

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held on 5 November 2012 at The Coffee Tavern

PRESENT	Cllr. G. Johns (<i>Chairman</i>) Cllr. J. Conner Cllr. B. Coulter	Cllr. L. Doughty Cllr. M. Simkins Cllr. R. Windmill
IN ATTENDANCE	Heidi Head (<i>Parish Clerk</i>)	
ALSO PRESENT	General Public x14 Bedfordshire Police x3	

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Piggott, Cllr. Tomkins, Cllr. Willis and Cllr. Mustoe sent their apologies for absence.

2. SPECIFIC DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from members of the Parish Council.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

- (1) Concerns were again raised with the Parish Council about the continual speeding of traffic within the parish. The Highways Working Group reiterated that they are proactively looking into these issues and are soon to be carrying out speed assessment checks within the parish.
- (2) Concerns were raised regarding the public footpath situated at the rear of Church Lane. The council are aware of this matter and Central Beds Council is now involved in organising for the footpath to be cleared.
- (3) Representatives from the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church addressed the council regarding the possibility of buying the Sports & Social Club building for their church. The building would have one section for the church and the other section for community use. The council informed the speakers that the building is on a village green and therefore any use of the building would be through a lease with the council. In addition, that it would be for the benefit of the community also. It was proposed that the group put together a more detailed proposal, i.e. details of lessor, financial abilities, how many users, times of use and present this report to the Parish Council to look at further.
- (4) A resident from Northall Close raised concerns with regards to a piece of land adjoining their property belonging to Central Beds Council (CBC) which has overgrown trees/grass. The resident has contacted CBC on numerous occasions but nothing has been done to sort out the problem. It was proposed the Clerk contact CBC to chase up their response to this matter. All agreed.
- (5) Concerns were raised regarding the EB Lions website which states the Planning Application for The Rye Ground was approved, the Parish Council confirmed this was not so and a representative of EB Lions confirmed that this detail was incorrect and the statement removed from their website accordingly.

HWG

Clerk

4. REPRESENTATIVES

- (1) **Police:** PCSO Kathryn Horgan, PCSO Claire Young and Sargeant Andy Rivers attended the meeting. They went through the data regarding incidents occurring in the parish; 1x burglary, 2x anti-social behaviour. **Have your say ...** On 15 November 2012, the public will head to the polls for the first time to vote for the person they want to be the first Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire. Full details can be found on <http://www.beds-pcc.org> - don't miss your chance to vote.

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(2) Central Beds Council (CBC): Cllr. Mustoe sent her apologies for absence, however forwarded the following information:

- The two planning applications for the land behind the White Horse Public House have been refused, awaiting a decision on the appeal.
- Following public consultation and a decision of the council's Executive in August 2011, the entitlement for children post 16 has changed. The Council will provide transport for students from families with low income, those with special educational needs, medical needs and looked after children. At statutory school age, 5-16, there is a statutory requirement for the Council to provide transport based on distance/road safety criteria. However there is no statutory entitlement to transport post 16 for those who do not meet the new eligibility criteria. Full details can be found on CBC's website: http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/Images/School%20Transport%20Post%2016%20Policy_tcm6-27756.pdf
- CBC's Christmas and New Year Opening Hours:
CBC offices and services will be open to the public on Monday 24 December, Thursday 27 December, Friday 28 December and Monday 31 December. Normal working hours will be in place on all of these days (9:00am – 5:30pm)

5. SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF:

(1) EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL, 1 October 2012

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council, held on 1 October 2012; the Chairman signed the minutes.

(2) GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP

There was no meeting of the General Purposes Working Group.

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

- Eaton Bray Parish Council
 - Grass Cutting areas/responsibilities; *ongoing*.
 - Medley Close Trees/land; *ongoing*.
 - Handrail – School Lane car park; *ongoing*.
 - Metal fencing – School Lane Recreation Ground; *ongoing*.
- General Purposes Working Group: There were no matters arising.

7. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning Applications, September/October 2012

Application	Address / Development	Decision	Comments
CB/12/03419	Motorcycle Track south of, Billington Road, Stanbridge	Planning Committee:- Recommended Refusal	(1) Increased noise nuisance (2) Impact on EB residents – peaceful enjoyment of home/garden + additional concerns
CB/12/03629	5 Icknield Way Cottages, Tring Road/interest in land	No objections	PC does not want to present this decision as a precedent.

8. EB LIONS/FOOTBALL CLUB

There has been no decision by Central Beds Council Planning on Planning application CB/12/01812. It was proposed that the General Purposes Working Group discuss the potential Lease, all Councillors to be invited to attend, to discuss options. However, it was agreed that until a final decision is made by CBC the council are unable to progress further with this matter. All agreed

GPWG

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9. PARISH COUNCIL AUDIT

The external audit for y/e 31 March 2012 has been carried out. The auditors recommended that the Parish Council look at increasing their Fidelity Guarantee/insurance from £48,000 to £60,000 to cover the council's Precept. All agreed. Clerk to organise.

Clerk

10. BUSINESS MATTERS

(1) Cricket Club Lease: The clerk has received a response from the Cricket Club confirming the names of those to go on the lease. It was proposed that the Clerk, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council be listed on the lease. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

(2) Byelaws: The Parish Council wrote to Andrew Selous MP, regarding the delay in the Byelaw application submitted. Response received. The council have been assured that a response from The Department for Communication and Local Government will be forthcoming. It was proposed that if no response is received by the December meeting the council respond further. All agreed.

PC Dec

(3) Landscape Buffer: The clerk has received a reply from the registered owner of the land behind Mill End Close who is still not forthcoming in presenting the relevant documentation to the Parish Council. It was proposed that the council now seek legal advice and for the Clerk to contact the council's Solicitor in order to get legal documentation of proof of ownership/boundaries/legal rights to the upkeep/care of this section of land. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

(4) Sports & Social Club: Item discussed on Page 1466, Item 3(3).

Previously a survey was carried out by a qualified surveyor, on an unofficial basis at no charge to the council as to the state of the current building. However it was proposed that due to the precarious state of the current club building and that the building cannot be used, the Parish Council organise for an official survey of the building, looking into the options available. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

(5) Skatepark: Item b/f PC Meeting, 3 December 2012.

PC Dec

(6) Housing Needs Survey: From the responses received from the Housing Needs survey on affordable housing which was carried out at the beginning of the year, it identified a need within the parish. It was proposed that the council invite Jon Boswell from BRCC and a member of the housing association team to the meeting in December to discuss further. All agreed.

Clerk/
PC Dec

(7) Remembrance Service: The Clerk reminded the council of the Remembrance Service being held at Eaton Bray War memorial this year. The Ground Maintenance Contractor/gardener has been contacted to ensure the area is clean/tidy ready for the service on Sunday 11 November. All noted/agreed.

(8) Outdoor Access Improvement Plan: The parish Council has no issues regarding this plan, no comments were made.

(9) CBC Leisure Strategy: Forwarded to the General Purposes Working Group to look into and return to Clerk for response. All agreed.

GPWG

(10) Village sign: The official unveiling of Eaton Bray Parish's village sign, by Andrew Selous MP, will take place on Saturday 10th November at 2pm.

The Parish Council wished to thank all those involved in this project, for the time and effort put into fundraising and the very generous donations; which has allowed this lovely village sign to be erected in Eaton Bray parish. Well done to all.

11. GENERAL REPORTS

(1) Chairman's Correspondence

(i) Email from the Ground Maintenance Contractor regarding the verti-draining on the football pitches. It was agreed for the football pitch at Holmans Field and The Rye to be verti-drained. Clerk to action.

Clerk

(ii) Letter from the audit commission informing that Eaton Bray Parish Council's appointment of external auditor from 2012/13 is BDO LLP. All agreed/noted.

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(2) Parish Clerk

- (i) The Clerk received a communication from a concerned resident regarding works being carried out at the garden centre in Harling Road. It was proposed the council request CBC to look into this matter. All agreed. Clerk
- (ii) Concerns have been raised regarding work being carried out to a property in Wellhead. It was proposed that the council contact CBC with the concerns raised and ask CBC to carry out a site inspection. All agreed. Clerk
- (iii) The Clerk informed the council that the resident living near the siting of the new dog hygiene bin in Church Lane is not happy with the proposed position. Due to the dog hygiene bin situated on Market Square being damaged and unable to be repaired, it was proposed this new bin be fitted as its replacement. All agreed. Clerk to action. Clerk
- (iv) Concerns have been raised regarding parking by parents at Eaton Bray Lower School. Residents are finding that cars are parking directly in front of their driveways and blocking exists. It was recommend that Cllr. Doughty speak with the school and the Clerk to write a formal letter requesting the school communicate with the parents regarding their parking along this road. All agreed. Cllr Doughty/
Clerk

(3) Coffee Tavern/Cottage

The Parish Council recommended the Coffee Tavern Trustees look into the problems with the heating system in the Coffee Tavern. Clerk to write with this request. All agreed. Clerk

(4) Cemetery

The Clerk has received quotes for general maintenance work at the cemetery. It was proposed to accept the quotation of £30 per month for the additional work. All agreed. Clerk/
Cllr Conner

It was proposed that the quotations for the work to the Cemetery Hedge be looked at by the General Purposes Working Ground with proposals presented in December. Agreed. GPWG

(5) Finance

The Finance Group have looked at current spend and the PC are running at a loss, year on year. It was recommended that the council look at the Precept and the potential increase to cover expenditure. It was proposed to discuss final budget costs/Precept at the Parish Council meeting in December when a decision must be made. All agreed. All Councillors/
PC Dec

The clerk was asked to obtain details from NALC regarding staff costs. All agreed. Clerk

(6) Working Groups:

- (i) EBAT: The 'Eaton Bray Bloomers' have been out in force and kindly planted hundreds of bulbs around the parish. The EBAT team also proposed to put planters around the parish for plants/flowers. All agreed.
- (ii) Highways: item discussed on Page 1466, item 3 (4).

12. ACCOUNTS: TO RESOLVE TO PAY OCTOBER 2012; all agreed.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS: OCTOBER 2012	
Ground Maintenance	£1,062.00
BRCC: Membership Renewal 2012/13	£35.00
External Audit fees: y/e 31 March 2012	516.00
Insurance Renewal: Changing Rooms	400.68
Donation: The Royal British Legion; poppy appeal	100.00
Re-imburement: new padlock/key – chain at The Rye ground	19.99
Re-imburement: bulbs/plants/flowers	131.84
50% payment: metal bracket/post for village sign	486.00
Salaries (Clerk & Handyman)	£989.61
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE/NIC)	£163.38
TOTAL Monthly Outgoings	£3,904.50

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13. NEXT AGENDA

- Items for the next Parish Council Meeting Agenda **MUST BE SUBMITTED** to the Clerk **NO LATER THAN Thursday 22nd November 2012**. Items submitted after this date will **not** be included in the December agenda and will have to be deferred to the Parish Council Meeting scheduled in January 2013.

The meeting closed at 9:40pm.

Next meeting/s to be held:

- (1) Parish Council Meeting: Monday 3rd December 2012; 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern
- (2) Parish Council Meeting: Monday 7th January 2013, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

All Councillors