



Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting on Wednesday 9th July 2025 at the Hop House, The George Inn

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Monaliza Cadwallader, Bryn Lee, Stephen Gosnell, John Hunt, Barbara France, Cllr Devon Davies, Bridget Bartlett, Peter Eaton, David Palmieri, Shirley Young, Graeme Reed, Celia Harvey, John Harvey, Gayle Cole, Anthony Cove, Anna Pett, Cllr John Griffiths, Chris Reeve, Amanda Snell, Linda Tarbox, Margaret J Hayes-Powell, Deb Martin, Dawn Lee, Mark Procter, Annelie van Jaarsveld, Hennie van Jaarsveld, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee, Darren Hayes-Powell, Christine Barber, Sylvia Ellis.

Apologies: Ian and Teresa Read, Maggie Waller, Wendy and John Rowland, Malcolm Leach, Kim Carpenter, Simon Carpenter, Julia Gosnell, Dawn Palmieri, Cllr Mark Wilson, Stewart Rogers.

1 Welcome and apologies – RR

Welcome especially to new attendees, John Griffiths, Chris Reeve, Gayle Cole and Graeme Reed – Graeme is joining the committee as a representative for the traders in the High Street as he is the manager of The Christopher Hotel.

2 Business Information

- i. The College Bursar, Janet Walker is retiring, with her replacement expected either September or January. Chris Reeve from the College explained how the College looks for opportunities to raise funds, especially with the impact of recent tax changes. Current building works are High Street redecoration, new roof for Foundation Centre and the new Sports Centre which is being built. After these have completed, the buildings focus will return to maintenance. Peter Eaton raised the concerns about the now dropped plans for an event on the Brocas and Chris agreed that there needs to be more engagement. Chris reiterated that the College does take Lammas lands seriously, though there is a learning curve.
- ii. Gayle Cole is local and is setting up a Wellbeing business. She explained her background and the experience that she brings to this. Gayle focusses on the holistic side and on the clinical side of Mindfulness/Wellbeing. She will be running a course on 27th July at the Baldwins Institute. Last year Gayle was a top fund raiser for the Alzheimer's Society.

3 Chair's Report

- i. The Brocas Fair plans to run from Tuesday, 15th July to Monday, 4th August including set up and close down.
Next ECA meeting is Wednesday, 3rd September.
Tuesday, 16th September is an event around the Nora Davison exhibition.
Eton Matters will shortly be delivered – slightly later than planned.
 - ii. Police related matters are:
 - benches being moved on Saturday nights – RBWM are very responsive providing bolts and chains.
 - damaged Eton Walkway sign finally being investigated but police say may now be too late.
 - iii. Barnes Pool – College retain the west side. RR hopes to re-visit this with the new Bursar.
 - iv. Crown and Cushion trees - Cllr Mark Wilson is on the case. Two of the three trees have been replaced, with the third tree being advisory.
 - v. Car parking issues – with Cllr MW.
 - vi. ECA will talk to Eton Town Council about the Christmas Lights Switch On at the ETC meeting tomorrow.
 - vii. BL reports that car park usage had dropped but is now back up, with footfall up 17.8% in the year to May; not much extra business in shops however.
 - viii. Eton Action List continues with actions limited by finance. Sarah Plowman has been exceptionally helpful.
 - ix. Mark Procter has won the 'House Proud' week award – he was presented with his prize.
 - x. David Gibbons from the College is not at this meeting today. CCTV possible for recent phone theft and for a heart attack that led to cars crash.
 - xi. Of the abandoned Thames boats, one has been removed and the other two are no longer there. We now know who to contact if this happens again.
 - xii. Thanks to all concerned for the Eton Arts Week.
 - xiii. Gas replacement by the Brocas will need two-way traffic lights on Meadow Lane.
 - xiv. Cockpit – waiting for update. It was indicated that if funds run out, there is no Plan B to follow up with.
- Action: Cllr DD
- xv. Cappadocia planning application not yet submitted for accommodation in roof space.
 - xvi. AC raised the ongoing problem of car parking, with Eton Car Park Charges higher than some of the Windsor Car Park charges. Mayor LT reports that Eton Town Council have challenged these prices but so far no acceptable response. The high cost of car parking impacts occupancy of shops, number of visitors and people working in Eton.
 - xvii. As it stands, Gilbeys is not being sold as a going concern, as far as it is known. If you know anyone who might take on the business or the building, please give them the contact details for Gilbeys.

- xviii. Car parking - what is the RBWM policy on differential car parks and has this been correctly applied for the Eton car parks?

Action: raise at Tuesday meeting with Cllr MW

Mayor LT

4 Treasurer's Report

Our treasurer, Stewart Rogers, provided this update in his absence:

There has been minimal expenditure over the last couple for months so nothing other than 'business as usual' to report. However, we will shortly be moving into the planning and preparation stage for the Christmas lights event so expenditure will step up over the coming weeks. Our reserves remain healthy.

5 RBWM Councillor Matters – Cllr Devon Davies

- i. Have requested CCTV to see who took the benches.
- ii. Have asked the Highway Team about the Cockpit.
- iii. No promises about parking

Action:

Cllr DD

- iv. Meeting reports problems with litter with bins either too small, not being emptied often enough or not always where needed. On the plus side, RBWM clears fly tipping within a day of it being reported.

Action: can we have bigger litter bins

Cllr DD

6 Matters Arising

- i. Only one of four parking bays painted as previously reported.

Action: was with Cllr MW

Cllr DD

- ii. Intersystems (previously) scaffolding has been removed.
- iii. Still a question about neighbours not always consulted about planning applications that impact them – specifically recent Thameside.

7 Thames Valley Police

- i. Unfortunately, TVP were not at this meeting.

8 Eton Information Centre Update

- i. The Arts Week was a success and was profitable – we do not yet know all of the footfall. Profits go to the EIC; the EIC is totally funded by donations/grants and sales.
- ii. Some locations will continue to show art works, and some workshops will continue.

9 Events Update

- i. Sunday, 8th June litter pick had a very good turn out – over 20 people.
- ii. Lots of fly tipping, as well as lots of cans. However, with the foliage in full bloom, many places were difficult to enter/see any rubbish. This will rectify itself in the Autumn when the foliage dies back. If you see fly tipping, please take a photo and either report it yourself via the Report It function on RBWM's website or give details to LB who will

report it. RBWM are very responsive.

- iii. Sunday, 12th October will be the pub walk to Staines – route is being investigated. Further details will be given closer to the time.
- iv. Tuesday, 16th September - private showing of the Nora Davison Exhibition. This will be publicised in Shout Out with further joining details.
- v. Pub quiz - September date not finalised yet, but will be advertised in Shout Out once confirmed.

10 Eton Town Council Update – Mayor

- i. Litter problem continues at Tangier Court. **Action is with Cllr Malcolm Leach.**
- ii. Tender for maintaining South Meadow Lane area is due tomorrow.
- iii. Christmas Lights Switch On will be discussed at ETC meeting tomorrow.
- iv. Crown Farm Issues - Enforcement Notice issued. No stop notice yet. Cllr DD aware.
- v. Weddings at the Council Offices are generating income. The Elizabeth Arch is being kept clean for photos.
- vi. Celebrating the “Glorious Majority” is work in progress with Peter Eaton and Cllr John Griffiths.
- vii. Still a vacancy for an Eton Town Councillor.
- viii. CCTV for Meadow Lane is progressing by Cllr MHP.
- ix. Please report evidence of anti-social behaviour towards swans to Margaret Hayes-Powell. Many agree the need for a borough wide PSPO, but we need evidence to make this happen. TVP will look at whether TikTok can stop posts that encourage people to injure or kill wildlife, specifically swans and other waterfowl.

11 AOB

- i. The Town Council has sessions with TVP and Councillors available to talk to. All welcome to come long to these sessions.
- ii. Encouraging younger families to join in with ECA may be achieved with a flyer two weeks before an ECA meeting.
- iii. Swan Upping starts Monday, 14th July for 5 days, with Windsor Bridge destination for Monday evening and starting point for Tuesday morning.
- iv. Please register for the fortnightly Shout Out e-mail newsletter if you have not already done so via our website – www.etoncommunity.co.uk

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