

ETON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 5 June 2017, 6.30 pm at St John the Evangelist Church, Eton

Present: Ros Rivaz, Malcolm and Katie Leach, Jane Reed, Christine Barber, Stephen Gosnell, Karen Waller, La Stacey, Noorzaman Rashid, Sylvia Ellis, Mike Turner, Derek Bishop, Malcolm Alexander, Richard Cox, Peter Eaton, Louise Davison, Brian and Marion Voakes, Roger Marrett, Derek and Shahan Ledger, Leueen Killingbeck, Gaurang Patel, Katherine Rogers, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee, Katherine Russell, Maggie Waller, Nigel Jaques, Roger Prior, Monaliza Cadwallader, Sally Adams, Kulbir Shergill, Sgt Hedley Gabriel, Parimal Valamiya and David Laight (Budgens)

Apologies: Barbara France, Patricia Skurnik, Paul Bayley, Christine Boyd, Heather Shelley, John and Eileen Lewis, Jess Lawrence

1. Welcome by the Chairman

Ros Rivaz welcomed people to the meeting, and thanked Richard Cox who has signed off the accounts.

2. Chairman's Annual Report

"I am pleased to report that we have had another good year.

In terms of events, we have started to organise an event of some sort on a monthly basis. Highlights in the year include:

- A recent tailoring talk by Simon Maloney at New and Lingwood, with a glass of Prosecco and canapes, and discount vouchers
- A pie and pint evening at The George, with a fascinating talk all about beer
- A pub quiz at the Crown and Cushion
- And lots of fabulous events at College, including a Pottery exhibition, and an incredibly moving talk by a soldier who was injured by an IED, and many more.

Thanks to Katie, Paul Bayley and others too, not least the location hosts.

Our biggest annual event is always the Christmas season and the Light Switch On, with the associated chapel service at Eton College. Last year was no exception with an excellent event, increasingly run by Stephen and Karen, with Malcolm as our experienced advisor. Since Malcolm and Katie were married 2 days after the light switch on event, Malcolm was (or should have been) prioritising other preparations. Marie Pick, aged 100, switched on the Lights for us!

As in previous years, we have both led and supported very many enhancements in our local environment. But there is always more to do.

This year, we spec'd the green maintenance needs including Jubilee Square, the triangular bed, Barnes Pool and so on, and worked with Bob Austen to select a provider, who has enhanced our green areas. We allocated costs to ETC, Baldwin's Bridge Trust and Eton College. Thanks to Bob Austen and Peter Eaton for their help. We also finally achieved the Waterman's Bench.

We reinforced the importance of the pollution measurement at Keates Lane junction and stopped the proposal to move the measurement point up towards Keates House/South Meadow Lane. In fact, the like-with-like pollution measurements are marginally improved, although still at the "borderline acceptable" level vs. European legislation. Thank you to Malcolm Alexander, for his support and advice on this.

We worked with ETC to support the Spring Clean national initiative, last year called "Clean for the Queen", and had excellent support from College again and from our Councillor and Mayor, despite the miserable, rainy day.

Next on our list and very much work in progress, is bike parking and continuing with constant challenges from signage that contravenes conservation area rules, refuse issues, broken paving stones, residents parking, etc.

We also worked with the Police to hold an outstandingly well attended Police event at the Natural History Museum, with 8 policemen and policewomen telling us about all aspects of security.

Eton Matters is regarded as a real highlight when it drops through the letter boxes of every resident, retailer and business in Eton. Thanks go to our Editor, Peter Eaton, and to those who advertise which is critical to cover our costs – and to those who pen such an interesting range of articles.

Talking about communications, we now have the Eton Community Association website, which receives numerous "visits" from existing contacts and new ones. Linked to this is "Shout Out", which sends out a small number of items for us all to hear about, often regarding upcoming events and activities. Thanks go to Russell Lloyd and Jim Walker, for running and enhancing all of this, and in Jim's case, for setting up the website. Also thanks to Katie for being the conduit of the content.

The Eton Walkway deserves a mention as my final topic. So many people and businesses - of most financial significance RBWM, and in other areas, Eton Town Council and Eton College - worked with Jim Walker of the Outdoor Trust, George Fussey and me to develop our Walkway, with its 18 points of interest, the brochure, application, project launch, footfall counters, all of which form part of this popular activity. We are

delighted that Windsor Information Centre and the Windsor hotels and eateries keep asking for more brochures. We all know that footfall down our High Street will enhance the sustainability of Eton's bespoke retail outlets. Now that College tours and the 3 museums are open, we expect footfall to increase again.

Going forward: We have a walk to Dorney planned, with lunch at the Palmer Arms, We are working on an event in the Natural History Museum, we will be organising another pub quiz at the Crown and Cushion, and **Open Shop** is our new name for events that show what our wonderful retailers do. The Fudge Shop, Luxe Flowers and Tastes Delicatessen are all keen to host events, so please watch this space.

The Christmas Light Switch On will be Thursday 16 November 2017.

If you want to sign up for Shout Out, please ask us or simply go to the Eton Community Association website.

If you would like to help us in organising or assisting in any way, we would be delighted.

So finally, thank you to my committee colleagues –Paul Bayley, Malcolm, Katie, Christine, Jane, Stephen, Karen, La and Noorzaman - and a welcome to Jess who is joining as Secretary. Also thanks to Malcolm Alexander, Derek Bishop, Bob Austen, William Waldegrave, Janet Walker, Ian Mellor and others at College, our other supporters, and especially to all of you. “

3. Treasurer's Annual Report

The Treasurer, Malcolm Leach, informed the meeting the accounts had been finalised, examined and approved by the ECA auditor, Mr Richard Cox, Bank Manager Ret'd, on 25th May 2017.

The approved accounts have been circulated to the members of the committee for adoption at their next meeting, and will be available in summary in due course.

The Treasurer informed the meeting of an income for the year of £16,519:21 against an outgoing of £15,466:82 making a surplus of £1,052:39.

The currents funds held within the ECA Bank accounts are – Current account £4,495:30 and Savings account £4,628:82 making a total of £9,124:12.

4. Presentation and Adoption of Accounts

The accounts will be put to the next committee meeting for approval and adoption. JL

5. Election / re-election of committee

The secretarial role is now split between new committee member Jessie Lawrence and Sylvia Ellis (not a committee member) who will continue to draft the ECA meeting minutes. Thanks were given to Katie Leach for all that she has done. She will continue on the committee, organising events.

The Deputy Chair is vacant – Paul Bayley will continue to work with ECA but has resigned from the committee.

New members: Noorzaman Rashid, proposed by Christine Barber and seconded by Stephen Gosnell. La Stacey, proposed by Jane Reed and seconded by Karen Waller
Jess Lawrence, proposed by Malcolm Leach and seconded by Katie Leach

All members of committee including other officers were re-confirmed.
Etoncommunity.co.uk has a list showing the committee and associate members.

ECA welcomes more people on the committee – talk to any committee member if you are interested, also if you would like to organise or help with an event.

6. Closing remarks and thanks

MEETING OF ETON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

1. Matters Arising from previous Minutes

The gun shop in Eton is no longer selling the pellets that were being used against swans.

2. RBWM Councillor Matters

Malcolm Alexander invited questions – none at this meeting.

3. ECA/ETC/RBWM related topics

- i. Eton Town Council have authorized submission of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- ii. A walk around Eton has identified a list of problems for Volker (the new RBWM contractor) to address. Please advise Ros Rivaz of anything missed.
A list of the problems will be put onto etoncommunity.co.uk **RR**
- iii. Malcolm Alexander still wants to introduce a hostelrys toilet scheme (whereby pubs and restaurants are paid an annual sum by RBWM to allow the public to use their facilities) and will talk to Paul Roach. In addition, facilities are still needed after hostelrys close – options are being considered. **MA**
- iv. Gina Bradbury-Fox has been helping the filming of the Eton Walkway which may go onto the Outdoor Guide website.
- v. Flag pole permissions are still going through. Then individual property owners/managers can decide whether they want a flagpole.
- vi. Bike parking – efforts are continuing.
- vii. “Finding the Brook” – this project is progressing, led by Peter Eaton.
- viii. Replacement LEDs for street lights and bridge lamps are slightly delayed as we want tinted not bright white lights.

- ix. Investigations of the Cockpitt have begun, but there is a rumour that it is back on the market. *Update: There is no issue, the owner and contractor are progressing as planned.*
- x. Work is ongoing to address the problem of visitors parking in resident spaces.

4. Eton Porny

Katherine Russell (Head) thanked the ECA committee for involving the school with the community. She also thanked Louise Davison for helping with the gardening project. Some pupils were involved with the recent filming about the Eton Walkway. Two “old boys” have visited the school. More volunteers are welcome – contact Katherine Russell, Maggie Waller or the ECA committee.

5. Social Events

The New & Lingwood evening went very well and may be used as a template for future Open Shop evenings which will probably start in September or October.

The Summer Walk to Palmer Arms will be Sunday 30th July. Meet at 12:15 in Jubilee Square. Mike Turner will lead the walk there, and people will make their own way back. If you want to lunch at the table booked then you need to reserve seats. Please contact katiebroady110@btinternet.com

On Tuesday 27 June, George Fussey will open the Natural History Museum for the ECA and is willing to give a short talk. There will be a small charge of £2 per person to cover a glass of wine/soft drink. Again, please contact katiebroady110@btinternet.com

6. Thames Valley Police

Sergeant Hedley Gabriel reported that from 1st June community policing now has an engagement team and a problem solving team. The teams work with community wardens. They cover Maidenhead as well as Windsor. Following the recent Manchester incident there will be more armed officers on the streets, with the aim of reassuring people.

There was a general discussion and questions on eg. antisocial behaviour in the High Street.

The ram barriers in Windsor are temporary until funding is found for rising bollards - hopefully within 2 years.

A recent burglary in King Stable Street was raised. Hedley advised that plain clothed officers are around. Often police are already aware of likely culprits, though sometimes they travel in from other areas.

We believe that there are more crimes than have been reported to the police. Hedley asked to be given examples so he can follow this up with the relevant department. One issue is that the police count residential and commercial burglaries separately, whereas in Eton crimes affect all the community. ML and ALL

Budgens has experienced a recent ram raid and shop lifting. They now have (friendly) security staff which is already deterring shoplifters. An option to install a bollard outside the shop to deter ram raiders will be supported.

7. AOB

The Charteris Day Centre planning to relocate to Eton Wick. Eton Town Council and local residents are concerned at ever decreasing facilities for the elderly in Eton.

Ros Rivaz has New & Lingwood cards, given out at the Open Evening, which give locals a 20% discount until 15th June.

Thanks were given to Jane Reed for her excellent refreshments this evening, and to all of the Committee for all that they do and organise.

8. Next meetings

Next three meetings are at the Eton Town Council offices at 6.30 pm.

Monday 24th July

Tuesday 12th September

Wednesday 1st November