

MINUTES OF THE EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD on 5th. February 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs. M.. Beal (In the chair)
R.Brand
J. Conner
M. Crace
P. Gallagher
D. Marriage
D. Pearson

Clerk: E.Bird

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr. B. Piggott; PCSO Tonkin; PC Dady

ALSO PRESENT: 6 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr. M. Heyland; Cllr. R.Windmill

Coffee Tavern business:

The council, as corporate trustee, considered quotations to supply & fit floor coverings to the Coffee Tavern cottage. It was decided to ask Janes of Edlesborough to carry out the work. Prop. Cllr Crace, 2nd Cllr Marriage, Unanimous.
Cllr Marriage stated that he is progressing with the draft constitution for the charity.

2. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. D. Marriage declared an interest in the Sports & Social Club due to his position on the management committee, and also an interest as a member of the St. George's Day Society.

3. PUBLIC FORUM:

Six residents from the area around "Three Corners Green" presented their objections concerning the proposed erection of a flagpole on the green.
Cllr Gallagher summarised the results of the survey of residents' opinion that he had carried out in the relevant area at the council's request, the overwhelming response was against the erection of a flagpole. The council considered that the views of a large proportion of those residents that would be affected had been represented, and it was decided to advise the St George's Day Society that it would not be appropriate to erect the flagpole on the proposed site.

Clerk

4. CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE & COMMENTS.

The following correspondence has been received:

1.) Highways Maintenance Annual Survey received from Beds. Highways. G.P committee to complete and return.

GP

2.) A letter from Mrs. Hounslow, Head Teacher of Eaton Bray Lower School, outlining the process of preparing a School Travel Plan which will look at the issue of traffic congestion in the school area.

Cllr Crace agreed to attend occasional meetings at the school to assist with the process.

Cllr Crace &
Clerk

3.) A second letter from Mrs. Hounslow, asking if the Coffee Tavern could be used as a safe place for the pupils in the event that the school was rendered unsafe by an emergency situation such as a fire.
The clerk was asked to write advising that this would be acceptable providing that it is acceptable to the Fire Safety Officer, and that the school insurance policy covered any additional risk.

Clerk

4.) A letter from R. Garner, who is working on a project to catalogue paintings in public ownership. Clerk to write that the Parish Council do not hold any.

Clerk

5.) A letter of thanks from Mrs. S. Beal for the flowers and get well wishes, following her operation.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH MEETINGS:

After deleting Cllr Beal's declaration in item 2 which was recorded in error, it was unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 8th. January 2007 as a true and accurate record.
The Chairman signed the minutes.

The G.P. committee minutes for the 18th January 2007 were agreed by the councillors who attended, and signed by Cllr Marriage as Chairman of the G.P. committee.

6. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES:

Cllr Brian Piggott joined the meeting and gave a response to the council's letter concerning the traveller site in Northall Road, giving contact details for future reporting. It was acknowledged that this is an on-going problem, Cllr Piggott asked that the P.C. write to Beds. C.C. and copy the letter to him, he will push for a positive response.
The clerk was asked to write to Beds C.C. asking for action, and a date for repairs to the site barrier.
Cllr Piggott also commented on Quality Council status, and gave his opinion that pressure will increase for Parish Councils to achieve this.

Clerk

PC Dady introduced herself to the council as the new Beat Manager for Leighton Buzzard – rural area, and stated the importance of reporting all concerns, however trivial they seem, so that a true picture can be built up and adequate responses can be established.

The Chairman assured PC Dady of the council's support, and hoped for an effective dialogue.

PCSO Tonkin gave the crime figures for January 2007; A total of 14 offences: 1 House burglary; 1 theft of motor vehicle; 4 thefts from motor vehicles; 1 violence against the person; 2 criminal damage; 3 other building burglaries; 2 thefts.
The Chairman asked that the council receive some form of feedback relating to actions taken and outcomes.

7. G.P. REPORT

Skateboarding.

To be progressed at the next meeting.

GP

Village Signpost.

Detail of the proposed design of the signpost was presented to the council. The proposed arms for the post will cost approx. £650, this is in addition to the cost of £450 for the post. It is proposed to use the unspent monies from the Griffin Fund to cover the additional costs. The clerk was asked to obtain a quotation for the complete signpost, and to check the detail of the Griffin Fund.

Clerk

Traffic management.

Advice received is that vehicle activated signs would be the most effective measure available to the council. The G.P. committee will produce a detailed proposal regarding design and siting of the signs.

GP

Flagpole.

Matter dealt with previously.

8. CEMETERY

Cllr Conner presented a draft proposal for updated regulations, to be considered by councillors for discussion at the next meeting.

All

9. ALLOTMENTS

The clerk had received an estimate of the cost of supplying marker posts, of £350. It was agreed that the handyman should proceed. Prop Cllr Marriage, 2nd Cllr Crace, 1 Abstention.

Clerk

10. EATON BRAY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

The sum of £2000.00 has now been loaned to the Sports & Social Club.

11. SCHOOL LANE RECYCLING BINS.

The Chairman has been in discussion with SBDC, and has been told that the metal recycling bins will be replaced with plastic bins.

The clerk reported a complaint from a resident who feels the noise is unacceptable in a residential area.

The council asked the clerk to check the condition of signs requesting users of the bins to be considerate, and to replace them as necessary.

Clerk

12. MOOR END.

The council requested that Cllr Heyland, as chair of the planning committee, reviews the planning process in relation to the recent development in Moor End.

Cllr Heyland

13. P3 BOOKLET FUNDING.

Cllr Gallaher responded to the comments from other councillors. Funding is from The Mapboard Project & Beds. C.C. The preferred print run of 2000 copies would require a contribution by the Parish Council of £510, this was agreed unanimously. Prop. Cllr Beal, 2nd.Cllr Crace.

The question of copyright was discussed. It was agreed that Cllr Gallagher and his wife should hold the copyright due to the extent of their work on the project.

Prop. Cllr Beal, 3 votes in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions.

Cllr Gallagher did not vote on these two proposals.

14. RUBBISH IN NORTH ALL ROAD.

Dealt with earlier under item 6.

15. CLERK:

The clerk reported that he had purchased a computer from Dell at the cost of £738 excl. carriage & VAT.

The clerk proposes to review the financial regulations of the council and carry out a risk assessment, for discussion at the next meeting

Clerk

16. OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM JANUARY MEETING:

None

17. AGENDA for MARCH MEETING:

Review of Financial Regulations

Risk Assessment

Carnival Stall

Telegraph pole on The Pound.

18. PLANNING:

The following applications were considered:

SB-TP-07-0045	7 The Gables, Green Lane. Single & two storey rear accommodation to existing dwelling. NO OBJECTIONS
SB-TP-07-0041	4 Icknield Way Farm Cottages, Tring Rd. Two storey side & single storey rear extension. NO OBJECTIONS
SB-TP-06-1465	6 Moor End Lane. Single storey rear extension & new double garage detached. NO OBJECTIONS
SB-TP-07-0068	22 High St. Change of use from single dwelling to two dwellings. Two storey rear extension & front porches. NO OBJECTIONS but concern over lack of parking provision

19. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

It was unanimously agreed to pay the January 2007 accounts.

The meeting closed at 21.45

Next meeting to be held at the Coffee Tavern on 5th. March 2007 at 7.30pm.