

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Eaton Bray Parish Council Held on 3rd March 2008

PRESENT: Cllrs. D. Marriage (in the chair)
J. Conner
D. Pearson
P. Gallagher
M. Heyland
R. Windmill

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk: H. Head

ALSO PRESENT: EB Lions Football

1. APOLOGIES County Cllr B. Piggott, Cllr M. Beal, Cllr R. Brand

2. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Marriage declared his involvement with the Sports and Social Club.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

No members of the public were present.

4. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The following items have been received:

- Email from Alan Woolridge with his decision not to proceed for the position of Parish Councillor at this time.
- Telephone message from Mrs Maggie Kerr regarding allotment plot 18, The Meads; the Parish Council agreed to keep plot 18 as a whole plot for this year and not reduce to half plot. Clerk to send letter. Clerk
- Letter from Mrs Christie regarding allotment plot 21, The Meads; the Parish Council agreed unanimously that the rental of this plot is to cease and be made available to others on the waiting list. Clerk to send letter. Clerk
- Email/Telephone message from Mr Piggott regarding allotment plot 2, the Meads; the Parish Council agreed to keep plot 2 as a whole plot for this year and not reduce to half plot. Clerk to send letter. Clerk
- Invitation to attend the Parish & Town Council Local Area Agreement Reference Group on 28th March 2008; no-one from the Parish Council is able to attend. Clerk to respond. Clerk
- Letter from Mrs J. Brooks regarding plot 3, The Meads; the Parish Council agreed to keep plot 3 as a whole plot for this year and not reduce to half plot. Clerk to send letter. Clerk
- Letter from Sally Siddons and Edna Moore regarding the Harvest Flower Festival on 19th-21st September 2008 raising funds to the Church Roof; the Parish Council agreed to send a donation directly for the Church Roof fund. Clerk to send letter to Sally and Edna wishing them every success with the festival and informing them of the Parish Councils decision of a donation. Clerk
- Letter from Iain Sutherland, Policy Team Leader for Bedfordshire County Council with current County Council contact details; Clerk to copy and distribute to all Councillors. Clerk
- Email from Sue Zubrot, Member Support Officer at Bedfordshire County Council regarding training schemes available to Parish Councils to set up Web Sites; it was agreed for the Clerk to contact Sue explaining that Eaton Bray Parish Council have a Web Site and at present have no need for training. Clerk
- Email from Tomkins Signs giving quote for signs to be made/supplied and fitted at Mill End Close. Clerk to contact Tomkins and agree to proceed. Clerk

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- Letter from BRCC regarding the launch of the Bedfordshire Village of the Year Competition; the Parish Council agreed to decline this year's application.
- Letter from Mark Sutton, Villages & Registration Officer for Cancer Research UK; the Parish Council agreed to display their poster on the Parish notice board. Clerk to action.
- Letter from Adrian Cannard, Head of Planning & Housing, East of England Regional Assembly regarding the planning for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation in the East of England; Clerk to download the report and forward on to General Purposes Working Group for the meeting on 13th March 2008.
- Letter from Jim Gledhill regarding Greenspace strategy and core strategy; handed over to Cllr Marion Heyland to action.
- Letter from Jon Shortland, Watchman in Chief, Bedfordshire County Council Highways giving Bedfordshire works programme for period 2008 to 2013.

Clerk

Clerk
GP Working Group

Cllr Heyland

5. SIGNING OF MINUTES

It was agreed to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th February 2008. The Chairman signed the minutes.

6. DISTRICT AND COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

District Cllr Janes reported:

- Bedfordshire is still waiting for a ministerial decision regarding the proposed administrative changes to the County, expecting a decision by the end of March 2008.
- District Cllr Janes has had a lot of reports regarding dumping/fly tipping and has sent the request to SBDC for clearance of such. The Parish Council wished to express their appreciation to the people who come on a regular basis to clear any rubbish that has been dumped in the village.

District Cllr Janes brought in up to date maps relating to Mill End Close and the Village outline.

7. POLICE REPRESENTATIVES

PC Viv Dady presented crime statistics for the month of February:

- 10 recorded crimes/incidents:
 - 5 incidents on Chiltern View Caravan Site
 - Theft from motor vehicle, 2nd February 2008 – battery stolen
 - Theft from motor vehicle, 19th-20th February 2008, Totternhoe Road – diesel siphoned
 - Criminal damage to motor vehicle, 13th-14th February 2008, Northall Road – plastic casing from mirror broken off and left on doorway
 - Theft of copper cable and leads – Honeywick Lane

PC Dady gave the Parish Council a copy of the Police contacts for the area. Clerk to put on Parish notice boards. PC Dady explained about a new report being set up setting out anti-social, rowdy and nuisance behaviour. This will be sent out monthly with the crime statistics. Report for February 2008 being:

- 1 report of rowdy behaviour, end February.

The Parish Council asked PC Dady what was happening regarding the problems being experienced with motorbikes racing down the high street and other areas of the village, the riders/pillion passengers wearing no helmets, some bikes having no number plates. PC Dady informed the Parish Council that the Police are dealing with these issues and have confiscated two motorbikes from offenders. She asked that the villagers/witnesses to these bikes need to keep reporting these events with enough detail for the Police to find the offenders; description of the people on the bikes, number plates and even, if possible, get photographic evidence to enable the police to track these people down.

PC Viv Dady also report the following:

Clerk

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- Speed checks carried out recently – no cars were found to be speeding. More speed checks planned in the near future.
- There is currently no news of a replacement PCSO; PC Dady confirmed she would let the Parish Council know as soon as this was organised.

8. GP REPORT AND SIGNING OF MINUTES

It was agreed to accept the minutes of the General Purposes Working Group held on the 21st February 2008. Cllr Marriage signed the minutes.

Matters arising from the minutes:

- Sue Norman and Laurent Martial, SBDC, discussed the projects being planned for Eaton Bray; skateboarding, youth shelter, youngsters football and recommended the three projects be grouped into one project with three separate areas. Funding would be applied for as a three phase project. It was agreed that a Recreational Development Project Group be set up, with three main project handlers for each area; Skateboarding - Cllr Gallagher, Youth Shelter – to be agreed, Youngsters Football – Paul Marshall.
- Mill End Close; the GP Working Group looked at the area of land on the plan, the gap in question being 1.2M (4ft) which Mr/s Dear asked to be fenced. The Parish Council agreed that the area could be closed off but requested it be with a fixed gate with both Mr/s Dear and the Parish Council being key-holders. The Parish Council also said that they would use the Council's Solicitors to get papers drawn up relating to this piece of land/fencing, at a cost to Mr/s Dear. Clerk to write a letter to Mr/s Dear advising them of the Council's decision and asking if they are happy proceed. This was proposed by Cllr Marriage, Seconded by Cllr Windmill. All agreed.
- Cricket Club; the Clerk was asked to get the complete lease from file and copy it for the General Purposes Working Group to action.

Cllr Gallagher

Clerk

Cllr Marriage,
Cllr Pearson, Clerk

9. STANDING ORDERS AND EXECUTIVE POWERS

The previous Standing Orders accepted by the Parish Council have been located and were dated 13th January 2007. It was agreed for the Clerk to go through these Standing Orders and update, to include all compulsory parts of the Standing Orders as are laid down in Acts of Parliament. Also it was agreed for the Clerk to insert an area for the Planning Committee and their Executive Powers. This is to be completed and sent to all Councillors to look at in readiness for the next Parish Council Meeting on 7th April 2008 when they can be adopted.

Clerk

All Councillors

10. COURT APPEARANCE

The Parish Council were made aware of the new date for the Court Case being 20th March 2008. The Clerk confirmed the proposal for Cllr Beal to be the official Council representative at Court was carried unanimously at the Parish Council Meeting on the 7th January 2008.

11. STATE OF ROADS

Cllr Windmill expressed concern at the state of the roads in Eaton Bray. Cllr Heyland informed the Council of the poor state of footpaths in Wellhead. Cllr Marriage requested Councillors to Email him, copied to Clerk, with any problems they notice with regards to the Highways, can then be reported. It was suggested that the Parish Council invite John Shortland, Watchman in Chief, Highways, to the next Parish Council Meeting to discuss state of the roads/footpaths. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Cllr Marriage

Clerk

12. CEMETERY

Cllr Conner raised issues regarding the current state of Eaton Bray Cemetery, especially regarding some of the ground maintenance:

- Keeping the area around each grave tidy
- Keeping the path edged and tidy

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- Tidying unkempt graves

Cllr Conner proposed for John Hopwood to do this work in the Cemetery as a project through the year. Cllr Marriage seconded this suggestion. All Agreed. Clerk to inform John Hopwood of these tasks. Cllr Conner said she is happy to plant and maintain the flower bed.

Clerk
Cllr Conner

Cllr Conner then raised the issue of little space remaining in the old part of the cemetery and that the new section should start to be used, showing a rough plan of how it may be set out. All agreed this needed to be done. Also agreeing to a more detailed plan being drawn up of the plots enable better record keeping. The Parish Council also agreed on the area for burial of ashes, to be included in new plans.

Cllr Conner

The Clerk asked the Parish Council if she could go on a Basic Grave Management Course which would give her more understanding of the system and how/what records should be in place. All Parish Councillors agreed and asked the Clerk to find out more information on the courses available.

Clerk

Cllr Marriage suggested meeting up with Cllr Conner, Cllr Pearson and the Clerk to look at the new section of the Cemetery, to discuss options. All agreed.

Clerk, Cllr Conner,
Cllr Pearson,
Cllr Marriage

13. ALLOTMENTS

Responses to Mrs Kerr, Mrs Christie, Mrs Brooks and Mr Piggott as per Item 4, Councillors Correspondence & Comments.

Cllr Marriage asked if a letter could be sent to tenant of Plot 10, asking if they would like to go to a ½ size plot. All agreed. Clerk to Action.

Clerk

Cllr Marriage received an Email from Kelly Pritchard regarding plot 7, The Mead and taking over the whole share of the allotment she agreed to share with her neighbour Mrs Lilley who has now moved. The Parish Council agreed to this. Clerk to action.

Clerk

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the next two names on the allotment waiting list offering them a whole/half plot on The Meads Allotments (Plots 21 & 22 are now available). Clerk to action.

Clerk

It was agreed that the two new available allotment plots are in a very bad state and the Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to get quotes for those plots to be rotavated ready for use. Cllr Marriage to Email Clerk with work contacts for quotes.

Clerk
Cllr Marriage

14. CIVIL EMERGENCIES

It was agreed to the Clerk to find out the emergency procedures in place from Peter Jones, Local Resilience Forum. Keeping details on file should they be needed.

Clerk

15. MILL END CLOSE

As per Item 8, General Purposes Working Group – matters arising.

16. CARNIVAL STALL

It was agreed that the Parish Council would have a stall at the Village Carnival on 5th July 2008 and that Councillors would work shifts manning the stall. Cllr Gallagher agreed to talk to Maria to find out details from last year's stall to help in the organising of this year. It was agreed:

Cllr Gallagher

- Eaton Bray Parish Council stall be adjacent to Edlesborough Parish Council.
- The Parish Council need to get a large table and gazebo.
- Cllr Marriage confirmed he has the banner.
- Need to put together display boards; photos of church, Eaton Bray - to check with Maria if she has items from last year than can be used again.

Cllr Gallagher

17. CLERK

It was agreed with the Clerk to go through matters arising from the minutes of the 4th February 2008:

- Point 9; Mill End Close - Cllr Brand agreed to look into the safety aspect of the fencing and its close proximity to the water and what needs to be done. Ongoing.

Cllr Brand

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- Point 11; Yearly Timetable - was agreed for Councillors to be updated monthly with updates/reminders. Clerk to action.
- Point 15; VAS – faults reported, however Bower Lane still not working and The Rye still damaged. Clerk to chase.
- It was agreed to reinstate 'Matters Arising from previous Minutes' on Agendas for the Parish Council Meetings. Clerk to action.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

All Councillors

Clerk

The Clerk asked all Councillors inform her of their holidays so she is aware on a weekly basis who is available. All agreed.

It was agreed for the Parish Council to arrange for the Church side gate to be repaired, Clerk to arrange a quote for the work to be done.

18. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following planning applications were considered:

Application Nos.	Proposed Development	Decision	If Refusal: Grounds for
TP/08/0070	Erection of detached garage	No objection	-
CA/08/0071	Demolition of existing garage	No objection	-
TP/08/0092	Erection of replacement garage	No objection	-
LB/08/0097	Erection of single storey rear extension, internal alterations	No objection	-
TP/08/0100	Erection of single storey rear extension and two windows	No objection	-
ARM/08/0102	Erection of four detached dwellings	Recommended refusal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over development • Traffic coming out onto busy road
TP/08/0138	Erection of replacement kennels	No objection	-
TP/08/0166	Change of use and conversion of building to 2x dwellings and office space with parking	Recommended refusal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change of use • Greenfield land • Increased traffic onto busy road
TP/08/0148	Erection of two storey side extension, single storey side, front and rear extensions	No objection	-
TP/08/0183	Erection of two storey rear extension, roof height increase	No objection	-
TP/08/0216	Erection of two storey side, single storey front extensions	No objection	-
SB/TB/08/0023	Travellers site for the siting of one mobile home, tourer and parking	Recommended refusal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt

19. TO RESOLVE TO PAY FEBRUARY 2008 ACCOUNTS

It was unanimously agreed to pay the February 2008 accounts.

20. NEXT AGENDA

- Fencing; School Lane
- Village Hall Monies
- Matters Arising
- Church Roof Donation

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Items for the April agenda no later than Thursday, 27th March 2008 please.

The meeting closed at 10:20pm.

Next meeting to be held at 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern on **Monday 7th April 2008.**