



Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting on Wednesday, 20th October 2021 at The Hop House, The George Inn

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Malcolm Leach, David Treder, Stephen Gosnell, Karen Waller, Christine Barber, Louise Davidson, Anthony Morgan, Brian Voakes, Marion Voakes, John Rowland, Wendy Rowland, Katie Leach, Julia Gosnell, Lesley Brewis, Henry Brewis, Dawn Palmeiri, Barbara France, Shirley Young, Margaret Hayes-Powell, Roger Line, Olga Line, Roger Marrett.

Apologies: Sylvia Ellis, Katherine Russell, Marion Mackenzie, Barbara Hunt, Peter Eaton, Bob Austen, Simon Weston, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee.

1. Welcome & Apologies

2. Minutes & Matters Arising

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

- i. Refuse collection – see section 5.
- ii. Jubilee Street Party – to be covered in the next few meetings as planned for June 2022.
- iii. College Boarding House consultation – took place on 30th October. This was to discuss the plans for a new boarding house for the Eton Boys.
- iv. Cycling & Walking Consultation – input given to Cllr Rayner for submission.
- v. Flooding – covered in section 7.
- vi. Christmas dinner – covered in section 9.
- vii. Crown Farm update – covered in section 5.
- viii. Cars idling in the High Street – covered in section 10.

3. Chair's Report

Thames Valley Police Roadshow – organised for Wednesday, 3rd November at the Eton Town Council offices. This covers subjects like how to prevent winter burglary, avoiding fraud and scamming and so on.

Eton Matters is to be circulated to Eton residents and to those who work in Eton w/c 1st November.

Eton Action List – the ivy in Eton Court car park which is obstructing the parking and the lighting is in the process of being dealt with.

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

Planning – Venture, 109 High Street – concerns have been raised that the new owners were trying to reduce the current retail footprint. Eton Town Council have taken this upon themselves to address the planning application submitted.

High Street shops and plans – those of significant change:

- 53 – now constructed to the upper floor and building works going well.

4. Treasurer's Report

Collection of donations from business for the Christmas event/flags have taken place and 7 donations have been received, together with a couple of private contributions. Donations of £50, £100 or £150 can be made via a form which can be collected from the Chair or submitted electronically.

Monies have been received for Eton Matters, however some payments are still outstanding.

Net result for the year to date, monies in are £6,132 and £5,067 has come out. In the ECA account, we currently have approx. £30K, however, most of this is ringfenced for ongoing and upcoming projects.

5. RBWM Councillor Matters

Unfortunately, Cllr Sam Rayner was unable to attend due to other commitments but she kindly provided us with an update after the meeting.

- I. The corporate plan for the council consultation has finished. This sets out the key priorities for the next few years. It will be coming to Cabinet next. Thank you to everyone who took part.
- II. The project to renew the lights in Eton is underway and this significant investment from RBWM will enable better lighting and give electrical supply for the High Street. This is phase 1.
- III. The waste collection service has now changed for some with collections now 2 weeks for general waste if you have a bin. Those with black bags and in communal areas remain weekly provided the street concerned has >50% of residents with sacks. Thank you to Peter Eaton for assisting.
- IV. The Cockpit has been sold and we are awaiting details. The council did put a charge on the property before it was sold to ensure works took place to keep the historic building safe in heritage.
- V. Crown Farm - the owners and their agent are working closely with the council and we are expecting them to come for pre application advice.

6. Christmas Light Switch On

Thursday, 18th November - College have confirmed use of the Chapel and the evening commences with a service from there at 6pm followed by a procession down the street with Father Christmas and his elves.

The lights will be switched on by Sir Matthew Pinsent; thanks were given to Julia Gosnell for securing this for us. We are delighted that Martin Cabble-Reid will compere the event.

The one-way section of the High Street will be closed from 5pm in order to accommodate the stall set up from various businesses including The George, Eton Mess etc. plus other outside interests i.e. arts & crafts, swingboats and a roundabout for the children.

Tickets for the Chapel event are on sale as of 1st November at can be obtained at Premier Stores, Eton Stationers and the Eton Information Centre.

If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Stephen Gosnell or Karen Waller.

Finally, thanks were given to Karen Waller and Stephen Gosnell for all their hard work into making this event happen.

7. Community Survey Update

Broadband/Wi-Fi and mobile issues

With mobile issues, there is no change; the O₂ mast will be installed on top of Intersystems House, with a 6 month timeline for installation. This should make a significant difference up and down the High Street.

Wi-Fi provision has been based on Windsor usage and this has gone down dramatically with only 34 people accessing it this year down from 500. This figure undermines the case for Wi-Fi provision in Eton. However, with the replacement of the bulkhead lights with lampposts in the High Street to improve the lighting, part of that project may allow the installation of Wi-Fi on those posts.

Broadband still an ongoing issue but as a town, we do meet the minimum standard set by the Government for speed, regardless of the variance that have been experienced in many households. Upgrading the broadband by way of sharing the costs between Openreach and the community has been implemented by residents of Eton Riverside. This was used as a basis for checking this option for the whole of Eton; £450,000 was the outcome which equates to around £450 per household, therefore not a viable option at this point.

Please contact David Treder should you wish to check costs for your household/area, he will be able to advise you on this and offer help in implementation.

If no interest is obtained, unfortunately, this would be as far as ECA could take this until Openreach upgrade Eton as a collective but is not in the foreseeable future at this point.

Cycling down the High Street

A sign has been obtained (large triangle with exclamation mark and left directional arrow) in order to help direct cyclists to the correct direction for traveling and will be used in conjunction with volunteers from the community standing at the top of the street. This is to be discussed at a later date.

Flooding

We have had flooding in and around Footpaths 6,8 and 49 and a flyer recently delivered from Thames Water may explain why water is accumulating on those footpaths. Additional pumping of treated water from the Slough Sewerage Treatment Works and to sustained rainfall has potentially caused excess flow into surrounding ditches and the footpaths.

Thames Water are proposing a new outflow which will go directly into the Thames situated near Boveney Lock. This will in turn stop the need to pump into the Roundmoor ditch and therefore no more flooding at Dorney Common. Widening of the M4 may also be a contributing factor, a report due soon should outline these findings.

8. Green Group Update

At Barnes Pool, there is a need to 'fork' the ground in order to help with the aeration of the soil and volunteers are needed to help with this project.

Any volunteers who would like to get involved in Green Eton with this and their ongoing projects, please contact secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk

9. Events

Next litter pick - this has been organised for a Sunday, 7th November so we can accommodate the Eton Boys who very much enjoy joining in and helping. With less leaves on the trees and hedgerows, there will be more exposed litter to collect.

Pub walk – a well-attended walk (15) to the Pineapple in Dorney on Sunday, 3rd October, via the Jubilee river system.

Next pub walk – 'Beat the January Blues' will be organised in the New Year 2022, details of which will come via the newsletter.

Christmas Dinner – date set for Friday, 10th December at The Christopher Hotel. Tickets will be on sale soon but to register your attendance, please contact secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk Menus will be circulated once a full list of attendees has been collated. Further details will be put into Shout Out, our newsletter.

An events sheet was handed round to the attendees and will be updated on a regular basis to keep the residents informed of the activities being organised for the community.

10. AOB

Eton Town Council Update

- I. CIL (community infrastructure levy) funding – monies paid by a developer to do commercial or residential development within a town which is handed to RBWM which then gets redistributed to the place where building works are taking place. ETC had circa £9,000 in which ECA have requested monies to cover the costs of the mini Christmas trees, this was granted.
- II. Replacement of the benches on the bridge – arguments in favour and against were heard and as a result of very good challenges, the benches will be returned to their original positions. Date to be confirmed.
- III. 'Meet your Councillor' noticeboard have been erected at the Council Office window. This informs residents of which councillor is responsible for their particular part of Eton, should a problem arise and where to direct their correspondence to.
- IV. Planning applications – all applications that cover Eton and Eton Wick are scrutinised and any recommendations are passed to RBWM for consideration. Currently we only have 2 planning enforcement officers which cover a wide area which isn't adequate

for purpose. 109 HS, formerly Venture have submitted an application to extend their residential footprint but at the detriment of the existing retail/commercial space, this contravenes current planning laws/Neighbourhood Plan and this will be taken up by Cllr Rayner and the Council to reject this application.

Any applications that you are aware of like this, please contact RR, ML or MHP in the first instance, or RBWM and object via their website.

- V. South Meadow Lane Pavilion – building is in need of refurbishment and currently plans are due to be drawn up to renovate this facility. As the building is on Lammas land, the footprint cannot be extended. Going forward, this building will be predominately used by the local community as well as Windsor Football Club. Completion of this project is to be September 2022 so its in line with the start of the football season next year.
- VI. Idling vehicles in High Street – the majority of engines on delivery lorries that come to the High Street are now being switched off and with continual monitoring done, this will ensure that we have cleaner air to breathe and less disturbance down the High Street.

- Remembrance poppies are due to be erected on Saturday 30th October.
- The Remembrance service at St John's, Eton is on Sunday 14th November.
- Community Carol Service is on Sunday, 5th December at College Chapel.
- Eton Information Centre – going very well with ongoing projects, notably Art@79a and at the information centre itself and Eton Walks have launched with maps and audio tours.

11. Next Meeting Date

To be confirmed for a date in December 2021.

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