

MINUTES OF THE EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD 3rd April 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr D Marriage(In the chair)
R Windmill
R Bagni
K Janes
L Tribbick
D Pearson
B Piggott

IN ATTENDANCE: E Hopwood (Clerk)
ALSO PRESENT: Mrs Joan Connor

APOLOGIES: M. Heyland. D. Hayes M. Beal

SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nature of Interest : No new declarations

Public Open Forum:

Mrs Connor attended the meeting as a prospective Councillor and stated her concerns about crime in the Village.

It was recommended that every problem was reported to the Police however small to enable them to get an accurate perspective on the problems that the Village faces.

CHAIRMANS COMMENTS:

A letter from Bedfordshire Heartlands asked for a £20 grant, this was agreed unanimously.

British Schools Museum in Hitchin asked for poster to be displayed around the Village. Clerk to request they be put on Market Square Notice board.

Bedfordshire Highways questionnaire sent for completion. Not enough information for Clerk to complete. County Cllr Piggott asked to provide copies of work sheets. Clerk to ask for more details of action taken.

Parish Council Agreement 2002-To be placed in circulation file and to be discussed at May meeting to see if any changes need to be made.

Items placed in the circulation file:

- SBDC- Planning Conservation Guide
- SBDC-Historic Buildings in South Bedfordshire
- Bedfordshire Heartlands Newsletter
- London Luton Airspace Decision Letter
- Bedfordshire Bugle Newsletter
- BRCC- Bedfordshire Village of the year

ACTION

Clerk

Clerk

Cllr Piggott
Clerk

- Beds CC-Parent Partnership News
- Clerks and Councils Direct Newsletter
- Watch Wide News

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

Parish Council meeting –March 6TH 2006 -These were signed as a true and accurate record of this meeting.

GP Committee meeting- 24th March 2006-Add: also to apply for matching funding from Carnival/ Fete if Chilterns grant received.
Change: Estimates of time taken by Handyman to complete jobs on Play Areas. These were then signed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

District and County Representatives:

Cllr Janes reported that he had followed up queries on Planning Applications and these were all in order.
Damaged road signs to be identified on Village Highways walkabout and reported to SBDC.

Clerk

County Councillor Piggott reported that Beds and Luton Road Casualty Reduction Partnership, founded to reduce road accidents in the County is to be funded from speeding camera fines. Bedfordshire is set to receive £1.7 million from next year, but in 2011 it will fall to zero so will then be subsidised from the rates if it is to continue.

MATTERS ARISING:

Land Registry:

Forms received if PC decides to voluntarily register land, cost will be £30.

Common Land:

Common land registration maps to be obtained to identify if all is marked and a list made.
Clerk to check asset register.

GP Committee
Clerk

HGV Lorries:

Clerk has written again to test centre re- the problem of numerous lorries using the Village.
Copy of Mr Roberts’s letter sent also, with his permission.

Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund:

£50 donation sent on behalf of the Village.

Clerk

The Pound:

Clarification re the siting of telegraph pole still not obtained. To be discussed at May meeting. Clerk to chase.

Clerk

Bower Lane Cemetery:

Councillors Bagni and Pearson have planted the Hawthorn infill donated by Cllr Heyland.

Handyman's Tool Kit:

This has been inspected by Cllr Marriage and replacements for Drill, drill set, saw and gloves to be obtained. Also tree loppers to be purchased. It was unanimously decided to allow up to £100 for these.

Councillor Marriage to provide catalogue and check replacements are suitable.

Cllr Marriage

Clerk to write to Handyman to advise him not to use his own tools, only those supplied by the PC.

Clerk

A price also to be obtained by May meeting for a heavy duty strimmer to enable the Handyman to keep unused allotments tidy at a reduced cost to the PC.

Tool kit to be checked annually in March from now on.

Sports and Social Club Lease:

This has been signed and returned to Solicitor for safe keeping.

Village Hall (KJM Todd payments)

Payment for completed work made.

Parish Council Byelaws:

The change in Byelaws must be inserted in at least one local paper as well as Focus. Proposed by Cllr Marriage seconded Cllr Janes unanimous that the advertisement be placed in Dunstable Gazette and sister papers. Clerk to put this in place.

Clerk

Northall Road Fly Tipping:

County Councillor Piggott advised that a date is in place for a meeting with the site manager and Beds CC to which a residents and PC Representative would be invited.

The first priority is to get the huge piles of metal removed, and the second priority is via the Site Manager get dialogue between the residents and the site established.

Councillor Janes as District Councillor will take advice and then attend. Hopefully this is working towards a solution to this problem.

Lots of other areas of the Village are also suffering from large amounts of fly tipping. Clerk to report and Cllr Janes to Liaise with SBDC.

Clerk
Cllr Janes

Speeding Traffic:

Details have been received from Beds Highways re Visually Activated Signs. These cost around £6,000 each, and in other areas have only been a deterrent for a short period.

In hard terms a physical barrier seems the only solution. All Councillors were asked for their individual views.

It was concluded that nothing which the PC had spent considerable sums of money on had made a difference.

County Councillor Piggott was asked if the Government are doing anything, he said that as there are not many accidents in Eaton Bray it was not classed as a high risk area.

Villagers are to be asked to attend the July meeting's open forum to express their views and offer the PC ideas that they may have with regard to this ongoing problem.

Clerk

Meads Bus Shelter:

This bus shelter has deteriorated of late and a quote has been received for repair. Cllr Janes proposed Cllr Bagni seconded unanimous that the repair go ahead. Clerk to advise contractor.

Clerk

Tennis Club Security Camera:

The security camera placed on the Tennis Clubhouse to look at the car park in School Lane was vandalised beyond repair, along with the one belonging to the Tennis Club. On the advice of the Community Police Officer this was replaced as a matter of urgency as several more acts of vandalism had taken place in School Lane Rec. Anti-climb paint is to be used on the pole to deter vandals.

Handyman's Pay Review:

The handyman has been in post for three years without a pay review so it was proposed by Cllr Bagni seconded by Cllr Tribbick unanimous that his pay be increased from £7.00 to £7.70 per hour in line with inflation.

Clerk to advise, and also to ask him to record all the work that he does, as opposed to only that he claims for, for one month in case they need review also.

Clerk

Burial Charges:

Clerk to obtain comparison with other Villages in the area, to be put on May agenda for discussion

Clerk

REPORTS:

GP COMMITTEE:

A grant from Chilterns AONB has been applied for it was suggested that if this is forthcoming it should be spent on a Village signpost, Clerk to obtain prices. It would need to be vandal proof.

Clerk

Play areas: Handyman has agreed to do painting and filling in holes on the two sites. Estimates received from Wicksteed and Clements. Cllr Marriage is to put all estimates on a spread sheet for the next meeting.

Cllr Marriage

Bower Lane Cemetery Fence:

Three estimates have been requested for the moving of the fence. The Clerk was advised that these should be sealed bids.

Clerks Report:

SBDC today advised that no election will need to take place as only 8 applicants had stood for the PC.

NEXT AGENDA:

Burial Charges

Northall Road Fly Tipping

Market Square dog bin (possible sponsorship)

Speeding Traffic

PC Working Agreement

PLANNING:

Cllr's Tribbick and Marriage did not take part in the following discussion as they know the applicant.

No objections were raised on the following application

TP/06/0088 19 Greenways Erection of two storey side extension (revised application)

ACCOUNTS:

Cllr Bagni proposed Cllr Janes seconded unanimous that the accounts for March be paid.