



## Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at the Eton Town Council Office

**Attendees:** Ros Rivaz (chair), Leonie Bryant, Barbara Hunt, Shirley Young, Katherine Blightman, Michael Blightman, Barbara France, Hardip Virdee, Elizabeth McMahon, David Cogbill, Marion Mackenzie, David Treder, John and Wendy Rowland, Dan Reed, Lisa Neatham, La Stacey, Roger Prior, Beryl Owens, Kevin McNulty, Katherine Rogers, Anthony Cove, Julia Gosnell, Stephen Gosnell, Christine Barber, Mary-Ellen Yarossi, Gretta Flint, Sylvia Ellis, Samantha Rayner

**Apologies:** Peter Eaton, Simon Weston, Derek and Shahan Ledger, Katherine Russell, Jane Reed, Karen Waller, Malcolm and Katie Leach, Derek Bishop.

### 1. Welcome

Especially to new committee members David Treder and Marion Mackenzie, and to new attendees Beryl Owens and Kevin McNulty. A reminder that there is a (self-funding) curry evening following this meeting, thanks to Bobby at Golden Curry.

### 2. Matters Arising from previous Minutes

- i. ECA attendees agree to keep Alexander Devine as our charity until and including Christmas 2020. Christine Barber described a recent visit that she undertook, very positive feedback given. The Eton Christmas Lights switch on will be 19<sup>th</sup> November this year.
- ii. Cycling over the bridge and pushing a motorbike/moped are both permitted. If you see someone crossing the bridge on a motorbike with feet on the pedals, take a photo, including the number plate so that RBWM and the police can follow up.
- iii. Considering removing or relocating the dropped kerb between the bridge and the High Street. Need to consider impact on people in mobility scooters.  
**Action:** follow up dropped kerb options RR, SR
- iv. Signage on bridge: current thinking is “begging is illegal” or similar. Two local homeless charities that welcome donations are <http://www.windsorhomelessproject.org/> and <http://windsorchristianaction.org/more-than-a-shelter>. ‘Tap and donate’ still an option – initially cash only. Action for this is with RBWM Head of Homeless, Tracey Hendron.
- v. Barbara Hunt reported a recent incident where a warden didn’t note the number plate of a motorbike, though the motorbike was then pushed across the bridge, not ridden.

### 3. RBWM Councillor Matters

- i. Charteris Centre as winter place for homeless is now unlikely to happen. Still looking for somewhere in Windsor – suggestions please to Councillor Rayner.
- ii. RBWM budget meeting will be Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February. Proposal is to increase the maximum allowed for Council Tax without a referendum which is 1.99%, plus 2% adult care. Attendees understood the issue and the need to make the increase. Many objections received about the Advantage Card parking proposals.

### 4. Chairman's Report

- i. Gas pipe replacement works ongoing. Weekly updates on Tuesdays will be included in the ECA newsletters which are usually e-mailed on Thursdays. There have been some difficulties with at least one person needing to exit the High Street by driving the wrong way.
- ii. Eton Action List continues.
- iii. Let's buy local! Some retailers are badly impacted by the gas works with loss of trade.
- iv. Drug issues – nothing new to report.
- v. Capital bids are part of the RBWM budget meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February.
- vi. Barnes Pool Water Course still needs volunteers – both regular and for one-off tasks such as planting bulbs. To volunteer, please email [secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk) or [chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk). Insurance cover for this work and the erection of the flags etc is being sought from our insurers.

### 5. Events

- i. 19<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 pm (Wednesday) curry evening following this ECA meeting today.
- ii. 26<sup>th</sup> February 8:45 pm (Wednesday) Mary Jo Jacobi talk at Eton College. Must be booked in advance for security checks.
- iii. 8<sup>th</sup> March 11:00 (Sunday) Spring Clean followed by bacon butties, pastries and hot drinks. Meet at Eton Town Council Office.
- iv. 19<sup>th</sup> March 12:00 to 2:00 pm (Thursday) lunch in church over the surgery, donations in aid of Windsor Homeless.
- v. 5<sup>th</sup> April (Sunday) installation of flags; to volunteer e-mail [secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk)
- vi. 8<sup>th</sup> April 6:30 pm (Wednesday) ECA meeting.
- vii. 24<sup>th</sup> April 10:30 to 2:45 pm (Friday) Combermere Barracks visit £15 plus £5 for lunch; e-mail [secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk) to book if you haven't already.
- viii. 7<sup>th</sup> May 7 pm (Thursday) David Bullock talk.

## 6. Eton and Eton Wick Information Centre

- i. Has had over 5,000 people since it opened, and plan to open for longer.
- ii. Will be taking on the administration of the Eton College tours.
- iii. Will be organising Eton Walkway tours on Saturdays.
- iv. Will be translating the Eton Walkways brochure into several languages.
- v. Will be holding an Eton Walkway quiz.
- vi. Will be adding more souvenirs to those already being sold.
- vii. Footfall - New committee member David Treder is taking on analysis of the data from the footfall counters which are at the bridge entrance to Eton and outside Budgens.
- viii. We are raising the profile of Eton, for example the Eton Walkway and the Eton and Eton Wick Information Centre and TripAdvisor now has an entry for Eton.

## 7. AOB

- i. Proposed constitution change Section 5d from:  
“The Committee will be responsible for ensuring that the Association stays within the budget.”  
to  
“....that the Association maintains a positive balance after allowance for the Reserve (see 5 (e)) and any funds that are ring-fenced for specific agreed projects.”  
This reflects what is currently because the ECA does not set a formal budget.
- ii. The process to make this change is to announce it and minute it at two consecutive meetings. The meeting endorsed the proposed change as noted in 7i.
- iii. “Eton Matters” should be delivered at end of next week. Thank you to Editor Peter and all the contributors.
- iv. Eton Information Centre wants more volunteers – talk to Barbara Hunt if interested.
- v. Fundraising will benefit from volunteer involvement. If interested, please e-mail [chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk)
- vi. Empty shops in the High Street  
**Action:** add to agenda of next ECA meeting

LB

## 8. Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm (Wednesday) in the Eton Town Council offices, 102 High Street.

Please e-mail AOB to [secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk) prior to the meeting.