



Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting on Wednesday, 3rd September 2025 at the Hop House, The George Inn, Eton

Attendees: Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Bryn Lee, Dawn Lee, Christine Barber, Anthony Cove, Roger Prior, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee, Simon Carpenter, Kim Carpenter, Peter Eaton, Julia Gosnell, Stephen Gosnell, Barbara France, Monaliza Cadwallader, Samantha Sullivan, Hugo Snell, Cllr Mark Wilson, David Waddleton, Shirley Young, Bridget Bartlett, Cllr Devon Davies, Alistair Otto, Anna Pett (ETC), Sylvia Ellis.

Apologies: Ian Read, Teresa Read, Cllr Linda Tarbox, Graeme Reed, Deb Martin, Margaret Hayes-Powell, Malcolm Leach, Stewart Rogers, Katherine Rogers, Amanda Snell, Dawn Palmieri, David Palmieri.

1 Welcome and apologies

2 Minutes & Matters Arising

- i. The Cockpit planning permission has been accepted with conditions.
- ii. Car parking differential was with Cllr LT.

Action

Cllr MW

- iii. ETC have been told where we need bigger litter bins.
- iv. All four parking bays have now been repainted thanks to Cllr MW.
- v. Litter at Tangier Court

Action

Cllr ML

3 Chair's Report

i. High Street Shops

- 61 (Beaubelle) will become an Estate Agents.
- Eton Mess's work is ongoing, waiting for pre-planning or planning application, no recent update from them.
- Windsor Brides residential application refused.
- Tinytowne has sold the franchise to someone else.
- Eton Stationers will be a private dentist.
- 109 (Ventura) top and back residential area is available to rent after which the retail part will be listed as available.
- 52 (Antiques) no update on status.
- Gilbeys, including fixtures & fittings is for sale for £1.8 million.
- Willow Café - we were unclear what its opening hours are as they are sporadic throughout the week.

- ii. South Meadow Pavilion - meetings about the refurbishment of the Pavilion at the Eton Town Council offices are at 18:30 Monday, 8th September and 10:30 Wednesday, 10th September. Project is not yet fully funded but expected to happen as otherwise money invested so far would be wasted. These dates will be emailed to relevant parties.
- iii. Christmas: working on funding to pay for installation and removal of lights. Some of these are beyond end of life. A matter for Eton Town Council which is dependent on financing.
- iv. At Barnes Pool, a branch fell off a willow tree. College are aware and will remove.

4 Alistair Otto - Eton College Head of Commercial

- i. AO started in new role of Head of Commercial having previously held that role at the Science Museum.
- ii. Role is to increase revenue from College assets. AO is also Managing Director of Dorney Rowing Lake.
- iii. Role doesn't include property which remains with the Bursar. New bursar, Edward Hayter, started on Monday 1st September.
- iv. ECA ask AO to include our Deputy Chair in discussions about the College and the town because of the Eton Information Centre.
- v. If we have questions for AO, then send them via secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk or chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk
- vi. PE said that we need to improve communications between College, Eton Town Council and ECA.
- vii. AO reports that the Proms in the Park promoter jumped the gun by selling tickets before the College had confirmed, hence the confusion caused within the community.
- viii. The Autumn events programme was requested as PE thinks there are two Windsor

events planned which start on the Brocas. AO confirms there is only one event scheduled.

- ix. ECA is neutral about the annual Fair visit - some people are for, some against. Problems are from people visiting the Fair, not the Fair people themselves which cause ASB issues.
- x. Discussions about suitability of litter bins on the Brocas, mostly location and size – we need bigger bins, and more of them.
- xi. AO's office is located in Eton High Street and can be visited there but does also spend time at Dorney Rowing Lake.

5 RBWM Councillor Matters – Cllr MW

- i. The Cockpit - no further info.
- ii. ECA to tell Cllr MW what to prioritise from our list of actions.
- iii. Replacement for the burnt-out sign has been ordered.
- iv. Question on whether the school lights now working?

Action

BL to check and to tell Cllr MW

- v. The high costs of parking in Eton are a concern to all in town. Cllr MW doesn't think that Eton is being penalised compared to other RBWM car parks. He is feeding in to a review by Cllr Hill. Some car parking meters have needed to be cleaned (solar powered) as they aren't working as well as they should - RBWM should arrange this to be done.
- vi. Mooring costs in Windsor and Eton are good value compared to the car parking charges and should be relative.
- vii. The black information monoliths around the town are missing a lot of information about Eton. Agreed that the monoliths are out of date. This will be discussed at the Windsor & Eton Business Partnership meeting – **BL**.
- viii. Tourism Strategy:
 - SS recommends publicising the Eton Walkway.
 - Windsor Yards to include a hotel – in the stages of being developed – these will be an 'aparthotel' which allows longer stays in the area.
 - Eton Wick Motor Museum opens at least 10 days a year and should/could be included in list of local attractions.
- ix. The approach to Eton from the pedestrian bridge looks disgraceful because of uncontrolled foliage.
- x. The Grounds Maintenance Contract from October 26th is out to tender and includes more ways to manage poor performance.
- xi. Events and activities at Alexandra Gardens impact residents in Eton, especially re noise. There is some noise from Windsor Racecourse but that is not many days each year and should be managed to the correct levels.

6 Treasurer's Report

Reported by our treasurer that we are in great shape, financially.

7 Eton Information Centre

- i. New named bricks plan is ongoing. Existing bricks will be checked.
- ii. Arts Week this year was great. Next year it will be 23-31/5/26
- iii. EIC Ball planned for Saturday, 21st March 2026.
- iv. Castle View event featuring Jane Speller and Alice Oxley on Wednesday, 10th September. Castle View will be making a donation to the Eton Information Centre as requested by Jane and Alice.
- v. EIC has held some walking tours of Eton this summer.
- vi. 'Art for Sale' where some of our shops display art by locals is bringing more interest for the participating shops. If you have art to display, contact chairman@etoncommunity.co.uk
- vii. EIC encourages locals to continue to pop in to say hello.
- viii. It was asked if there is a leaflet about activities sponsored by businesses - yes there is and should be placed into all AirBnB's in Eton.

8 Events

- i. Tuesday, 16th September - places still available for the Nora Davison talk and tour at Eton College. Book through secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk or Eventbrite, which can be found on the latest edition of Shout Out.
- ii. Sunday, 21st September litter pick – please meet at the council offices as usual at 10.30am.
- iii. Thursday, 25th September - Pub Quiz at the Watermans, please e-mail secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk to book a seat or team.
- iv. Sunday, 12th October pub walk to include lunch at The Swan in Staines - no detailed route as yet but will be advertised in Shout Out in the next couple of weeks.
- v. Mid-October plan – plan to repeat an Open Shop at New & Lingwood – details to come shortly via Shout Out.
- vi. Thursday, 13th November - Christmas Lights Switch On.
- vii. Friday, 5th December - annual Christmas dinner at The Christopher Hotel; £39, apply by Monday, 17th November to secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk should you wish to attend.

9 Thames Valley Police

Unfortunately, the police were unable to attend this meeting.

10 Eton Town Council Update

- i. ETC comprises of 7 Eton Councillors and 7 Eton Wick councillors. Kathleen Reid has been appointed to the vacancy following interviews.
- ii. Police Workshops 11:00-12:30 on Wednesday, 1st October, Wednesday, 15th October and Wednesday, 12th November at the council offices.
- iii. Council offices now have books available to borrow.

- iv. College to reinstall the toppled 2-dimensional World War soldier silhouette in the graveyard at St John's church.

11 AOB

It was asked whether we should continue to display union jack flags due to the recent activity where roundabouts etc had been defaced with St George's flags - to be reviewed once they are removed for the Christmas installations.

Next meeting Wednesday, 8th October – The Hop House, The George, Eton.

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