



Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, 10th March 2021

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Alistair Townsend, Anthony Cove, Barbara France, Barbara Hunt, Christine Barber, Claire Taylor, David Treder, Marion Mackenzie, David Waddleton, Ed McMahon, Elizabeth McMahon, George Fussey, Gwen Paulsen, Hardip Virdee, Karen Waller, Martin Cabble-Reid, Peter Eaton, Roger Marrett, Councillor Samantha Rayner, Simon Weston, Stewart Rodgers, Sylvia Ellis, Derek Ledger, Katherine Russell, Shirley Young, Stephen Gosnell.

Apologies: Malcolm Leach.

1. Welcome & apologies

2. Minutes and matters arising

- i. **Fund-raising:** Thanks to KW and SG for organising the Christmas lights. It was decided not to ask local traders to contribute to costs last year due to the current challenging situation.
- ii. **Survey:** The top 2 concerns are:
 1. Broadband, WIFI and mobile signal
 2. Anti-social behaviour.
- iii. **Broadband, WIFI and mobile signal:**

Broadband: most cabinets do not have capacity for fibre
Mobile: O² mast has not progressed.

Wi-Fi: supplier supplied Windsor and Maidenhead at a very good price, benefit to them is the access to our data and being able to advertise Windsor, Maidenhead and Eton as a customer.

Q&A

1. David Waddleton, resident in the High Street stated that BT provides superb signal.
2. How soon is the broadband survey?

- Survey is imminent and then ML will investigate processes to complain and improve; survey will within 2 weeks, placed into Shoutout (weekly e-newsletter) and will list an app to measure signal.

3. Eton Riverside Residents Assoc are investigating Community Fibre Partnership.
4. Meeting discussed whether to involve our MP; it was recommended to do so to raise awareness and correspondence will be sent as soon as possible.
5. Cllr SR informs about government grants which may help, indicating that the budget includes £125k for work on the High Street.

Action: Give Community Fibre Partnership and Oxford info to RR and LB

Elizabeth McMahon

iv. **Anti-social behaviour:**

Presentation recently given to Eton Town Council includes the Brocas and cycling the wrong way down the High Street.

Proposal is to raise funds to (with police support) use contractor resources for facilitate behaviour change - ECA to take proposal to next Eton Town Council meeting.

Discussed road "furniture" options to inform cyclists. Current level of signs unfortunately is already within legal capacity.

Action: E-mail fund-raising ideas to chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk and/or to secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk

ALL

3. RBWM Councillor Matters

- i. Budget for the Borough was passed 2 weeks ago, increasing (relatively low) council tax by 1.99% plus 3% precept.
- ii. Cllr SR detailed income and expenditure impacts including social care costs, leisure centres income, parking income, commercial income, library changes and consultation, waste collection changes, coffee shop waste and bins.
- iii. Economic Recovery Project.
- iv. Platinum Jubilee in 2022 an opportunity to celebrate.
- v. Poor quality pavement repair outside Costa Coffee has been reported and will be corrected.
- vi. Intending to go back to face to face Council meetings from 6th May.

4. Chairman's and Treasurer's Report

- i. **Platinum Jubilee Eton street party:** starting to plan.
- ii. **Eton Matters:** thanks extended to PE, to contributors and to advertisers.
- iii. **Police contacts:** are changing again; Mike Durrah replaces Tracey Croucher as Inspector and Catherine Griffiths replaces Emma Pendry as Sergeant.
- iv. **Eton Action List:** report problems to ECA chairman, ECA secretary or to clerk@etontc.uk
- v. **Barnes Pool area:** has coped with recent flooding but may need re-planting in future. Eton College have closed off access from the west.

vi. **High Street Plans**

- **17** - potential new tenant but awaiting permission to change partitions
- **19** - Murrays to become a wine bar
- **41** - to be a medical cosmetics outlet
- **Cockpit** - thanks to the council, the scaffolding has been erected to protect the ancient frame. RBWM are optimistic that works will commence soon
- **53** – proceeding now after planning delays
- **Premier Stores** - plan to expand back to the original footprint
- **79A** - allowing Eton Information Centre to use their window for display
- **80** - may re-open as Peonia, however, they have now also in Windsor
- **89/90** - Bespoke Beauty has a new tenant
- **93** - has re-opened – remarketed with selling plants in order to open fully
- **99-100** – back to being an art gallery
- **109** - development work proceeding
- **115** – to become a cakes and crafts outlet
- **136** - library will be available to let

MM and RR will encourage new businesses to put a “coming soon” sign in their windows to keep the public informed of progress.

- vii. Treasurer’s report provided by RR on behalf of ML.
- viii. Financially, it has been a quiet year. Traders have not been approached this year for financial contributions towards flags and mini Christmas trees. Some of last year’s income was ring-fenced for Barnes Pool. This year’s income is £7k. Mistletoe Christmas lights are now white, not yellow.

David Waddleton very grateful for RBWM grant and is happy to pass some of this on.

Action: After April, consult traders about resuming the annual request for donations to ECA. RR

5. Potential events

- i. 11th October 2020 (Sunday) was most recent litter pick. Many residents are picking up litter as they go walking. E-mail secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk to borrow litter-picking kit.
- ii. Planning a Spring Clean, 10am on a Sunday in April, assuming the 29th March/12th April relaxations happen.
- iii. Anthony Cove reports that the council is doing a very good job regarding the graffiti. There is a problem area under one of the arches where people gather, sitting on stones and leaving litter. Moving the stones might deter this.

Action: Explain to RR where the problem arch and stones are located. AC

Action: Report new graffiti to ECA secretary or chairman. ALL

6. Eton and Eton Wick Information Centre

- i. Have new maps available.
- ii. Local artists are able to display their works.
- iii. Top seller is teddy bears in Eton College uniform.
- iv. Eton's footfall is down 50% on last year.

7. Eton Porny and Eton Wick Schools update

- i. **Eton Porny:** ECA support very welcome, all pupils now back, outdoor classroom to be installed in 2 weeks (thanks to Baldwins Bridge Trust and RR).
- ii. **Eton Wick:** similar to Eton Porny, successful restart this week, outdoor classroom due around Easter (thanks to Baldwins Bridge Trust and RR).

8. AGM and next meeting date

Next meeting may include AGM as financial year is end of February. Hopefully, next 'in person' meeting will be outside, date to be confirmed. Plan is to continue with Zoom until further notice.

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

9. AOB

- i. RR gave two recent examples of working together benefits:
 - 1. ECA (awareness) and Baldwins Bridge Trust (funding) for the two school outdoor classrooms.
 - 2. Garden trespasser identified from CCTV photo, Police will be talking to the intruder.
- ii. Parking ticket machines removed; RR reports that some had stopped working, so a working machine will be relocated to outside of St. John's church. Over time, RINGGO will take over payments.