added to the list. Alternatively, contact Bob Austen at clerk@etontc.uk

High Street shops and plans – those of significant change:

- Cockpit – an additional survey/questions have been called for at a cost, in total of £40K before the enforcement notice can be lifted.
- 53 – construction work has started again.
- 41 – owners contacted to advise on black façade but no response as yet.
- 61 – the hairdressers is now closed. The owners of Luxe Interiors have expressed an interest in renting this space, or the former Venture (109 HS) in order to sell Indian carpets.
- 89/90 – interior works are nearly finished and will now be The Box Window Company where their offices and showroom will be based.
- Gregory & Tapping have now moved to Windsor but their Eton shop is open again on Wednesday through to Sunday.

4. Treasurer's Report

With the Treasurer sending his apologies, the Chairman gave the following update:

The finances are in good order with monies allocated to the Barnes Pool project which included the creation and installation of a metal sign (similar to the one on the entrance to the bridge for the Queen's Walkway) overlooking Barnes Pool on 10th March. Monies have also been received from College in order to help fund the Jubilee Street Party in June.

5. RBWM Councillor Matters

Cllr Samantha Rayner kindly provided us with an update:

- I. The budget for 2022/23 has been approved, starting April 1st. The electrification of Eton High Street was part of this budgetary approval, and this will allow for additional Wi-Fi and the removal of the old junction boxes.
- II. The first hour of parking for free in Meadow Lane car park has been approved; this should help with footfall and shop revenues.
- III. Planning meeting to approve the expansion of Eton Sports shop is due to take place this eve (2nd) which will help their business plans.
- IV. Borough Local Plan has been approved and our local neighbourhood plan has been entrenched into this. This means that anyone who comes forward with building/planning applications will have to abide by the criteria within these Plans.
- V. Meadow Lane car park exit – Head of Highways has come back to RBWM and will revisit this issue. This wasn't included specifically in their capital plan but may be able to be funded from one of the general budget pots.
- VI. Vegetation still encroaching into the structure of Windsor/Eton Bridge – works are still outstanding to remove this, as well as the vegetation on the bridge itself. Paper is coming to Cabinet to discuss the bridge as part of the Platinum Jubilee project.
- VII. Recycling waste collections – recycling rates have increased from 40% to 48% since the weekly collection and fortnightly black bin collections were implemented.
- VIII. Black bag two weekly waste collection – leader of the Council attended our early Spring litter pick and RR emphasised the issue with the black sack collection that Eton has. This has now been escalated higher and therefore we should expect a positive outcome soon. **SR**

6. Platinum Jubilee Street Party Update

Proceedings are well underway for the street party; street entertainers, road closures, tables/chairs/awnings, tickets etc all confirmed as in place. Tickets will be on sale towards the end of March and local residents will be informed in advance as they will be given priority; the cost will be £8 each. Taste Deli, Eton Stationers, Eton Info Centre in Eton, and Ella's Party Shop in Eton Wick will be selling the tickets once they are available for purchase and 636 tickets will be available.

The main idea is that participants bring their own food and drink but a number of the local hostelries will be open for 'off-sales', where their licence permits, and once the street party comes to a close, the local establishments will continue to be open to provide sustenance to those that want it.

The party aims to start at 12.30 and the entertainers will start at 13.30 and finish at 16.30, therefore the party should finish by 17.30.

Anyone who wishes to help on the day, please let Ros/Christine know at chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk

7. Events

Early Spring litter pick - this went ahead on Sunday, 27th February with a fabulous turnout of 36 volunteers! As predicted, with less leaves on the trees and hedgerows, there was more scope to collect hidden litter from before, and as a result, we managed to collect 60 bags of rubbish. Bacon and egg butties were kindly donated by Dion, Darek and Jay from Eaten Café, and doughnuts from Dave and Adhi at Budgens; thanks are extended to them for doing this.

Next litter pick – scheduled to be before the Jubilee Street Party at the end of May and we will let residents know in advance via the newsletter.

Pub walk – this went ahead on Sunday, 7th February and we had a turnout of 15 intrepid individuals who managed the 9.5 miles in total, to Gogo's, a delightful restaurant located in Windsor Yacht Basin Marina. Special thanks are given to Stewart who compiled the route and he will be busy conjuring up another interesting walk for the next trip out. Details will be posted in the newsletter on date and time which is to be agreed.

Other events for consideration

Jack the Ripper talk – to take place in the Natural History Museum at College with PSCO David Bullock, currently trying to dovetail times and dates. Cost likely to be around £5.

Eton Walkway Walk – to be conducted by Hugo Vickers, the Queens historian, and he led the initial project for the Walkway. Cost is likely to be £15 and be in July. An optional cream tea may be offered for an additional cost.

Defibrillator training – currently being researched and will be conducted at Eton Porny School. KR

Full College Tour – to be confirmed, date wise.

Frogmore and Combermere Barracks – consideration is being given to these trips and details will be given closer to the time.

Exhibition/talk on Sir Joseph Banks and his botanical drawings at NHM, College – Tuesday, 19th April – to be organised by the Eton Information Centre and open to the community. RR

List of concerts/plays at College – to be obtained and details to be advertised in the newsletter. SG

With utilising all the local venues, this showcases to the residents what Eton has to offer.

8. AOB

- I. **Access to the Eton College swimming pool facility** – an update provided by Cllr Sam Rayner informed us that the pool is opening up to Eton Porny School this week, classed as a 'soft' opening, to be followed by the pool being open to residents once various

things have been completed by the end of the year. Price for entry will be similar to that of Windsor Leisure Centre so as to not impinge on footfall to that facility. Eton College are also having issues with obtaining a list of all residents in Eton so as to protect the entry requirements needed to use the pool/facilities.

- II. **OpenReach** have updated their plans for Eton and we are due to receive 1GB of broadband in 2025!
- III. **Facelift Project** – local businesses should have been approached by representative of this initiative (Windsor & Eton Society) but it was reported that this has not happened. To be investigated and visits scheduled. **ML**
- IV. **Ukrainian Appeal** – local Ukrainian resident, Olga Line, whose family is currently caught up in Kyiv, is producing ‘Flame of Freedom’ candles, priced at £30 each. The monies raised from the sale of this candle (£27 per candle) goes directly to the Ukrainian Embassy. They will in turn, make sure all monies collected go straight to where it is needed.

To purchase your candle, please go to www.williamwestcandles.com

Please see the ECA website for up-to-date information:

Should you wish to donate monies, Roger & Olga have contacts in order to make sure the monies go to the right places.

If you want to donate items, the Scouts in Slough are coordinating the collection and drop off points – details will be posted on the Eton Community website and in the Newsletter.

Jane Speller, a local resident, is organising a lunchtime concert in order to raise money – date and time to be confirmed. (Update since the meeting - 19th March in St John’s church).

Ben Willcox and Oonagh Pearman, local residents, have offered to work with Roger Line, as well as investigating/organising a drop off venue for donated items.

9. Next Meeting Date

Date to be confirmed as either Wednesday, 13th or 20th April – date to be announced in newsletter once agreed.

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