

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Telephone/Fax: 01525 221464 - Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk - Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held on 2nd April 2012 at The Coffee Tavern

PRESENT	Cllr. B. Piggott Cllr. J. Conner	Cllr. B. Coulter Cllr. R. Windmill
IN ATTENDANCE	Heidi Head (<i>Parish Clerk</i>)	
ALSO PRESENT	General Public x4, Cllr. Marion Mustoe, Police x2	

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Heyland, Cllr. Simkins and Cllr. Johns sent their apologies for absence.

Parish Councillor co-option: Mr. Mark Tomkins addressed the council, expressing an interest in becoming a member of the Parish Council. He resides in Eaton Bray and would like to help to make a difference to the parish. The Parish Council considered his application and it was proposed that Mark Tomkins be co-opted onto the council. All agreed.

Cllr. Mark Tomkins was welcomed/co-opted onto the Parish Council.

2. SPECIFIC DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no items to declare.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

- *Police Representatives:* The Parish Council were addressed by members of the Leighton Buzzard Police, who informed the council that from January to March 2012 there had been 10 recorded crimes within the parish. They wished to remind that council those parishes in the area no longer have a designated officer and that all matters are dealt with by a local policing response team from Leighton Buzzard. They wished to remind all parishioners the importance of the 101 number, when reporting village incidents, the 999 number still stands for emergency calls.

Focus

4. CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE/S

Cllr Marion Mustoe was in attendance.

- (1) Cllr. Mustoe wished to remind all parishioners again of the non-emergency number for the local police - 101, and that any incidents witnessed should be reported to this number.
- (2) The National Planning Police Framework (NPPF) came out on Wednesday 28th March last, in which it relates to rural matters. Cllr. Mustoe informed the council that Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) have a year in which to put together the planning framework.
- (3) With regards to the local lettings policy for social housing. There is a proposal that social housing priority be given to local people before going outside of area. Cllr. Mustoe asked if councillors/residents would look at the CBC website and its local lettings section and complete the on-line questionnaire. The deadline for response/comments is 9th May 2012.

Focus

5. SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF:

(1) EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL, 5th March 2012

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 6th February 2012; the Chairman signed the minutes.

(2) GENERAL PURPOSES MEETING, March 2012

There was no March meeting of the General Purposes Working Group.

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

- Eaton Bray Parish Council: There were no matters arising.

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- General Purposes Working Group: There were no matters arising.

7. EB LIONS/FOOTBALL

- It was proposed that the Parish Council submit the planning application for The Rye Ground, at a cost of £167.50, on behalf of EB Lions; due to the land being under the Parish Council. All agreed. The council asked EB Lions to allow all councillors to view the final planning application drawings prior to the paper application being submitted. All agreed.
- CBC Countryside Access Team wanted clarification that the proposed facility is to be made available free of charge to local parish organisations /groups and as a benefit to the whole of the local community, through better enjoyment of the village green. The Parish Council proposed that a clause be put in the lease, allowing access to the facility by local village groups. All agreed.
- The Parish Council was asked to look into funding available by CBC for facilities such as the one being proposed by EB Lions. Cllr. Mustoe agreed to look into this also. All agreed.
- EB Lions informed the Parish Council that another facility, like the one being proposed in Eaton Bray, has recently be completed in a rural area of Bury-St-Edmunds and is proving to be a great success there.

EB Lions/
Clerk

Clerk

Cllr. Mustoe/
Clerk

8. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning Applications: March 2012

Application	Address/Development	Decision	Comments
CB/12/00693	Warehill Equestrian Centre, Doolittle Lane, LU6 1QX / erection of additional stabling, tack room, feed room & storage area.	No Objections	n/a
CB/12/00919	Rye Farm, The Rye, LU6 2BQ / oak framed garden room extension.	No Objections	n/a
CB/12/01079	21 Bower Lane, LU6 1RB / proposed rear conservatory with permitted development rights removed.	No Objections	n/a
CB/12/01168	11 Medley Close, LU6 2DX / erection of side dormer study extension & front porch.	No Comment	n/a

All planning application recommendations by the Parish Council are to be reported to the relevant authority. All agreed.

Clerk

9. BUSINESS MATTERS

- (1) Cricket Club: The council have received communication from the Solicitors and it was proposed that the information be look at in more detail. It was therefore recommended the General Purposes Working Group look at the paperwork, reporting back recommendations to the Parish Council. All agreed.
- (2) Parish Byelaws: The Clerk is still awaiting provisional approval.
- (3) Core Strategy: It was agreed the Parish Council look at this in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Plan.
- (4) Parish Plan: The council were informed that the Parish Plan Working Group (PPWG) met with representatives of the Village Sign Working Group and looked at potential designs for the sign. The group are looking into funding/costs and once finalised will present to the Parish Council for discussion.
The Parish Council wished to thank Cllr. Coulter for organising the placement/fitting of the new Community Notice Board, which all agreed looks very good.
- (5) Diamond Jubilee: The proposed costs for decorations to be fixed to the Coffee Tavern for the celebrations were presented to the council. The council recommended the General Purposes Working Group look at the costs and present their ideas to the clerk. All agreed.
- (6) Housing Needs Survey: Jon Boswell from Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity

GP Working Group

GP Working Group

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attended the meeting, giving feedback from the recent questionnaires that were sent out to all residents within the parish. From the questionnaire sent out, there was a 20% response and from that there was a 61% support towards some form of affordable housing, i.e. homes for single adults, properties for elderly, those wishing to downsize, those with disabilities. Mr. Boswell confirmed to the council that an affordable housing site has to be 100% affordable housing, It was put to the council whether there was a need for an exception site, it was agreed that the Parish Council needs to look at this in conjunction with a Neighbourhood Plan. It was proposed that the Parish Council therefore first look at putting together a Neighbourhood Plan to help with issues surround housing with the parish. All agreed.

(7) Traffic Calming: The council were informed that the new 20mph signs have now been fitted in School Lane and ask all residents to be aware of the new speed restrictions within this section of the parish.

(8) Cemetery trees/front hedge:

Front Hedge: The council were informed that costs for the removal of the hedge at the front of the cemetery are coming in at around £400+; however a replacement wall/railings costs are coming in very high. Another suggestion put to the council was the removal of the hedge and its replacement is a line of laurels. The Parish Council believed this may be a more suitable solution and recommended costs be put together for the work with recommendation of Autumn planting. Cllr. Conner/Coulter agreed to look into the costs and come back to the council with recommendations. All agreed.

Cllrs. Conner/
Coulter

Pine Trees: Quotations for work to the four large pine trees at the cemetery were presented to the council; it was proposed that the cost of £680 +vat for the maintenance of these trees, removal of deal wood/ivy and overhanging limbs be accepted. All agreed.

Clerk

(9) Village Carnival: The clerk reminded all Councillors of the village carnival taking place on Saturday 7th July 2012 and will be sending out a draft rota to all Councillors requesting times when they are able to help on the stall/set-up/clear away. Cllr. Conner/Coulter agreed to look at the display boards for the stand. All agreed.

All Councillors/
Clerk

10. GENERAL REPORTS

(1) Chairman's Correspondence

(i) Letter of resignation from Cllr. Heyland; the councillors all wished to express their thanks to Cllr. Heyland for all the work she has put in for the Parish Council over many years and that she would be greatly missed. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

(ii) Parish Councillor Application documentation from Mark Tomkins; actioned under Item 1, page 1439.

(iii) Letter from resident regarding the Precept for 2012; the council wished to inform residents that if the precept were left at this year's level, unearmarked reserves at end 2012/13 would fall dangerously low. This was mainly due to previous Parish Councillors setting the precept too low to allow for increased costs/expenditures over future years. Therefore it was of the view of the council that it would need to be raised in order to restore the council finances to good order.

(iv) Email from Central Beds Council regarding EBPC and Central Beds Youth Parliament; it was proposed that members of the CBC Youth Parliament be invited to sit-in on future council meetings. All agreed.

Clerk

(v) Documentation regarding London Luton Airport Master Plan; placed in read file.

All Councillors

(2) Parish Clerk

(i) Parish Council emergency contact for April 2012 is Cllr. Windmill. Agreed.

Focus

(ii) Quotations waiting for: School Lane Trees, St. Mary's Church gate, fence repair in Mill End Close, Bus Stop contributions for repair.

(iii) The Parish Council were informed of a communication received from a resident regarding sections of grass cutting within the parish being of a poor standing. The council were informed that these sections are the responsibility of Central Beds

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Council contractors and therefore CBC has been informed of the issues raised.

- (3) Recreation Grounds: Quotations received for playground inspections were put to the council, an inspection for the 3 sites will be £210 +vat for the first site and £63 +vat for the 2 subsequent sites. All agreed.
- (4) Coffee Tavern/Cottage: The Coffee Tavern Trustees (CTT) are organising for work to be carried out to the cottage prior to being let. This work is needed to stop the problems with condensation. The cottage will then need complete redecoration. Due to costs involved it was proposed that the Parish Council contribute to the costs, which are coming in at c£2,000. All agreed.
- (5) Cemetery: Discussed under Item 9 (8), Page 1441.
- (6) Finance: No items to report. Clerk is in the process of completing the council's 2011-12 accounts prior to internal audit being carried out.

Clerk

11. TO RESOLVE TO PAY MARCH 2012 ACCOUNTS

It was unanimously agreed to pay the March 2012 accounts.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS: MARCH 2012	
Ground Maintenance	£1,110.00
Non-domestic rates	£339.55
Water rates: Burial Ground	£73.20
Re-imbusement of costs: Community notice board	£105.34
Salaries (Clerk & Handyman)	£883.24
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE/NIC)	£97.04
TOTAL Monthly Outgoings	£2,737.60

12. NEXT AGENDA

- (1) Meeting Items: Items for the next Parish Council Meeting Agenda MUST BE SUBMITTED to the Clerk NO LATER THAN Tuesday 1st May 2012. Items submitted after this date will not be included in the May 2012 agenda and will be deferred to the Parish Council Meeting scheduled in July 2012.
- (2) Items for inclusion in next Parish Council Meeting: Neighbourhood Plan, Five Bells
- (3) Next Parish Council Meeting: Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council - Monday 14th May 2012; 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

All Councillors

PC May

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.