

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held on 7th December 2009 at The Coffee Tavern

PRESENT	Cllr D. Marriage (<i>Chairman</i>) Cllr M. Hawkes Cllr J. Conner	Cllr D. Pearson Cllr A. Garofall Cllr R. Windmill
IN ATTENDANCE	Heidi Head (<i>Parish Clerk</i>)	
ALSO PRESENT	PCSO Joanne Glenn Ward Cllr Ken Janes Ward Cllr Marion Mustoe General Public x10	

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Moxey and Cllr Heyland sent their apologies for absence.

2. SPECIFIC DELARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

- The Parish Council were approached by a number of residents concerned with the actions of an elected Ward Councillor on a recent planning application. They felt that the needs and wishes of the local residents were not listened to. The residents concerned with this application, who wished to be represented by their elected Councillor at committee level, found that this Councillor chose not to represent their views. The Parish Council confirmed that they had sought legal advice on this matter and read the response received "... although the ward councillor has acted against the wishes of the parish council and the residents they have not actually acted improperly. Any councillor must be careful not to 'fetter his discretion' prior to a meeting. They must arrive at the meeting having listened to all views but still be open-minded ... Presumably they had other views which supported it, and in their opinion these were stronger than those opposing it. Of course the ward councillor is answerable to their electors, so may be asked to justify the way they voted ..."

The Parish Council asked the residents what they felt the Parish Council should do? It was suggested that a formal letter should go to the Ward Councillor expressing their disappointment in this matter. This was put to the Parish Council; all agreed that a letter be put together. Clerk to action.

4. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from The Coffee Tavern Trust, thanking the Parish Council for their donation towards a stair lift. Read to Councillors.
- Email/s received from residents regarding representation and decision of Central Bedfordshire Development Management Committee for a recent planning

Clerk

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- application. Read to Councillors – see Public Forum above.
- 3) Email from a resident regarding issues within parish; dog fouling, overgrown hedging, speeding traffic. Clerk to respond. All agreed. It was also recommended the Clerk contact Central Bedfordshire Highways to gauge their opinion on the visibility aspect and to contact Totternhoe Parish Council on their opinion of the chicanes recently fitted. All agreed, Clerk to action. Clerk
 - 4) Email from Bedfordshire Police regarding the Skate & Ride Area – graffiti. It was agreed that this is not to be permitted. Clerk
 - 5) Letter from Andrew Selous MP regarding planning issues. It was suggested that comments from the letter be put in the Focus to ensure residents are aware of the planning process. All agreed, Clerk to action. Focus/Clerk
 - 6) Letter from Central Bedfordshire regarding the review of Local Bus services. It was agreed for this to be looked at further at the General Purposes Working Group. GP Working Group
 - 7) Letter/s regarding the Changing Rooms intruder alarm system and rateable value. Read to Councillors.
 - 8) Invitation to attend the ‘Big Plan’ on Tues 8th December, 2pm or 7:30pm at Leighton-Linslade Town Council. Forwarded to Cllr Hawkes. Cllr Hawkes
 - 9) Letter/s from The Boundary Committee & Central Bedfordshire on the electoral review of Central Bedfordshire. It was agreed for this to be looked at further at the General Purposes Working Group. GP Working Group
 - 10) Invitation to attend the Central Bedfordshire Safety Partnership Meeting. Placed in read file – Councillors to contact Clerk if attending. Councillors
 - 11) Email received from Rick Brand (former Parish Councillor). Placed in read file.
 - 12) Invitation to attend the Central Bedfordshire Together event. Placed in read file – Councillors to contact Clerk if attending. Councillors
 - 13) Concerns raised by resident regarding missing road signs along Harling Road. Clerk to contact Central Bedfordshire Highways for replacements to be fitted. Agreed. Clerk
 - 14) Updated Cemetery procedures – agreed to be placed in read file.
 - 15) Report from Cllr Moxey – read to Councillors. Issues concerning dog bin collections within parish, agreed Clerk to write to Joe Pitt, Central Bedfordshire. Clerk
 - 16) Invitation to attend Central Bedfordshire Housing Strategy Meeting on 15th January next – placed in read file.
 - 17) Letter received from applicant for the position of Parish Councillor on Eaton Bray Parish Council. Cllr Marriage proposed to organise a meeting to go through the application in more detail. All agreed. Cllr Marriage

5. POLICE REPRESENTATIVES

PCSO Joanne Glenn attended the meeting. There have been seven recorded crimes for the month: 5xburglary, 1xattempted burglary, 1xcriminal damage to vehicle, 4xcriminal damage to other property, 1xtheft from motor vehicle, 2xother theft, and 1xaggravated crime. In addition there have been 6 recorded road traffic incidents within November 2009.

6. CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE/S

Ward Cllrs Ken Janes and Marion Mustoe attended the meeting. A question was put to Cllr Janes regarding the recent issues raised from the planning application

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presented to the Development Committee at Central Bedfordshire. Cllr Janes informed the meeting that the objections raised for the planning application submitted were not relevant planning concerns and therefore there was not enough evidence for a recommended refusal of such.

The meeting felt, even if there were no strong arguments against this development taking place, the views of the residents should have been taken into account and not completely overlooked. Cllr Janes reiterated that the grounds given for refusal on the planning application were not sufficient for the planning application to be turned down. The Parish Council expressed their strong concern as to the manner the village had been represented at the Planning Meeting.

Cllr Marriage enquired as to whether Central Bedfordshire runs a scheme, like Buckinghamshire, for a Youth Development Council. It was felt this may be a good way to get the young of the parish more involved in their area. Cllr Mustoe agreed to look into this.

Cllr Mustoe

Cllr Mustoe was asked the situation with regards to the grass cutting in the parish. There is an option to opt out of the Central Bedfordshire scheme but the costs would need to be looked into. Cllr Mustoe agreed to look into this.

Cllr Mustoe

Concerns with lighting were raised, street lights still not working on the A505 and many within the Parish. Cllr Mustoe and the Clerk to look into further. All agreed.

Cllr Mustoe/
Clerk

7. SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 2nd November 2009

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 2nd November 2009; the Chairman signed the minutes

8. SIGNING OF MINUTES OF GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP, 12th November 2009

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the General Purposes Working Group Meeting held on the 12th November 2009; the Chairman signed the minutes

9. MATTERS ARISING (for information): PARISH COUNCIL & GENERAL PURPOSES MINUTES

(1) Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting:

- School Lane Rec: To be brought forward to Parish Council Meeting in the New Year.
- Police: Clerk confirmed that she is in the process of putting together a letter of thanks to be sent to Leighton Buzzard Police for the installation of mobile skate park whilst the skate & ride was being built.
- Youth Football: It was confirmed that this is being discussed further at the General Purposes Working Group.
- Gambling/Licensing Act: Clerk confirmed she is still waiting for further details.
- Cricket Club Lease: Still awaiting details/response on land/costs.
- St Mary's Church Flower Beds: Now completed, looking wonderful.
- Church Lane Drains: To enable Highways to locate the problem drains, the area where they are positioned need to be marked.

PC Meeting/2010

10. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning Issues

- Minus One, Tring Road: The application was put before the Planning Committee, who unanimously agreed to a Recommended Refusal.

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Planning Applications, November 2009

The Parish Council looked at the Planning Applications presented before them.
The following decision was made by the Parish Council:

Application	Address/Development	Decision	Comments
CB/09/06434/FULL CB/09/06426/FULL CB/09/06434/CA	The Five Bells, 2 Market Sq, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DG/ Demolition of store and yard and conversion of public house to a dwelling with garage; Demolition of outbuildings to public house, erection of three dwellings and construction of vehicular accesses; Demolition of outbuildings in connection with conversion of public house to dwelling and residential development	Recommended Refusal	(1) Over development (2) Traffic/access (3) Natural land drainage (will make existing flood plain worse) (4) Change of use

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

Clerk

11. BUSINESS MATTERS

(1) **2010-2011 PRECEPT:** All items/projects, with costs, to be submitted to Parish Clerk NO LATER than Friday 11th December next for inclusion in next year's precept/budget.

All Councillors

(2) **Village Sign:** to be forwarded to the General Purposes Working Group to look into. Agreed.

GP Working Group

(3) **Additional Litter Bin:** Clerk confirmed she has contacted Central Bedfordshire regarding the installation of an additional bin at School Lane Recreation Ground and is awaiting a response.

(4) **Risk Assessment:** to be forwarded to the General Purposes Working Group to look into. Agreed.

GP Working Group

(5) **Damaged seating - The Rye:** It was recommended the Clerk obtain a quote for the work. All agreed.

Clerk

12. REPORTS

(1) **Recreation Ground Improvements/Skate & Ride Area:** The Clerk confirmed she is in the process of writing the completion statement for the build.

(1.1) A recent survey was carried out on the number of vehicles using School Lane. It was suggested that the Parish Council look into a speed limit of 20 mph for this road and was agreed for the Clerk to contact Central Bedfordshire regarding this matter. Agreed.

Parish Council/
Clerk

(2) **Coffee Tavern:** The Parish Council was informed that the new stair lift is due to be fitted on the 15th December next. The assistance bars in the toilets are now re-fitted.

13. PARISH CLERK REPORT

1) **Quote: J.G.S. Metalwork** – to mend metal railing adjacent to bridge crossing from School Lane Rec Ground to Holmans Field at a cost of £145 +vat: All agreed. Clerk

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was asked to inform Eaton Bray Lower School of the work. Agreed.

- 2) Quote: Mill End Close tree – to cut down to ground level the Cherry Tree and remove rubble from site – to remove lower branches from Ash; at a cost of £215 +vat (felling tree) and £35 +vat (branches to Ash). All agreed. In addition the Parish Council asked the Clerk to ensure the contractor treats the stump to stop any re-growth. All agreed. Clerk to action.
- 3) Two Christmas Trees for the front of the Coffee Tavern, at a cost of £25 +vat (each). All agreed. Cllr Pearson agreed to organise the scaffolding required for the trees to be fitted. All agreed.
- 4) Due to a large number of out of hours' telephone calls to the Parish Clerk; this currently is the Clerk's own private number. The Clerk asked the Parish Council if they would support the installation of separate office telephone line. The Parish Council agreed to the installation up to a maximum cost of £200. All agreed. Clerk to action.
- 5) The Parish Council agreed to the terms and conditions as set out in the insurance contract for the Changing Rooms.

Clerk
Clerk

Cllr Pearson

Clerk

14. TO RESOLVE TO PAY NOVEMBER 2009 ACCOUNTS

It was unanimously agreed to pay the November 2009 accounts.

15. NEXT AGENDA

- Items for the Parish Council Meeting Agenda to be submitted to the Clerk **NO LATER THAN** Tuesday 22nd December 2009.

All Councillors

The meeting closed at 9:50pm.

Next meeting/s to be held:

- (1) Monday 4th January 2010, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern
- (2) Monday 1st February 2010, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern