

**MINUTES OF THE EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 1<sup>st</sup>  
March 2004 at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr M Heyland (In the chair)  
D Marriage  
R Bagni  
R Windmill  
D Hayes  
D Pearson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** T Litley (Clerk)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Peter Rollings, County Cllr Piggott, Steve Halton, Norman Lee, Graham Chappell and 1 member of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Beal (holiday), Cllr Tribbick (unwell), Cllr Janes (unwell).

**SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Member declaring Interest</b>	<b>Present or Absent during discussion</b>
949/950	Cllr Heyland	949 – Absent, 950 – Present
949/950	Cllr Bagni	949 – Present, 950 - Absent
950	Cllr Marriage	Present
949	Cllr Hayes	Present

Nature of Interest

Cllr Heyland – School Governor and Chairman’s Allowance.  
Cllr Bagni – Member of Village Hall Committee and planning.  
Cllr Marriage – Secretary of Sports & Social Club.  
Cllr Hayes – Member of Salvation Army.

**CHAIRMANS COMMENTS:**

Reply from Beds C.C. regarding salting of carriageways during the week of snow.

E-mail from a resident of The Rye enquiring whether 30mph signs could be erected along the carriageway approaching the village. Highways are completing works on the 30mph signs at Bower Lane and Northall Road. Clerk to contact Highways.

Clerk

Beds Police – Best Value Review – Partnerships questionnaire, G.P. to complete.

‘Harling Road’ road sign buckled. Clerk to contact Highways.

Clerk

Overgrown hedging along Bower Lane passed the houses. Clerk to contact owner.

Clerk

Overgrown hedge, 1 High Street. Clerk to contact owner.

Clerk

Coffee Tavern: Cllr Heyland reported that a few complaints have been received regarding the slippery surface of the car park due to the increased growth of moss. Planning regulations stipulated at the time that tarmac could not be laid in a conservation area. Cllr Pearson proposed that a quotation and advice be sought for the killing of the moss, a skim of peat be laid and coarse grass seed be sown, seconded by Cllr Marriage, 5 in favour, 1 against.

Clerk

Coffee Tavern: Cllr Heyland queried when the boiler in the Coffee Tavern was last

serviced. Clerk confirmed not in the last 3 years. Cllr Marriage proposed that the boiler be serviced with an annual maintenance thereafter, seconded by Cllr Heyland, unanimous.  
Items placed in the circulation file:

Clerk

- SBDC – Notice of meeting, Executive Committee, 10/2.
- SBDC – Minutes of Rural Management Committee, 21/1.
- SBDC – Information Reports – Feb. 2004.
- Beds Police – Watchwide News.
- Voluntary & Community Action – Newsletter.
- SBDC – Notice of meeting, Licensing Committee, 17/2.
- SBDC – Minutes of Council meeting held 27/1.
- SBDC – Minutes of Executive Committee meeting held 3/2.
- SBDC – Notice of meeting, Planning Committee, 18/2.
- SBDC – Council meeting, 26/2. Minutes of 3/2.
- SBDC – Minutes of Executive meeting, 10/2.
- SBDC – Notice of meeting, Licensing Sub-Committee, 26/2.
- SBDC – missing page- planning agenda for 18/2.
- The Army – Presentation, 1/4.
- SBDC – Code of Conduct: register of interests, Re; Freemasons.
- SBDC – Local Plan Review statement of decisions and intent to adopt.
- Calor's Beds Village of the Year 2004.
- Beds C.C. – StreetScene, newsletter.
- Beds Police - Recruitment drive, info. Poster on notice board.
- SBDC – Inform action, newspaper.
- SBDC – extraordinary Council meeting, 2/3.
- SBDC – Notice of meeting, Executive Committee, 2/3.
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister – Local investigation of allegations of Misconduct – Regulations 2004.
- P3 Group – Training sessions.

#### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

2/2/04 – P.C. meeting – Page 942 – Delete Cllr Pearson and add Peter Rollings. These were then signed as a true record of that meeting.

11/2/04 – G.P. Committee meeting – These were signed as a true record of that meeting.

#### **STEVE HALTON – A SHORT TALK OF THE 'APPLES & ORCHARDS PROJECT':**

Steve Halton explained that the North Chilterns Trust is hoping to develop a project within the 3 village area to work with the community in raising awareness of the prune/damson orchards which are a distinctive feature of the area. Due to changes in agricultural practices the orchards are becoming derelict.

The project could form the basis of a bid to the Local Heritage Initiative to obtain funding which could cover community, awareness raising, education, wildlife and conservation.

A steering group will be formed, and a lot of interest has been received from landowners, individuals and the P3 group.

The Parish Council suggested that the School be contacted along with private land owners and that a public meeting could further raise awareness. The Clerk asked for Steve to forward an article that could be included in the Focus magazine.

Clerk

## Agenda change

The Chairlady allowed a member of the public to approach the table concerned with youths congregating around The Meads bus stop. This activity is becoming more frequent with the youths consuming alcohol. The resident felt that as School Lane recreation ground has now become a 'No Alcohol Zone', the youths have now moved to the bus stop. The P.C. advised the resident that they and their neighbours must regularly report to the Police and keep a log of the reports made. The P.C. asked the Clerk to invite the beat officer, P.C. Lichfield to attend the next meeting and advise the resident to also attend. Clerk to also contact the off-licences reminding them that alcohol is not to be purchased by minors, or by someone buying alcohol for minors.

Clerk

### **CLERK'S REPORT:**

No procedural changes to report.

The Clerk informed the council on the extra tasks John Hopwood has carried out, these include, retrieving the 'No Alcohol Zone' sign from the river and re-erecting. Fixing the fire exit door to the Coffee Tavern and replacing tiles in the loos. Attending to the overhanging shrub at the cottage and washing down the gateways.

Cllr Marriage reminded the Clerk to include litter picking at The Rye recreation ground.

Clerk

The Annual Parish Meeting has been arranged for Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May.  
The Annual Parish Council Meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May.

### **MATTERS ARISING:**

'Alcohol Free Zone' sign: John Hopwood has retrieved the missing sign from the river and has re-erected it.

1 Dunstable Road: Response from the enforcement officer at SBDC confirming a visit to the property to issue an order on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

Cllr's Allowances: The Clerk has obtained information that there is a panel located at SBDC, but this panel are charging Parish Councils for this use. At this time, this P.C. has resolved not to pay allowances, it can at any time in the future resolve to pay allowances and apply to the panel for guidance.

Bus shelter seating: Item to go in the next edition of Focus.

Churchyard Gate: Cllr Pearson provided designs and quotation for 3 different types of wood. Cllr Marriage proposed that the gate be in oak and 'pinewood style', cost of gate £302.00, fittings, £150.00, and installation £50.00, seconded by Cllr Heyland, unanimous. Cllr Pearson to complete works.

Cllr Pearson

St Mary's Trees: Cllr Marriage and Peter Rollings attended a site visit at St Mary's churchyard to inspect the trees. The ordered work carried out by Billy Varty has been completed, Cllr Marriage proposed that the invoice be paid, seconded by Cllr Bagni, unanimous. Peter Rollings was thanked for his help.

Phase 2 - two trees, one to be reduced and the other to be removed, Clerk to obtain quotes for this work.

Clerk

Phase 3 – Some of the larger trees have sprouting branches at their bases. John Hopwood to attend to.

Clerk

War Memorial and headstone: Both works have been completed. Cllrs Marriage and

Pearson have signed off the headstone. Cllr Marriage has inspected works on the war memorial, Cllr Hayes to also inspect and then if satisfactory work to be signed off.

Cllr Hayes

The Rye Car-park: Tenders have been sent for works to the car-park, a deadline for receiving these is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004. So far one response has been received and remains unopened until the May P.C. meeting

**REPORT FROM THE G.P. COMMITTEE MEETING OF 11/2/04:**

A quiet month for the G.P. Committee but the questionnaire concerning sports facilities directory was completed and returned.

**DISCUSSION ON REQUEST FOR DONATION FROM THE SALVATION ARMY:**

Advice was obtained from Beds R.C.C. as to whether a donation could be made due to whether the road would benefit the wider community of just the SA and the neighbours. Cllr Hayes explained that the hall is open to all, but at this time there is no agreement to sell from the owner. The P.C. felt that more information should be provided before committing public money. Cllr Hayes to inform the Clerk when such information is available and an agenda item will be made.

Cllr Hayes

**DISTRICT AND COUNTY AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES:**

County Cllr Piggott reported that the council tax increase will be 5.5%

**CHAIRMANS ALLOWANCE – RESOLVE TO PAY:**

Cllr Marriage proposed the Chairman's allowance be raised to £100 for the forthcoming year, with annual reviews. The current Chair to receive £60, seconded by Cllr Windmill, unanimous.

**SPECIFICATIONS FOR TENDER – RESOLVE TO IMPLEMENT SYSTEM:**

Cllr Windmill provided the P.C. with draft clauses that could be included with the standard contract conditions. G.P. Committee to discuss and bring their recommendations back to the next P.C. meeting.

G.P. Comm.

**THE VILLAGE HALL REPORT:**

Cllr Bagni reported that 3 building quotations have been received and are awaiting 2 further quotes.

Concerns were raised with regards to whether the P.C. should have a joint contract with the Village Hall Trustees and the builder, thus allowing for the P.C. to be invoiced for works and the VAT reclaimed.

Cllr Windmill to contact Beds R.C.C. to clarify the VAT implications.

Cllr  
Windmill

Cllr Hayes reiterated his suggestion that a couple of members should form an accounts procedure.

Cllr Windmill informed the P.C. with his concerns regarding the lease and that the wording would suggest that the P.C. is not in such a secure position. Cllr Windmill to draft questions to be forwarded to Austin's to obtain clarification of these concerns.

Cllr  
Windmill

**TRAFFIC CALMING- RESULT OF SITE VISIT OF BOWER LANE:**

Cllr Heyland and the Clerk met with Peter O'Reilly of Raynesway, C.C. to discuss the

carriageway along Bower Lane. Part of the road where the traffic sensors lie has broken up, therefore making the sensors defective. It was agreed that Peter would contact T.S.S. to meet and discuss the best way of repairing the carriageway which would protect the sensors. Other parts of the carriageway along Bower Lane have also broken up; Peter has agreed to repair these as soon as possible.

A further meeting with Peter will be arranged towards the end of March to discuss repairs to other roads and carriageways. Cllrs have been asked to provide the Clerk with a list of areas in need of attention. Clerk will issue each Cllr a plan of their area to survey.

Clerk  
All Cllrs

Peter has instructed works to be completed along The Orchards a.s.a.p. due to the large pothole.

Cllr Bagni to provide the P.C. at the next meeting with information regarding the Tennis Club and c.c.t.v. use.

Cllr Bagni

#### **REPORT OF REVIEW HELD WITH JOHN HOPWOOD – MAINTENANCE MAN:**

Cllr Heyland and the Clerk met with John Hopwood for an annual review to discuss any issues etc. John finds the work satisfactory and has no problems. John did suggest that if possible, a storage facility would be useful. It was suggested that the garage rented to Mr Bailey of the cottage could be used. Clerk to contact the tenant to ascertain whether the garage is used and if he would be willing to let the P.C. take it back.

Clerk

#### **REPORTS:**

Eaton Bray Lower School: Nothing to report.

Sports & Social Club: The Clerk apologised to Cllr Marriage and the Sports and Social Club, a loan repayment had been made in December but did not show up on the December statement. When the January statement was reconciled the payment for December was detailed on there.

#### **NEXT AGENDA:**

No further items proposed.

#### **PLANNING:**

Objections made that the following application was overdeveloped.

SB-TP-04-0107 Conversion and extension of existing garage to form annexe and erection of single storey side and rear extensions, 34 Wallace Drive.

The P.C. agreed to the following application provided that the land marked with red boundaries, as per plan BD104173, does actually equate to the land area occupied by the nursery at the present time.

SB-TP-04-0142 Continued use of premises for a mixed use of nursery, and the retail Sale of imported plants and horticultural sundries. (Amended site area And non-compliance with cond. 2 of planning permission. Land at Rye Nursery, The Rye.

No objections were made on the following applications;

SB-TP-04-0178 Erection of part two storey, part single storey rear extension, 22 School Lane.

Cllr Windmill proposed that the accounts for February be paid, seconded by Cllr Pearson, unanimous.

**ACCOUNTS:**

<b>PAYEE</b>		<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>V.A.T.</b>
Mr Hodge	Windows (C.Tav)	8.00	
Mrs Hignell	Caretaker (C.Tav)	83.33	
	Materials	6.41	
John Hopwood	Maintenance	92.82	
	Materials	16.94	
Inland Revenue	PAYE	26.18	
David Granger	Ground Maintenance	746.13	111.13
David Granger	Additional work	2882.28	429.28
T Littley	Clerk	472.91	
Lloyd Barnard	Light at C/Tavern	218.55	32.55
Soper Signs	Disabled door ramp, C/Tavern.	274.00	
British Gas	C/Tavern.	12.33	.59
Three Valleys	C/Tavern	43.72	
Three Valleys	Meads Allotments	8.89	
Cllr Heyland	Chairman's Allow.	60.00	
		<b>£4952.49</b>	<b>£473.55</b>

**TOTAL**

**INCOME**

Mr Bailey	Cottage Rent	188.00
Lettings	Coffee Tavern	98.00
EBS&SC	Loan	*
Lloyds TSB	Interest	*
Bank of Ireland	Interest	*
Bates & Son	Burial Fee	250.00

**TOTAL** £

\* Info not yet re'cd.

**BALANCES** at close of business March 2004

Lloyds TSB £\*  
Bank of Ireland £\*

Dated this day of 2004

