



Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting on Wednesday 28th May 2025 at the Hop House, The George Inn

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Linda Tarbox, Bryn Lee, Christine Barber, Julia Gosnell, Steve Gosnell, Mark Wilson, Barbara France, Simon Carpenter, Kim Carpenter, Amanda Snell, Peter Eaton, Deb Martin, David Palmieri, Ian Read, Teresa Read, Hugo Snell, Sylvia Ellis.

Apologies: Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee, Mike Blightman, Katherine Blightman, Leonie Bryant, Stewart Rogers, Anna Pett, Dawn Lee, Maggie Waller, Monaliza Cadwallader.

1 Welcome and apologies

2 Minutes & Matters Arising

- i. The Douglas Hill bench has been unveiled in South Meadow.
- ii. Welcome to our new mayor, Linda Tarbox.
- iii. Please keep reporting when vehicles emerging from Eton Square turn right instead of following the one-way system. Suspect at least some of these incidents are a deliberate decision.
- iv. There are four disabled and loading parking bays that need to be repainted. A team turned up but had instructions to paint just one bay rather than four.

Action:

CIlr MW

- v. The illuminated signs outside the Eton Express Local are being addressed.
- vi. Application for increasing residential space at Windsor Brides has been refused on grounds of flood risk.
- vii. Cappadocia units at back - architect has replied that if any more units are wanted at the back they would need planning permission. Owner has said no plans to put more outside. If there are replacement units, they would be quieter.
- viii. We understand that Cappadocia wants to build more rooms on top which would impact the roofscape. The restaurant will open but not until the rooms planning application has been decided, whether approved or refused.
- ix. Of the three removed Crown and Cushion trees, one has been replaced.

Action:

CIlr MW

- x. The Proms in the Park event has been withdrawn due to a number of different concerns. College want to increase use of Dorney Lake for commercial purposes.

3 Chair's Report

i. Shops

Beaubelle at 61 High Street is closing from 31/5.

Windsor Brides has gone – see 2 vi.

Intersystems scaffolding had permission for a month, however, the month is now up.

Action: Cllr MW

- ii. Cockpit planning target was within 6 weeks of January but not yet approved, currently with the conservation team. There is a statutory process which has to be followed. The current application is similar to a previously approved application and helpfully revised HMG guidelines are for a tilted balance towards acceptance applies, which adds more weight because of the residential units. There is a concern that if this keeps dragging on then the project could run out of funds and there is no plan B. We thank Cllr MW for his involvement in this, especially given the recent sign off of the roof rebuild. Please push for a planning approval asap.

Action: Cllr MW

Action: Ask Bursar, Janet Walker and ETC Cllr John Griffiths to write to Head of Planning Adrien Weight, along with RR RR

- iii. We understand that a recently approved planning application did not consult the neighbours – maybe because of the same postcodes. This has happened at least once before. PE has been asking for two years for Brocas facing homes to be consulted on Alexandra Gardens applications.

Action: check the guidelines and whether anything can be done a) specifically on the application mentioned and b) generally regarding Alexander Gardens Cllr MW

- iv. On 7th June, Gilbeys are holding a big event to celebrate their 50th anniversary.
v. South Western Railway Services have taken the first step towards nationalisation.
vi. All (not just High Street) encouraged to participate in House Proud week 2nd to 8th June.

4 Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report. Treasurer has sent his apologies.

5 Thames Valley Police

- i. TVP have done another cycle watch and prosecuted a few people. Reading from the children's book "PC Ben" as part of Eton Art Week. Otherwise, nothing to report and not at this meeting today due to other commitments.

6 Eton Information Centre

- i. There are more people visiting the EIC and there are Eton tours planned.
ii. EIC are collecting stories about Eton so if you have a local tale to tell, then pop in and talk to them.

7 Eton Arts Week

- i. “En Plein Air” attracted 22 artists whose work was then displayed in the Austen-Leigh and Baldwin Institute. There was judging by a panel of experts and also judging by the public.
- ii. There are a number of activities in Eton this week – you can still book on some of them.
- iii. Many shops are displaying paintings in their windows to form an Arts Trail.
- iv. There is a Kiddies Trail to spot coloured tubes of paint.
- v. Great support from organisations and from local people.
- vi. The week will end with another exhibition in the Austen-Leigh and Baldwin Institute in conjunction with Windsor Art Collective.
- vii. Not part of the Eton Arts Week, but open for additional times because of Arts Week, The Verey Gallery are currently displaying mostly local paintings by Nora Davison.
- viii. Thanks to Simon and Kim Carpenter, and to the many others who made this happen.
- ix. Feedback wanted – keep it brief. Three good things and three things to change. E-mail to chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk and to SC if you have his e-mail.

8 Business Information Update (Windsor and Eton Business Partnership)

- i. No meeting since the previous ECA meeting.
- ii. BL will compare footfall to last year including reporting on the impact of Eton Arts Week.

9 Events Update

- i. Nora Davison Exhibition at the Verey Gallery – some 14 joined through an ECA invitation. Feedback was extremely positive.
- ii. The pub walk to the Perseverance in Wraysbury was a lovely day out; thank you to Stewart for organising this.
- iii. The Summer Litter Pick starts 10:30 on Sunday, 8th June outside the Eton Town Council Offices, with bacon or egg butties afterwards, thanks to Eaten Café.

10 Eton Town Council Update

- i. Thanks for the Eton Arts Week which is brilliant.
- ii. Next Eton Town Council meeting will be 19:00 on Thursday, 12th June.
- iii. On Wednesday, 11th June 11:00-12:00 there is an opportunity for 1-1 sessions with Thames Valley Police. This will include an RBWM Councillor surgery and may include a Councillor from Eton Town Council.
- iv. We are welcome to join in the Eton Wick Knit and Natter sessions on Tuesdays at 14:00 in Eton Wick Library.
- v. Continuing work on the Commons Register including Lammas lands.
- vi. College no longer maintain the South Meadow grounds, so this is now out to tender.
- vii. Still have a vacancy for an Eton Councillor. Notice will go out shortly.

11 AOB

- i. Deadline for “Eton Matters” was Friday, 23rd May. Volunteers wanted to join the mini-subcommittee – there are many different opportunities,
- ii. Christmas – this is led by SG and a replacement for Ben Willcox role is being sought, hopefully from Eton Porny School. Volunteers wanted. Working on determining lifespan of lights, trees and mistletoe lights. We can then work out a strategy for them.
- iii. Friday, 1st May 2026 is the 200th anniversary of the Enclosure Act (which determined that landowners cannot enclose Lammas or Common Land) and Lammas Land commencement. There may be an event to celebrate.
- iv. Cllr MW tells us that Windsor will have a State Visit from President Macron Tuesday, 8th to Thursday, 10th July.
- v. Cllr MW reports that RBWM have approved the sale of Windsor Yards (previously King Edward’s Court) to the current leaseholders who have a plan.
- vi. Graeme from the Christopher Hotel will be providing business experience and will be joining the ECA Committee.
- vii. Next meeting will be Wednesday, 9th July, at 18.30 with future meeting dates published in “Eton Matters”.

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