



ETON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting held on Wednesday 15th January 2020 at the Eton Town Council Office

Attendees: Ros Rivaz (chair), Leonie Bryant, Jane Reed, Christine Barber, Linda Oatway, Ieva Poriete, Karen Waller, Katherine Russell, Malcolm Leach, David Treder, Barbara France, Lee Warren, Peter Eaton, Derek Ledger, Shahan Ledger, Gaye Kane, Phil Kane, Jackie Murnan, Roger Prior, Ron Lewandowski, Hardip Virdee, Elizabeth McMahon, Marion Mackenzie, Anthony Cove, Louise Voakes, Katie Leach, Simon Weston, Jon Naughton-Green, Sylvia Ellis

Apologies: Shirley Young, Stephen and Julia Gosnell, Roger Marrett, La Stacey, Stewart Rogers, Katherine Rogers, George Fussey, Barbara Hunt, Emma Pendry (Thames Valley Police Officer)

1. Welcome

Due to date clashes with other meetings, some community members were unable to attend.

2. Matters Arising from previous Minutes

- i. Decision still pending on charity sponsor for Christmas 2020. Please e-mail suggestions to secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk
- ii. Action to arrange visit to Alexander Devine transferred from Malcolm to Christine.
Action: organise a visit to the Alexander Devine Hospice CB

3. Chairman's Report

- i. Information Centre is going well with feedback being superb. Opening hours are subject to revision with the potential for Tuesday and Wednesday being added to opening times.
- ii. Eton Action List continues and can be found on www.etoncommunity.co.uk
- iii. Car parking spaces – have lost one but gained one in Sunbury Road.
- iv. Electrical points in High Street - there will be a site visit to assess whether any of these are dangerous as opposed to just being out of date.

- v. Drug issues. Please report any information to the police (or e-mail secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk or chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk). Six arrests have been made since our December ECA meeting.
- vi. Four broken windows have been reported and the offenders identified. None of these were caused by rough sleepers. This question was raised because the Police explained at the Windsor Town Forum that there is a correlation between rough sleepers and some crimes. The number of empty shops in the High Street is a concern. Over the years, there have always been times when there are less and then more occupied shops.
- vii. Gas pipe work - the available information was shared with further information to be available at a meeting run by Cadent/Triio on 16th January. Work starts on 3rd February for 20-22 weeks. While this is in place, buses will not be able to drive through Eton town. It is hoped that a better solution will be found because only having a stop at College isn't sufficient.

4. Financial Update

- i. Still very healthy although much of the funds are allocated to other projects for which this money was raised, for example, Barnes Pool Restoration project.

5. Social Events

Request to include day of the week, as well as date and time.

- i. 25th December (Wednesday): about 16 people met at the Henry VI for a midday get-together.
- ii. 13th January (Monday) pub quiz at the Crown & Cushion.
- iii. 30th January (Thursday) two exhibitions at the College (Choirbook and Ancient Beings) – meet at the Porters Lodge.
- iv. 19th February 7:30 pm (Wednesday) Golden Curry £10 curry evening to be booked and paid for on the day; if you want to attend and haven't already signed up, then please e-mail secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk
- v. 26th February evening (Wednesday) Mary Jo Jacobi talk at College. E-mail secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk or chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk if you wish to attend, for pre-meeting security checks.
- vi. March (Sunday) provisional date for Community Spring Clean is likely to change as current proposal is for Mother's Day – new date proposed after meeting of 8th March, to be aired at next meeting. Now agreed Sunday 8th March.
- vii. 24th April 10:30 am – 2:45 pm (Friday) Combermere Barracks tour to be paid for in advance (£15), except for lunch which you pay for on the day (approx. £5 from the Mess).
- viii. 7th May 19:00 (Thursday) "The Last Tour" talk by David Bullock at St John the Evangelist church. Tickets £7 each to be booked in advance through Katie.

6. Charteris House Update

- i. Most feedback collated was opposed to the use of Charteris House for the homeless (about 6 to 1).
- ii. There was concern at the very short notice about this issue. This limited the ability to distribute of leaflets requesting people's view as 24 hours were available to give Eton Town Council the information they requested. In turn, this was because the original plan was for occupancy by rough sleepers within days. Eton Community was not told about this, and only found out by chance. Meeting thanked those that had distributed the leaflets.
- iii. There was concern expressed by one resident in the meeting that the leaflet telling townspeople about this plan promoted the risks over the benefits "tantamount to scaremongering". Again, the leaflet was produced at very short notice. The resident asked that future situations should be handled with more compassion.
- iv. Charteris House does not have licensing consent to be used for residential so would need to apply for change of use, which understood is a 6 week process following registration of the application by RBWM.
- v. A meeting with a councillor who is the Head of Homeless did not produce many answers from questions posed. He had not visited Eton Square or Charteris House. The Homeless Councillor (and Officer in charge on RBWM) wants somewhere in Windsor (or Eton) for rough sleepers even though there is space in the Maidenhead location. The Cllr will review this with the RBWM officers
- vi. Eton Town Council are now in charge with liaising with those involved going forward.

7. AOB

- i. Roads between Dorney and Sainsburys Taplow are in a very poor state. Buckinghamshire Council will resurface or repair in March and April. They will also improve the new junction which gives access to parts of Dorney Reach which are south of the M4.

- ii. Motorbikes, bicycles and e-scooters - concern was expressed about motorcyclists travelling over the Windsor/Eton Bridge. Since the meeting, police have confirmed it is perfectly legal for motorcyclists to push their motorbikes over the bridge - even with the engine running. However, it is not legal for motorcyclists to be mounted on their bikes, straddling them to cross the bridge. A notice will be published in Shout-Out to make the position clear to residents and let people know how to report such incidents for police action.

Action: talk to Paul Roach

RR

Action: e-mail details of how to report this to Sylvia (done on 16th January) DT

- iii. Signage on the bridge: discussion around signs and what should be in place to support the genuinely homeless without encouraging professional beggars.

Action: discuss with Head of Homeless Tracey Hendron

RR

Action: get back to "tap and donate" now that council are aware of Charteris RR

Action: e-mail info about Trinity Church to chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk LO

- iv. Heathrow consultation deadline delayed to the end of this year. Working with Parishes to understand the impact and possible mitigation. A suggestion of free rates was well received. Double/triple glazing cannot be installed to listed buildings.

8. Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held on 19th February at 6.30pm (Wednesday) in the Eton Town Council offices, 102 High Street. **Note this is a change of date from that previously planned.**

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