



Meeting of the Eton Community Association

Tuesday 28th February 2017 at the Eton Council Offices

Present: Katie Leach, Malcolm Leach, Ros Rivaz, Karen Waller, Stephen Gosnell, Sylvia Ellis, Malcolm Alexander, Peter Eaton, Linda Oatway, Derek Ledger, Mike and Jacqueline Turner, Derek Bishop, Heather Shelley, Louise Davison, Wendy Hermon, Brian and Marion Voakes, Vicki Wilson

Apologies: Christine Barber, Roger Marrett, Jane and Duncan Reed, La Stacey, Noorzaman Rashid, Jane Smart, Paul Bayley, Julia Gosnell, Barbara France.

1. **Welcome** - Rev La Stacey and Noorzaman Rashid will be joining the committee at the AGM. A warm welcome was offered. We are also seeking other new members (see AOB).
2. **Matters Arising from Minutes, 17th January 2017** – all to be covered in meeting.

3. RBWM Councillor Matters

- i. **Proposed local boundary changes:** Malcolm Alexander and Derek Bishop attended a meeting about proposed boundary changes to reduce the number of councillors. Eton and Castle have fewer than the proposed target. Also the Borough prefers more than one councillor per ward group. A report is to be tabled for consideration around March 2019 for the May election.
- ii. **RBWM Fire and Rescue Service:** £2.2 million needs to be saved by 2020. Some options being considered would impact Wargrave or Windsor. Fire authority to decide, end April.
- iii. **Bike parking:** Gordon Oliver is progressing this with us. Exact location is still under discussion - Probably on Brocas Street near High Street junction. There needs to be room for buses and delivery lorries. Further hoops will probably be near The Christopher Wren, allowing those this side of the bridge to be removed, so that the Wendy Ramshaw OBE bollards are visible again.

- iv. **Car parking:** The River Street car park Pay on Exit went live today - £15 is charged for lost chip coins. There is a button connecting to control room for deliveries and disabled. This scheme is to be introduced at Meadow Lane car park by end April. Eton Court parking stays as Pay and Display. Overnight parking remains free for residents but you MUST swipe when you leave. ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) was preferred but is dependent on DVLA providing details of cars that drive away without paying. Residents with permit parking will receive a letter and a card to use.
- v. **Neighbourhood Plans:** Regulation 19 for the Borough Plan will start in April. Eton plan is in informal consultation with RBWM. Ros Rivaz, Derek Bishop and others have been consulted about non-heritage designated buildings.
- vi. **S106 funds:** have been earmarked to fix up the decrepit South Meadow pavilion.

4. Social Events

- i. **Pie and Ale Evening:** A successful evening was held at the George, with good attendance, good food and interesting talk from Will on aspects of beer making.
- ii. **New & Lingwood:** This evening on tailoring was postponed as their new stock had not arrived in time.
- iii. **Eton College concerts:** Many of these are free and held in the daytime. Katie Leach has asked for info to be sent to her in good time for circulation on etoncommunity.co.uk and on Shout Out e-mails. They include competitions and recitals, when pupils can practice before an audience prior to performing in major competitions.
- iv. **Film evening:** The initial plan to investigate showings at the Baldwins Institute is unlikely to cover costs and licences are needed, so alternatives are being considered by Paul Bayley. Noorzaman Rashid is investigating the live transmission option – streaming of theatre, opera, and ballet – the success of which he has reported in another scheme in which he is involved.
- v. **Summer walk:** To be followed by pub lunch, Mike and Jacqueline Turner have suggested some good routes and Katie Leach will liaise with them.
- vi. **Pub quiz:** need at least 25 people and enquiries with the Crown and Cushion are bearing fruit. **Stop Press: Monday 27 March. See Shout Out.**
- vii. **Clean for the Queen:** Sunday 12th March. The risk assessment is to be amended to include life jackets for clearing by the river - otherwise one is advised not to clean near river! **Stop press: Risk assessment updated.** A first aider will be contactable by phone – either Wendy Hermon or Paul Oatway. If you aren't available on 12th March, then you can have a clean on your own at another time!

- viii. **Heathrow Objection meeting:** 3rd March 11:00 – 17:00 Alma Road Leisure Centre: We were advised to be careful that if you sign, you sign as objector not supporter (assuming that you object)! People's signatures at previous meetings have been used to indicate their support when they were in fact objectors.
- ix. **Etoncommunity.co.uk:** Please subscribe to "Shout Out" emails using etoncommunity.co.uk – this will make it more likely that e-mails will reach you. ECA agendas and minutes of meetings are available on this web site

5. Chairman's Report

- i. **Street Lights:** There has been huge progress, though still the odd light not working; Lights will start to transfer to LED from April. The River Bridge and Baldwins bridge lights will be repaired or replaced if broken. Peter Eaton is progressing this with RBWM.
- ii. **Eton Walkway:** The brochure is on website except last page- which will be added when full list of thanks is ready. Printing will then take place.
- iii. **Footfall counters:** Four people (La, Karen Usher, Jim Walker and Halid Izzet) are deciding what to do with this data. It doesn't differentiate people who cross bridge and then turn left, going straight into Brocas Street. It includes college boys who visit Budgens – we should look at whether we can collect additional data from Budgens until Keate's Lane to adjust for this. Longer term we would like an information centre.
- iv. **Watermans bench:** This is now in place, in use, still to be planted, hopefully by Excellent Plants, who are looking after our town flower beds. Windowflowers continue to be the hanging basket source and they garden the High Street tubs.
- v. **Cockpit:** Contract exchanged, not yet completed.

6. Treasurer's Report

Events such as the Pie and Ale night have broken even. No major changes.

7. Eton Ponymy

- i. **Attendance:** The School (headmistress Katherine Russell) has asked ECA to financially support a good attendance reward scheme, but a meeting between Chairman and Head will be arranged to discuss our preferred options to help, possibly with community based projects for the children. There was a lengthy discussion (plus a Committee meeting last night) to consider the best approach and it remains under discussion, pending the aforementioned meeting.

8. AOB

- i. **Swan shootings:** The recent mass shootings of swans in Barry Avenue reached the national press, and there were at least 2 fatalities. Wendy Hermon, Swan Support, expressed her concern that some culprits may be buying air gun pellets and catapults from various places including potentially from a shop in Eton. The staff has been excellent and helpful in trying to identify the small bores used. Wendy, an ECA

representative and maybe one other to approach shop owner to consult him re the best way forward. **WH/ML**

ii. **The Brocas:** Dogs continue to attack swans – There is a real risk area on entering the Brocas, where the swans are often on the meadow. The risk decreases further away. College have not approved signs as they believe they won't make a difference. There are still problems with dog mess and with litter – some from moored boats

Ask Craig Miller if the use of dog leads by the Brocas Street entrance can be added to existing Public Space Protection Order

MA

Discuss signs with Janet Walker, Eton College

RR

Ros Rivaz needs to know who to talk to about adding litter and dog mess warnings to back of mooring tickets

WH

iii. **The High Street:** Taxis are waiting by bridge Friday/Saturday evenings and the High Street is a mess (litter) Sunday mornings

Ask for another round of licensing checks on taxis

MA

Investigate whether High Street rubbish can be collected early Sun morning

MA

iv. **Toilets still not repaired:** Derek Bishop has put this on the Town Clerk's list. **DB**

v. **Big Issue Seller:** Thanks was given to Town Council for removing the seller outside Budgens whom some found to be intimidating

vi. **"Eton Matters":** Malcolm Leach has spare copies if you haven't received one. There has been plenty of feedback on a "fabulous issue"

vii. **ETON HIGH STREET FOOTFALL FIGURES - SEE SHOUT OUT**

On the counters - Budgens is still at about 27% of the Bridge footfall.

Numbers are picking up again, especially at weekends (twice going over 10,000 on Saturdays in Feb - which we haven't seen since October). The report that can be viewed on Shout Out has the detail, or ask secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk for it to be e-mailed.

On the website - there seems to be something wrong with the counter and Ros is looking into it. The stats say 43 visitors in Feb and 163 page views but that is a lot less than normal.

viii. **Vacancy at AGM, 5 June 2017:** Katie Leach is standing down after 5 years with ECA as meetings secretary. Sylvia Ellis has kindly offered to continue to draft minutes, so the job involves: co-ordinating between Sylvia and Chair on the Minutes, arranging their distribution, convening meetings and preparing agendas only.

It is important that we find someone to take on this role, which doesn't take up much time, involves contact with lots of nice people and she has much enjoyed it over the years! Katie will continue to collate Shout Out information for Russell Lloyd, arranging of some events and College Liaison.

9. Next meeting

The next two meetings will be at St John the Evangelist Church

Monday 10th April 6:30 pm

Monday 5th June 6:30 pm (AGM)