

MINUTES OF THE EATON BRAY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

8th May 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr. M Beal (in the chair)
J. Conner
M. Crace
P. Gallagher
M. Heyland
D. Marriage

IN ATTENDANCE: E. Bird (Parish Clerk)

ALSO PRESENT: B. Piggott

APOLOGIES: R. Brand. D. Pearson

Public open forum:

None

Matters arising:

With the agreement of all present, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8th May 2006 were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

It was agreed that the Parish Councillors attending the Annual Parish Meeting should examine the Minutes of the meeting and approve the contents at the June 2007 Parish Council Meeting.

Final acceptance of the Minutes to remain on the agenda for the 2008 Annual Parish Meeting.

Projects completed and on-going:

1. Cemetery

Extensive work has been completed in the general appearance and control of overgrown trees shrubs etc. The garden area has been replanted. Land that had been leased out has been reclaimed (end of lease) and prepared for extending the burial area. A cemetery warden has been appointed to review the present regulations together with the Parish Council to allow for any future improvements and ease of management in the future.

2. Litter Bin

A further litter bin has been provided in School Lane recreation ground.

3. Parish Council/School Council

After a discussion with Mrs Hounslow head of Eaton Bray Lower School, two meetings of the School council and the Parish council took place. This proved to be very successful and further meetings will be arranged in the future, alternating the venue between the school and the Coffee Tavern.

4. Allotments

A new conditions and working document has been prepared by the allotment warden, General Purposes committee, and agreed by the Council. The new terms have been distributed to the allotment holders. With the new/amended regulations in place the Parish Council will be pro-active in helping the allotment holders to maintain a neat and tidy appearance for the benefit of allotment tenants.

At the request of the allotment holders an additional water holding tank has been provided. The village handyman has completed strimmer training and will be able to help maintain the allotment area.

The clerk reported that 24 of the 26 plots at The Meads are now let.

5. Traffic Calming

This is an ongoing project that with the help of the specialised police, highway authority and other personal has resulted in a vehicle check at three points in the village on the amount and speed of traffic passing through on a 24/7 basis. The findings have proven to the *authorities* that we do have a speeding situation at certain points in the village. We are, together with village residents, presently exploring the various options that are open and affordable to us.

6. Coffee Tavern

From April 2007 the Coffee Tavern and Reading Room plus the cottage at 20 High Street has its own management structure consisting of the Coffee Tavern Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees have a controlling document, management structure, an accounting system and Banking which is now entirely separate from the Parish Council. A great deal of time has been spent by the Parish Clerk in preparing all necessary documentation as have the councillors and the present Trust management. The cottage at No 20 High Street, being vacant, has had a considerable makeover in the past months and is now practically ready for occupation; the cottage will be administered through letting agents.

7. Play Area Equipment

All equipment was inspected during 2006 and items dealt with as recommended in the report by the inspection authority(s) and all equipment re-painted.

8. Village Sign Post

The Council was successful in obtaining a grant from the Chilterns Grant Scheme and are to take delivery of a cast metal sign which will be sited on the green outside the off-licence, pointing to various village locations.

9. Telegraph Pole

The telegraph pole on The Pound, opposite The Five Bells pub, has been re-sited to ease the management of this area.

10. Public meets the Parish Council

The Saturday mornings set aside for the village folk to come and see/talk to us have been suspended due to the low numbers of people actually coming to meet us, even though we tried to tempt them with coffee and mince pies or hot cross buns. We will have a stall at the Carnival in 2007 to present ourselves in a different way.

11. Accounts for year ending 31st March 2007.

The Clerk, as RFO, reported that parish council financial records are up to date and that draft year end accounts have been completed. Final accounts would be prepared with the assistance of the Finance Committee for approval at the June Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr. Beal thanked all for their attendance and support.

The meeting closed at 21:15.

Approved

..... Date:.....
Signed on behalf of Eaton Bray Parish Council

Agreed

..... Date:.....
Signed on behalf of Eaton Bray Annual Parish Meeting