

ETON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 24th January 2018, 6.30 pm at Eton Council Offices

Present: Ros Rivaz, Katie Leach, Malcolm Leach, Noorzaman Rashid, Jane Reed, La Stacey, Christine Barber, Stewart Rogers, Stephen Gosnell, Ieva Poriete, Derek Bishop, Malcolm Alexander, Sylvia Ellis, Barbara France, Derek Ledger, Roger Line, Maggie Waller, Peter Eaton, Christine MacKay, Jade Hunter, Tom Hybert, Katherine Rogers, Paul Roach, Julian Phelan, Susan Hinds, Kulbir Shergill, Roger Marrett, Michelle Leveridge, Russell Lloyd, Wendy Hermon, Linda Oatway, Marion Mackenzie, PC Dave Bullock, PC Emma Pendry.

Apologies: Jessie Lawrence, Karen Waller, Katherine Russell, Louise Davidson, Brian Voakes, Marion Voakes, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee

1. Welcome by the Chair

A special welcome to people representing the council, the police and the Windsor Homeless Project who will be talking to us later in the meeting. Also welcome to KS who has many years of experience working in housing.

2. Apologies for absence

3. Matters Arising from Minutes

- i. **“Around the Borough”:** KL has been coordinating the list of people who haven’t received this
- ii. **Support for local causes from ECA:** ECA committee will discuss and present recommendations
- iii. **Brochures to encourage visitors:** RR has had and distributed 3 copies of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead Official Visitor Guide 2018 and will get more eg for ML RR
- iv. **Finding the brook:** PE to cover later in meeting
- v. **Boundary changes:** MA to cover later in meeting

vi. **Open Shop:** NR is creating a template. Next open shop will be Manley's in March – exact date not yet decided. ML/NR

4. RBWM Councillor Matters

- i. **Lighting:** LED conversion is 97% complete. Bridge lighting is a separate project. Additional lamps on the Bridge will require English Heritage involvement. Bulk lights due February will be white not yellow.
- ii. **Street Party facilities:** Box with 6 outlets to be installed 25th January outside Richer Sounds.
- iii. **Meadow Lane Car Park:** new payment system is delayed for the foreseeable future so that teething problems can be ironed out at another site. MA has asked for the currently unused wiring at the entrance to be tidied up, and also for an additional payment machine at the far end of the car park.
- iv. **Boundary commission changes:** proposal for our area is to combine Eton, Eton Wick, Datchet and Horton.
Feed back to the boundary commission when they ask for feedback ALL
- v. **Heathrow Consultations again:** includes a session at the Windsor Leisure Centre.
Please comment again on the proposals ALL

5. Chair's Report

- i. **High Street:** vacant shops; possibility of workplace sharing at what was Coutts; bakery and butchers have been slow due to sickness; paving work planned for February
- ii. **Windsor 2030 development including Windsor riverside:** ECA are involved.
Continue to push for the necessary consultations. MA, PR
- iii. **Crime in Eton and Eton Wick:** possibility of ANPR at towns entrance/exit routes to identify suspect cars. ECA have been asked to contribute.
- iv. **Other local projects:** working on getting additional RBWM capital funding for bicycle parking, finding the brook, gully replacement; aware of but not currently progressing motorcycle parking and electric car charge points' needs.
- v. **Q&A: Empty shops vs pop up shops vs increasing rents:** patisserie and butcher wanted to wait until new year before progressing, also a health problem.
RR to include MA when next meeting with the College to discuss. RR, MA

- vi. **Finding the Brook (PE):** team will walk the brook to look at places for story board and at how to get water to Barnes Pool; has been promised some funding from a company (name currently withheld).

6. Social Events

- i. **College exhibitions 23rd January:** were very successful
- ii. **19th February Pub Quiz:** be there 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm; fully booked at £2.50 per head
- iii. **4th March:** 10-12 starting at ETC offices, 102 High Street, great British clean-up
- iv. **March – no date yet:** Manley's Open Shop
- v. **April:** talk in Natural History Museum by George Fussey
- vi. **20th May:** street party
- vii. **June/July:** maybe another open shop; maybe another summer walk

7. Street Party initial plans

Start time will be 12:00 noon or 1:00 pm – depends on awnings contractor. PR is organising closures and licences – likely to be combined with other similar celebrations as this reduces cost of notifying people.

8. Local Homeless Challenges

Local experts to inform attendees about what is happening in Windsor & Eton and to answer questions.

- i. **Introduction:** challenge of the genuinely homeless as opposed to people who visit to beg; what can we do; what do we want the authorities to do
- ii. **Police: P.C. Dave Bullock and Sergeant Emma Pendry:** Looking for longer-term improvements; used example of recent problem next to Budgens where the normal process results in a fine and the behaviour continues. DBullock has individually profiled street sleepers and (prior to the recent publicity) they were mostly genuine. Want to work with partnership agencies to deal with the issues that these people have. Everyone is different, but all have stemmed from a trauma.
- iii. **RBWM Paul Roach Town Centre Manager:** This is not a new issue though this has got worse over time. Multi agency approach. Short-term emergency protocol when the weather is especially cold. Some choose not to use this option of being housed. If have to place someone outside the borough then still responsibility of this council so

travel costs provided. Problems need to be reported – either to 101 or (if emergency) to 999, then whoever reports it must be prepared to make a statement and follow through. Council is considering what to do about the Windsor bus stops being commandeered but someone has already been pricked by a needle trying to officially move some belongings.

- iv. **Windsor Homeless Project Julian Phelan and Sue Hinds:** this charity provides two drop-in centres with food, drink, showers, sanitary aids; aim is to get people into housing and to keep them there; incorporates Windsor foodshare (vouchers issued by GPs); links with Street Angels; 15 people have gone through treatment, 3 have jobs, up to 15 have been housed; have heard that the RBWM Resilience Drug and Alcohol Service is to be closed; sleepout planned for March 18th. Dave Bullock also part of project from inception in 20017. <http://www.windsorhomelessproject.org/>.
- v. **Questions including raised by KS who has many years' experience in housing:** How do we stop people from becoming homeless – preventative work is important; Frustrations at professional beggars who aren't homeless; PLEASE DON'T GIVE MONEY TO STREET DWELLERS; how do you stop tourists from giving money to beggars and addicts – matter for the council maybe? Police don't have powers to remove bags when they know whose bags they are – ring 101 if you see an unattended bag; one concern about political correctness; if wheelchairs and pushchairs can get past then not legally an obstruction; one option is to amend the current PSPO.

9. AOB

- i. **Community spirit:** would improve the area if more people picked up litter more often, but people will only do what they are prepared to. Tends to be the same people who volunteer each time. Maybe ask for volunteers in the fortnightly newsletter.
Raise at committee meeting RR
- ii. **Closing shops in High Street:** depressing; footfall doesn't reflect trade
RR to include MA when next meeting with the College to discuss RR, MA
- iii. **New Bus Service:** not fit for purpose – timetable doesn't allow one way in morning then return in the afternoon; RBWM aware. PE suggests a minibus on continuous loop
Report back to next ECA meeting MA
- iv. **Dog poo an increasing problem:** is this a matter for Eton town council? DB
- v. **Rubbish on steps to river by bridge:** unclear who owns the steps; Bob Austen, RR and PE aware of ownership issues and working this.

vi. **Flaming Cow litter:** maybe write to them. DB

vii. **Xmas trees in car park:**
Tell RBWM DB

10. Next meeting

Monday 12th March at location to be advised