

Minutes of the Eton Community Association Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 16th April March 2025 at the Hop House, The George Inn

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Bryn Lee, Christine Barber, Anthony Cove, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee, Bridget Bartlett, Theresa Winstanley, Katherine Blightman, Michael Blightman, Mark Wilson, Ben Willcox, Hennie van Jaarsveld, Barbara Hunt, Sue Christodoulou, Barbara France, Pernilla Kemp, Deb Martin, Anna Pett (Eton Town Council), Simon Carpenter, Mark Procter, Katie Leach, Malcolm Leach, Amanda Snell, Heidi Fox, David Fox, Alistair Townsend, René Townsend, Dawn Lee, PC Rose (TVP), PC Whitburn (TVP), Catherine Reid, Ben Ward, Will Calvert, Simon Weston, Sylvia Ellis.

Apologies: John Hunt, Maggie Waller, Stephen Gosnell, Julia Gosnell, Ian Read, Teresa Read, Peter Eaton, Shirley Young, Margaret Hayes-Powell, Stewart Rogers, Katherine Rogers, Kim Carpenter.

1 Welcome and apologies

- i. Meeting started with Thames Valley Police Update see ECA meeting minutes for details.
- ii. Welcome to new attendees, Deb Martin and Catherine Reid, Ben Ward.
- iii. Thanks to Heidi and to David Fox who have attended a lot of litter picks.
- iv. Thanks to Will and Jon at Windsor and Eton Brewery and the team from the George, also to the Christopher where we sometimes meet.

2 Chair's Annual Report

The Chair provided an annual synopsis of the activities for 2024.



3

Treasurer's Annual Report and Adoption of Accounts

With our Treasurer, Stewart Rogers unable to attend, our Deputy Chair, Bryn Lee read out is report for 2024.



i. Auditor Richard Cox has fed back that our accounts are the best set of accounts and documentation he has ever experienced!

4 Election/re-election of Committee

- i. The committee welcomes new members. Recommended approach is for potential new member to work with the committee before applying to be elected.
- ii. On behalf of the ECA, Anthony Cove thanks our Chair for all that she does, and has done for this community.

Role	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Treasurer	Stewart Rogers	Bryn Lee	Christine Barber
Secretary	Leonie Bryant	Ros Rivaz	Katie Leach
Deputy Chair	Bryn Lee	Leonie Bryant	Simon Carpenter
Committee	Stephen Gosnell	Christine Barber	Ben Willcox
Committee	Christine Barber	Amanda Snell	Malcolm Leach
Committee	Amanda Snell	Malcolm Leach	Katie Leach
Committee	Malcolm Leach	Hennie van Jaarsveld	Barbara Hunt

iii. Nominations:

- iv. Anthony Cove nominated Ros Rivas as Chair, and this was seconded by Leonie Bryant, plus several others who were in agreement.
- v. Thank-you to committee member Ben Willcox who is leaving the Committee, having relocated from Eton.

5 Closing Remarks and Thanks

- i. Thanks were given to the attendees and invited to fill their glasses and plates with food provided.
- ii. Question asked is anything planned for VE Day on 18th May. EIC and shops will have window displays, but ECA not organising anything.

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Attendees: as for AGM with addition of Hugo Snell.

Apologies: Simon Weston, Ben Willcox.

Minutes & Matters Arising

- i. Items mostly covered in AGM.
- ii. RR has asked for the plaques on the bridge to be cleaned.
- iii. Two of the three benches in Jubilee Square have been stolen. Someone has requested a new memorial bench. This will need to be fixed to the ground. RR is following this up. RR
- iv. Crown and Cushion have over a few years removed, but not replaced, trees. Action:
- v. A pear tree in King Stable Street may be cut back or removed, subject to planning permission. Replacing the tree does not make sense in its location.

Cllr MW

vi. On Monday, 21st April at 22:00 (10:00 pm) on tv channel ITVBe is the episode of the Real Housewives of Orange County which was planned to include a clip of Eton.

TVP Update - TVP

- i. PC Rose and PC Whitburn are part of the Windsor Central Neighbourhood team which includes Eton and Eton Wick.
- ii. They have completed Operation Pulse which has resulted in uninsured e-scooters and ebikes being seized, and in going the wrong way down the high street, cyclists being given fixed point penalty notices.
- iii. They have deterred ASB moving it away from this area.
- iv. They are continuing to work on scrambler e-bikes.
- v. There was a report of a door kicking in Brocas Street. This is believed to be a one off, but TVP will carry out regular patrols.
- vi. This morning, Sergeant Day was in Eton getting feedback from business. No issues reported.
- vii. TVP will hold Have Your Say sessions in Eton Wick library.
- viii. Swan Support, TVP and other groups are aiming for a PSPO due to people using catapults and slingshots to wound or kill wildlife. Please continue to report incidents when you see them via 999, 101 or the TVP website https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime
- ix. The Eton Art week at end of May will include readings of PC Ben, a book for children written by one of the PCSOs, David Bullock.
- x. A resident asked how effective the street cameras are and whether they are good enough to be able to read car number plates. These can (where appropriate) read car number plates.
- xi. Another resident complained that there are only 20 mph signs as you enter Eton and no

repeater signs. TVP had talked to council who said because of the quantity of existing street furniture, there is no need for any additional signs. Cllr MW had arranged a data tracker which found there were not sufficient problems to justify additional measures.

- xii. They were asked about deterrents for e-scooters and wrong way High Street bikes. Wrong way High Street bikes are fined £50. E-bikes and e-scooters have their vehicle seized and then either get a warning (first offence), or points and a fine. There are additional costs if they wish to retrieve their e-bike or e-scooter.
- xiii. RR has leaflets about the need for the PSPO to protect wildlife. Vets fees are a major cost to Swan Support who welcome donations. These will be available in the Eton Information Centre.
- xiv. Someone recently was sleeping rough in the King Stable Street alley that runs parallel to the High Street. RR said to report it. Contacts for reporting are Tracy Hendron (RBWM) and Rough Sleeping: <u>tracy.hendren@rbwm.gov.uk</u> and <u>rough.sleeping@rbwm.gov.uk</u>
- xv. A red Toyota travelling the wrong way along the High Street on Sunday 13th was witnessed at about 21:30.

Action: send any local CCTV to TVP

RR

- xvi. A car has been reported for loud beeping at 04:30 in the morning and CCTV footage has been sent to TVP.
- xvii. TVP say that reports of problems in Eton and Eton Wick are relatively low.
- xviii. Cllr Leach reports that TVP have told Eton Town Council that there is an increase in crime. It is likely that this increase is in the number of reports, not necessarily in actual crime.

Chair's Report

- i. Willow Café has replaced the Rancher.
- ii. Eton Express Local has two external illuminated signs which are not permitted in conservation areas and another outlet has also been reported as having one.

Action:

 ML

- iii. Eton Express Local are selling memorabilia, which is in competition with the Eton Information Centre. They continue to offer dry cleaning.
- iv. Beaubelle may also start to offer dry cleaning.
- v. Previous meeting gave Cllr MW an action concerning Windsor Brides and the impact of parking if additional residences are approved. Action carried forward.

Action:

Cllr MW

- vi. Need for PSPO to protect swans and other wildlife was covered as part of the AGM.
- vii. Within two weeks, The Cockpit scaffolding should be reduced to gutter level, dependent on RBWM approval.
- viii. Eton College have bought the property on the corner of Tangier Lane and the High Street, previously occupied by Intersystems. Half is being rented to legal firm OH Parsons, with the other half still available to rent.
- ix. Eton Sport extension is completed.
- x. Eton Stationers is becoming a private dentist from London.

xi. Cappadocia is going ahead, but they report that they are working with planning. A local resident is concerned in case they move the noisy air conditioning or refrigeration units to the back of the building.

Action: ask Jamie from Cappadocia about the air conditioning or refrigeration units **RR**

Treasurer's Report

i. This was covered in the AGM.

TVP Update

i. This was covered in the AGM.

RBWM Councillor Matters - Cllr MW

- i. Cllr MW started with an apology from the other councillors who were unable to attend due to clashes with council meetings. The other meetings are being re-arranged so this should be less of a problem in future.
- ii. Crown and Cushion trees still not replaced.

Action: follow this up

Cllr MW

- iii. Swan Support PSPO has been taken to cabinet. The hope is that confiscating catapults and slingshots will be a deterrent. Next step is consultation on scope and area.
- Proms in the Park. The Safety Advisory Group are looking at this again. The Dance Nation is planned for Friday night with the Proms in the Park planned for Saturday night. It was asked how often these events are going to happen with a concern that this could include any types of events. Cllr ML has written to Alistair Otto, Eton College Commercial Director, but the most recent response is that he is on holiday. Issues include number of people expected compared to planned for, Lammas land constraints, parking, traffic, lighting, toilets, policing etc.
- v. Eton Town Council have a grant of £5.8k for one CCTV camera for the Meadow Lane area. Action is with Margaret Hayes-Powell. ML is considering where best to put the camera.
- vi. Windsor Town Team is a group of volunteers who go litter picking and tidy up greenery in Windsor.
- vii. Looking at better clean-up of graffiti.
- viii. Eton T-Shirt Company have sponsored purple high-vis jackets for the Windsor Town Team. Cllr MW to provide a photo which could be used in Shout Out, to thank Eton T-Shirt Co
- ix. The government have updated the planning framework giving it a tilted balance which makes it more difficult to refuse planning applications, consistent with the national guidelines.

Eton Town Council Update

- i. Leaflets about the Eton Town Council AGM on 8th May were available for collection.
- ii. Thanks to Cllr MW for what is he doing for Eton.
- iii. Welcome to our new Town Clerk, Anna Pett, who welcomes visitors to her office.

- iv. Eton Wick library is open on Tuesdays and on Saturday mornings. We are welcome to use it, although Windsor Library is closer and a walkable distance for Eton Residents and has a wider range of books and services.
- v. Cllr Douglas Hill died last year. There will be a memorial bench for him by the recreation ground. There will be a small ceremony when it is unveiled.
- vi. Work on the South Meadow Lane pavilion is 50% funded and the work has been offered to one of three tenders. Still raising the rest of the funding.
- vii. Eton is a conservation area and external illuminated signs are not allowed. One person spoke in favour of illuminated signs, but the signs are not allowed.

Action: talk to Eton Express Local about their external illuminated signs

ML

Business Update

i. There were no presenters this time, but plenty of updates!

Events Update

- i. The recent meeting with our MP Jack Rankin went very well with 16 attendees.
- ii. The next walk on Sunday, 27th April will start and end in Wraysbury and is just under 5 miles, with start time of 10:00 am and lunch booked for 12:15 at The Perseverance. If you want to join in, please e-mail <u>secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk</u>
- iii. The Just Jane event is also on 27th April starting at 3.30pm, an event in aid of the EIC.
- iv. The College are holding a children's concert, also on 27th April. This will be published in the next Shout Out with details on how to attend.
- v. On Thursday 22nd May there will be a pre-event for the College Nora Davison exhibition. This runs from 23rd May at the Verey Gallery and will be announced in Shout Out.
- vi. The next litter pick will be late May or early June. There is a mystery about cans reappearing almost as soon as they have been litter picked. Have contacted the College who will add this to their next environmental committee agenda.
- vii. Simon Carpenter updated us on Arts Week which is shaping up nicely. About 25 artists have signed up for En Plein Air target is 50. About 20 shops have signed up for the Arts Trail. The final weekend exhibition in Baldwin Hall is fully subscribed. A list of different educational classes through the week will be published. See http://etonartsweek.co.uk More volunteers are needed especially on Saturday, 24th contact the Eton Information Centre if you wish to volunteer.
- viii. Bryn Lee reports that the Eton Information Spring Ball was very successful, and thanks the volunteers. An amazing time was and by all and great funds were raised for the Eton Information Centre.

Eton Information Centre – Barbara Hunt

i. EIC is self-funded, which is why the Eton Information Centre Spring Ball was so welcomed. Both the Eton Spring Ball and the Eton Arts Week contribute to funding the EIC.

- ii. Footfall is up 89% for three months compared to last year.
- iii. From Easter, the EIC will open every day, except Wednesdays.
- iv. Cllr ML reports that signs by the bridge are pointing in the wrong direction for the Info Centre. BL is trying to improve signage including in Windsor but there is a cost. See vii item. BL
- v. Cllr ML reports that David Palmieri, a local resident, has been made a town councillor.
- vi. Town clerk AP is setting up a book swap. RR warns that a previous attempt resulted in boxes of books donated but few taken, so some had to be taken to waste sites. Suggestion of max 5 books donation per person.
- vii. Barbara Hunt has previously been able to get temporary signs. BL to talk to BH.
- viii. Today is the last day to apply for named bricks in Jubilee Square deadline has been extended.

AOB

i. KL has an elderly neighbour who needs some assistance with cleaning, rubbish and shopping, having previously had a cleaner. Adrian and Romula from Great Park Home Care: <u>adrian@greatparkhomecare.com</u> recently presented to an ECA meeting so may be able to help, because this is one of the services that his business provides.

Please e-mail AOB for next meeting to <u>secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk</u>.