

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held on 6th October 2008

PRESENT	Cllr D. Marriage (Chair) Cllr R. Brand Cllr J. Conner Cllr M. Heyland	Cllr T. Moxey Cllr D. Pearson Cllr R. Windmill
IN ATTENDANCE	Heidi Head (Clerk)	
ALSO PRESENT	Cllr Ruth Gammons (Chair/SBDC)	4x public

1. APOLOGIES

County Cllr B. Piggott, District Cllr K. Janes, Cllr M. Hawkes, Cllr P. Gallagher

2. SPECIFIC DELARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Marriage/Cllr Pearson declared their involvement with the Sports and Social Club.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Resident commented favourably on the improvements made to the Parish Council website, with the inclusion on the Parish Council monthly meeting agenda. The Parish Council was asked what was happening to the trees/bushes adjoining the Ransome Strip in Mill End Close. The Clerk confirmed that a report had been received. The Parish Council recommended that a letter be sent to all residents adjoining the land strip detailing the outcome of their investigations. Clerk to action. Also the Parish Council confirmed they are looking into putting together an on-site meeting with residents concerning the conservation area; to look at the options available.

Clerk
Cllr Marriage/
Councillors

4. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- Notice posted to School Lane Residents; read to all Councillors. The Parish Council agreed that a communication should be sent to residents in response to comments made. All Agreed.
- Email from Eaton Bray Post Office; read to all Councillors.
- Email from CPRE re Bedfordshire Matters Magazine; recommended that the Parish Council put forward an item to be included in the magazine about the history of the village. All Agreed. Cllr Marriage to action.
- Letter from Emma Wigley; suggested the letter be forwarded to Cllr Gallagher who is currently working on youth projects for the village. All Agreed. Clerk to forward letter.
- Email from Mike Beal re Youth Club papers/collection; the Parish Council agreed that all documentation should be held by the Parish Council until such time needed. Clerk to organise collection and to store with Parish Council files. Monies held from the Youth Club to be held with an option of transferring to a Youth Project at a later date should Youth Club not be reopened. Clerk to check. All agreed.
- Email from Sue Norman re COMMA and Cut Your Carbon Funding; forward to General Purposes Working Group.
- Email from Rob Mills, South Beds: CANX Liaison Meeting 23rd October 20908; read to Councillors.
- Invite: Parish & Town Council LAA Reference Group, 30th October 2008; placed in read file, Councillors to inform Clerk if wishing to attend.
- Invite: Autumn Town & Parish Council Receptions, 25th & 27th November 2008; placed in read file, Councillors to inform Clerk if wishing to attend.
- Invite: Beds Playing Field Association AGM, 22nd October 2008; read file
- Briefing Note: Creating Central Bedfordshire, Place Survey 2008; placed in read file, Clerk to request copy of Survey being sent out for Parish Council records. All agreed.

Cllr Gallagher/
Clerk

Cllr Marriage

Clerk/
Cllr Gallagher

Clerk

Clerk

GP Working Group

Read file/
Councillors
Read file/
Councillors

Clerk

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

- Letter: Beds County Council re Academy at Northfields Technology College; forward to General Purposes Working Group and Cllr Conner/Cllr Heyland; once completed to forward to Clerk for action. All agreed. GP Working Group/
Cllr Conner/Cllr
Heyland/Clerk
- Guidance/details on council Publication Scheme, to be adopted by 31st December 2008; forward to General Purposes Working Group; once form completed to forward to Clerk for action and Parish Council Meeting in November. GP Working Group/
Clerk/PC Meeting
- Briefing: Consultation on the NHS Constitution; read file

5. COUNCILLOR RUTH GAMMONS; *Chairman of South Bedfordshire District Council*

The Parish Council welcomed Cllr Ruth Gammons, Chair of South Bedfordshire District Council to their meeting.

Cllr Gammons explained her interested in Parish Councils, having previously been a Parish Councillor herself and understanding what that role involves. She is very interested in rural areas, knowing how Parishes can feel isolated from the larger Councils and with this in mind is looking at funding projects that Parishes are involved in with improving the local area. The Parish Council mentioned the Youth Shelter/Skateboard Park, Eaton Bray Lower School Nursery outside playground equipment; Cllr Gammons suggested the Parish Council look at what is needed for the village and for the project leaders to write to Cllr Gammons with their proposals. All Agreed, Cllr Gallagher/Cllr Heyland to liaise with Clerk to put together letter/proposals. Cllr Gammons expressed the importance of the Parish Council to get the young people themselves in any projects.

Cllr Gallagher/
Cllr Heyland/
Clerk

The Parish Council expressed concern with planning applications; the timescales given for responses, recommendations by the Parish Council not being taken into account. Cllr Gammons appreciated the concerns raised, but reminded the Parish Council that the Planning Department can only take comments for planning applications that are covered within the planning law. She suggested that with any planning applications that are a cause for concern to the Parish Council, that a Parish Councillor should attend the Planning Committee meeting and make the Parish Councils concerns known.

Councillors

The Parish Council thanked Cllr Gammons for her attendance at the meeting and her comments/recommendations.

6. DISTRICT AND COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

There was no District or County representative.

7. POLICE REPRESENTATIVE

There were no apologies received/no representative from the police in attendance. It was suggested that the Clerk contact PC Viv Dady to enquire as to why she has not been available to attend at the Parish Council meeting this month and on the 1st September last. All agreed.

Clerk

8. SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, 1ST SEPTEMBER 2008

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st September 2008, the Chairman signed the minutes.

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES (*for information*)

- Knights Close: It was confirmed that the bench has been fixed, however the notice board is in a very poor condition. It was recommended that the Parish Council look into purchasing a new notice board. Clerk mentioned a covered board that is not lockable (can be used by all) in Edlesborough, the Parish Council agreed this is a good idea and asked the Clerk to get supplier details for a quote. All agreed. Clerk
- Village Gateway: The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the driver's insurance company have been written to and a response is awaited.
- HGV Meeting: The Parish Council was updated on the outcome of the HGV meeting on 9th September last; one option raised was bringing in an area ban on all HGV's. Cllr Marriage agreed to find out current situation. Cllr Marriage

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

- Police: The Parish Council were informed that progress is very slow in obtaining information on policing for the village. Cllr Brand has been contacting relevant authorities regarding bringing in Specials into the village but responses from the Police are not forthcoming. It was agreed for the Clerk to write on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Brand to work with Clerk in putting together letter.
- CPRE Meeting: Cllr Moxey attended the Planning Seminar on 29th September last, in which it gave him more of an insight into how the planning system worked. Very informative meeting.
- Supporting of UK Forces: The Parish Council confirmed that the 'gift box' advert has been placed in the Focus and is up and running.
- Damaged Fence at the Ford: Awaiting findings as to the responsibility of this fencing.
- Dog Bins: Clerk confirmed she is awaiting details from South Beds District Council as to costs for the emptying of the additional bins on the collection round. Once received will report back to the Parish Council.
- Grant to Eaton Bray Lower School: The Parish Council confirmed request for monies to be put to the Parish Council from the School at the November Parish Council Meeting.
- Allotments: It was recommended that the Parish Council support an Allotment Holders meeting, to be held once/twice year. Clerk/Allotment Warden to look into.

Cllr Brand/Clerk

Cllr Heyland

10. GENERAL PURPOSES REPORT AND SIGNING OF MINUTES

There was no General Purposes Working Group held prior to the Parish Council Meeting on the 6th October 2008.

11. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE GENERAL PURPOSES MINUTES (*for information*)

There were no matters arising (see Item 10).

12. EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL; *update on completion of Phase 3*

The Parish Council was informed that Phase 3 of the Village Hall refurbishment has been completed and the Village Hall Committee is very pleased with the final result. Comments have also been received on the refurbishment, on how good the hall looks. The flower beds outside the hall are in the process of being tidied up.

13. HOUSING NEEDS WITHIN EATON BRAY

The Parish Council looked at the results of the Councillors responses. Clerk to type up Parish Council results, to put forward to the Parish Council in November for their final decision. All agreed.

Clerk

14. HIGHWAYS/PAYMENT UPDATE; *Enhanced Parish Partnership*

The Parish Council was updated on the meeting with Highways on the 10th September last. All Councillors were asked to look at the suggested areas for improvement and to confirm their agreement on these recommendations. Clerk will then action. All agreed. Parish Councillors were also asked to look at their patch of parish and bring to the Parish Councils attention any areas to be put forward for the 2009 improvements. All agreed.

Clerk

Councillors

15. YOUTH SHELTER UPDATE

There were no details to report on the Youth Shelter progress.

16. ST MARYS CHURCH; *maintenance of flower beds*

The Parish Council were made aware of a letter from St Marys Church requesting the Parish Council take over the responsibility of the flower beds in the churchyard. The Parish Council agreed that the war memorial is a high priority and that this should be tidied up/cleaned. A recommended limit of £300 is paid towards the memorial area and the planting of. All agreed. Cllr Marriage to contact contractor. The Parish Council felt that a meeting be organised between the Parish Council and

Cllr Marriage

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

the Church to agree on the maintenance of the churchyard. Cllr Marriage, Cllr Pearson and Cllr Moxey agreed to meet up and look at the way forward with this. All Agreed.

A request was put to the Clerk to organise the war memorial to be cleaned prior to the 11th November 2008. Spend limit of £200, all agreed. Clerk to action.

It was pointed out that the bottom of the war memorial has rendering coming away, Cllr Pearson agreed to look at this and report back to the Parish Council with his findings.

17. COFFEE TAVERN REPORT

It was reported to the Parish Council that there are tenants for the Coffee Tavern Cottage, to be on a six month let. The PCC are interested in the letting of the small meeting room and have a meeting with the Parish Council on Monday 13th October next to discuss the way forward.

It has been recommended that the Clerk, Cllr Conner and Cllr Marriage should meet up with the Council's Solicitors to discuss the relationship of the Coffee Tavern and Tenancy of the Cottage. Clerk to organise meeting. All agreed.

18. CLERK REPORT

- The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Bower Lane Cemetery is running low on space for unconsecrated burials. It was agreed for Clerk to check available space on current unconsecrated side of the cemetery and to request a General Purposes Working Group look into possible sites for additional land. All agreed.
- It was suggested that a copy of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Minutes be emailed to Edlesborough Parish Council, on a monthly basis, to keep them up-to-date with what is planned/happening within Eaton Bray Parish. All Agreed. Clerk to action.
- The Clerk was asked to email a copy of the Annual Monitoring Form to all Councillors.
- Clerk put forward a request for an additional set of keys for EB Lions for Holmans Field be cut. Concerns were raised with a key being found by the gate at Holmans Field but not being reported as missing. Cllr Windmill agreed to speak to EB Lions and get back to Clerk. All agreed.
- The Clerk informed the Parish Council of a concerned resident who believes there is a wasp/hornets nest at the back of her property, along the ransom strip. Cllr Brand and Cllr Moxey agreed to look at the area to see if there is a nest and report back to the Clerk with their findings.
- The Clerk reported to the Parish Council of a fire in the Bus Shelter at the Three Corners. Cllr Pearson had checked the shelter and confirmed it would need repairs. Clerk confirmed she would contact the insurance company, with a quote for the work. It was also mentioned that the Bus Shelter at The Rye needs some repairs, it was agreed for a quote to be obtained for the works. All agreed.
- Due to issues with the grass cutting on the verges around the parish this season, the Clerk informed the Parish Council that she would be organising a walk round the village with South Bedfordshire District Council to look at problem areas.
- The Clerk brought to the Parish Councils attention a resident who organised for a hedge to be cut adjacent to their property as they felt it needed a cut and as this was the Parish Councils responsibility should pay for this work. The Parish Council felt that this work should not have been organised without the agreement of the Parish Council and will not pay. The hedge had only been cut at the end of June 2008; however the Parish Council felt that a meeting should be set up with the resident, the Clerk, a Parish Councillor and the Ground Maintenance Contractor to agree the amount of cuts in a year this hedge should have; to stop this problem happening again. All agreed. Clerk to action.

19. TO APPROVE COMPLETED ANNUAL RETURN/AUDIT; YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2008

The clerk distributed the completed annual return/audit for the year ending 31st March 2008. It was unanimously agreed to approve and accept the final audit.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

20. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following planning applications were considered:

Application Nos.	Development Site	Decision	If Refusal: Grounds for
TP/08/0826 (Revised application)	Brooklands, Bottom Drive, Eaton Bray	No Objection	-
TP/08/0870	2 Richmond Court, Eaton Bray	No Objection	-
TP/08/0972	71 School Lane, Eaton Bray	No Objection	-

The Clerk to report Parish Council's decision to the relevant authority. All agreed.

Clerk

21. TO RESOLVE TO PAY SEPTEMBER 2008 ACCOUNTS

It was unanimously agreed to pay the September 2008 accounts.

22. NEXT AGENDA

Items for the Parish Council Meeting Agenda to be submitted to the Clerk no later than, Wednesday 22nd October 2008.

Councillors

The meeting closed at 10:30pm.

Next meeting to be held: Monday 3rd November 2008, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern.