

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 7 January 2013 at The Coffee Tavern

PRESENT	Cllr. M. Tomkins (<i>vice-Chairman</i>) Cllr. J. Conner Cllr. B. Coulter	Cllr. B. Piggott Cllr. M. Simkins Cllr. R. Windmill
IN ATTENDANCE	Heidi Head (<i>Parish Clerk</i>)	
ALSO PRESENT	General Public x18 Cllr. Marion Mustoe	

Due to Cllr. John's absence, vice-Chairman Cllr. Tomkins presided as Chairman over the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Chairman, Cllr. Johns and Cllr. Doughty 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) Car parking/speeding: concerns were again raised regarding car parking/speeding of cars in the parish. Areas of concern raised – Northall Close, Northall Road, Cantilupe Close. The council confirmed that this is an area being currently looked into and as mentioned at previous meetings are carrying out data monitoring on traffic within the parish. Once complete and the data collated the council will then need to look at options available. The council asked Cllr. Mustoe if she could also get CBC to look into any issues raised. Agreed.
- (2) The Rye Ground: concerns were again raised by attendees at the meeting. Those attending still believe they were not made more fully aware of the proposals, despite the communication sent out in Focus, on website, parish notice boards and individual letters sent to nearby residents by CBC on the planning proposals. The council were asked if this facility was a commercial enterprise, the council replied that it was never proposed to be a commercial venture and that the all-weather pitch would also be a facility that members of the village/parish can use, free of charge. The council confirmed they had just received copies of communication between EB Lions and CBC, once perused by the council they will be returned to the Clerk and then made available under the FOI guidelines. Due to a few attendees at the meeting becoming loud and disruptive, the acting Chairman closed this section of the meeting.

HWG /
Cllr. Mustoe

Clerk

4. REPRESENTATIVES

- (1) Police: There was no representative from the police in attendance. The clerk read the crime report forwarded from Leighton Buzzard Police stating that there were 9 reported incidents of anti social behaviour during the months between November - January so far; with 4x Abandoned vehicle, 1 X Vehicle causing an obstruction, 2 x Animal incidents, 2 x Miscellaneous.
- (2) Central Beds Council (CBC): Cllr. Mustoe addressed the council.
 - (2.1) Council Tax Support Scheme: From April 2013, council tax benefit is being replaced with local support; individual councils will decide their own council tax support schemes. For further information visit CBC's website on:
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/money-and-benefits/check-elegibility-for-benefits/local-cts.aspx

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- (2.2) CBC Budget 2013-2014: CBC has published spending plans for next year which are now open to public consultation. To view these proposals visit CBC's website on: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say/current-online-consultations.aspx and have your say.

5. SIGNING OF THE MINUTES FOR EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 03/12/12

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3rd December 2012; the Chairman signed the minutes.

6. APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES FROM GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP, 12/12

There was no meeting of the GPWG for December 2012.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES (for information)

- (7.1) Medley Close Trees/Land; 05/11/12 - CBC has responded, informed the Parish Council that this matter is now being forwarded to Bernard Bills at CBC for his consideration, as he deals with any minor land disposals. It was suggested that as well as the Clerk that Cllr. Simkins and Cllr. Mustoe are copied in on all corresponding in this on-going matter. The clerk confirmed she will forward all commendations on to them.
- (7.2) Handrail – School Lane car park; 05/11/12 – the Clerk has now received a contact name for this matter and is in the process of contacting this person for further advice.
- (7.3) Land at 4 Market Square; 03/12/12 – the Clerk updated the council on this matter. CBC have visited the site and confirmed that this land is not part of CBC's jurisdiction. It was proposed that the Parish Council contact the residents of the adjacent property, giving them permission to maintain the land in good condition but not to take on ownership. The Clerk confirmed she will write to the residents concerned.
- (7.4) Flood Risk Management; 03/12/12 – it was confirmed that the rivers are generally the responsibility of the Drainage Board (IDB). It was suggested the council write to IDB ensuring that the rivers are being cleaned/maintained. In addition and banks/ditches that are their responsibility. It is important to note that some ditches/banks are the responsibility of the land owners for that section of river. The reply to CBC's Flood Risk Management questionnaire would be forwarded to CBC for their information.

8. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning Applications, December 2012

Application	Address / Development	Decision	Comments
CB/12/04048	31 Bower Lane, LU6 1RB / 2-storey rear extension	No Objection	n/a
CB/12/04275	98 Totternhoe Rd, LU6 2BD / variation of condition of planning permission CB/11/03766 – vary use from Class B1 to B2 use	No Objection	n/a

9. EB LIONS/FOOTBALL CLUB: see discussion on Page 1476, Item 3(2).

- (9.1) The clerk informed the council the 106 document is currently with CBC's Solicitors.
- (9.2) It was proposed that the council set up a working group, comprising of all councillors, to investigate specific topics raised (i.e. 106 document, planning guideline, questions that the council would like EB Lions and CBC to answer, residents' concerns/recommendations, Lease/Licence agreement). Proposals from this group to then be presented to the Parish Council at full Parish Council Meetings. This recommendation was proposed, seconded, all agreed. Carried unanimously.

Clerk

All Councillors

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10. BUSINESS MATTERS

- (1) Councillors' Declaration of Interests: The clerk confirmed she had received the documents in the office, those requiring signature were presented and signed at the meeting. The clerk confirmed she is in the process of placing this documentation on the business section within the council's website. Clerk
- (2) Councillor Vacancy: The council has currently received communication from one interested party. The applicant introduced themselves to the council and explained the reason behind their application. The council thanked the applicant for their time. However, it was felt that to ensure all residents' have the opportunity to apply for the position, once the next Focus has been delivered (in which the vacancy notice is included) the council will then look at all interested applicants. All agreed.
- (3) Sports & Social Club: The clerk informed the council that she is awaiting the final survey report carried out to the building.
- (4) Byelaws: Cllr. Johns has written to Andrew Selous MP, regarding the delay in the response to the Parish Council's Byelaws application. Still awaiting a response.
- (5) Skatepark: Cllr. Tomkins has met up with the original contractors of the build to assess any remedial work required around the bench/seating area and the main bowl. Cllr. Tomkins will report back to the council with their findings. It was also noted that the play area fencing has become loose; the council asked the Clerk to request the Handyman tighten up the loose areas. All agreed. Cllr. Tomkins
Clerk

11. REPORTS

- (1) Chairman's Correspondence
- (1.1) Letter from the Police & Crime Commissioner, Bedfordshire; read to all Councillors.
- (1.2) Email from Central Beds Council – Budget update 2013/2014; read to all Councillors.
- (1.3) Invitation to Bucks Palace Garden Party, Summer 2013; proposed Cllr. Tomkins name be put forward. All agreed. Clerk
- (1.4) Clerks' Contract of Employment - supplemental agreement January 2013; Agreed, as per PC Meeting 03/12/12; the Chairman signed the agreement.
- (1.5) Email from Nicky Phelps – horse grazing; it was proposed that the piece of land in Bower Lane be put forward, in addition to recommend residents within the parish who have land that may be suitable. All agreed. Clerk
- (2) Parish Clerk
- (2.1) The Clerk handed out the read file for circulation.
- (2.2) The Clerk reported that it was recommended the new dog bin be sited at the corner of The Comp, against the hedge. All agreed. Clerk/
Handyman
- (2.3) Parish Council Meeting dates for 2013 – proposed and agreed:
Monday 4th February 2013
Monday 4th March 2013
Monday 8th April 2013
Monday 13th May 2013 – *Annual Parish from 7pm & Annual Meeting from 7:30pm*
Monday 3rd June 2013
Monday 1st July 2013
August – *no meeting*
Monday 2nd September 2013
Monday 7th October 2013
Monday 4th November 2013
Monday 2nd December 2013
- (2.4) Salt Bag from CBC: the Parish Council did not want a bag; however it was recommended the Clerk forward a copy of the email from CBC to EB Academy to see if they would be interested in having a bag, not for sole use, but to be used to grit areas of School Lane up to the school entrance. Agreed. Clerk

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- (2.5) The council agreed to the quotation for £535 (+vat) for work to the trees surrounding School Lane car park. Clerk to contact contractor. All agreed. It was recommended that once this work has been completed the council look into the re-marking/lining of the car park to gain maximum parking space allocation. Agreed. Clerk
- (2.6) The Clerk reported to the council that she has received more complaints regarding the hedge to the rear of a property backing onto The High Street. The resident of the property had contacted the Clerk informing the council that the hedge is leaning forward and is in a poor condition. The council recommended the Clerk speak to the resident, requesting the hedge be trimmed/pulled back from the public footpath as it is becoming a problem to pedestrians. Failure to do so will result in the Parish Council contacting CBC to look into this matter further. All agreed. Clerk
- (3) Coffee Tavern/Cottage
No items to report.
- (4) Cemetery
The Clerk was asked to contact Duncan Tomblin, the agreed contractor to carry out the work to the front hedge. Agreed. Clerk
- (5) Finance
Item discussed on Page 1479 , item 12.
- (6) Highways: The data monitoring of traffic in the parish is nearing completion. Once the findings have been collated the HWG will look at the options available/best way forward. HWG
- (7) EBAT: A site visit to the School Lane play area, looking at equipment needing attention as recommended by the RoSOPA report, has shown the following need: 3x swing rubber covers required, rubber matting under swings £215 (+vat), new skatepark notice. The recommendations were proposed, seconded, all agreed. Clerk/Cllr. Coulter/ Clerk

12. BUDGET/PRECEPT: 2013-2014

- (1) The Parish Council was presented with the spend for the Parish council. It was noted that if the council maintain the same level of precept (£60k) as this year 2012-2013, then it would face a net overspend of approx. £10k if the provisions are maintained at their current level. To reduce or avoid if possible a net overspend it was recommended an increase to the precept of between £5k-£10k. It was therefore proposed that the Precept application for 2012 be £65,000. An increase of £5k from the previous year. All agreed. Clerk
- (2) It was proposed the Parish Council accept the budget for 2013-2014. All agreed.

13. ACCOUNTS: TO RESOLVE TO PAY DECEMBER 2012; all agreed.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS: DECEMBER 2012	
Ground Maintenance	£1,098.00
Membership Renewal 2013; BATPC	£515.00
Payment of Public Works Loan; <i>village hall</i>	£3,578.27
Transfer of money: EBPC deposit a/c to current a/c	£2,500.00
Re-imburement of costs; The Coffee Tavern – tree/lights	£47.72
Salaries (<i>Clerk & Handyman</i>)	£1,205.08
HM Revenue & Customs (<i>PAYE/NIC</i>)	£317.40
TOTAL Monthly Outgoings	£9,261.47

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14. NEXT AGENDA

- Items for the next Parish Council Meeting Agenda **MUST BE SUBMITTED** to the Clerk **NO LATER THAN** *Thursday 24th January 2013*. Items submitted after this date will **not** be included in the February agenda and will have to be deferred to the Parish Council Meeting scheduled in March 2013.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Next meeting/s to be held:

- (1) Parish Council Meeting: Monday 4th February 2013, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern
- (2) Parish Council Meeting: Monday 4th March 2013, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

All Councillors