

**MINUTES OF THE EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: M Beal (In the chair)  
R Brand  
J Conner  
M Heyland  
D Marriage  
D Pearson  
L Tribbick  
R Windmill

**IN ATTENDANCE:** E Bird (Clerk)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Two members of the Public  
Cllr. B Piggott  
PC Josh Tonkin

**1. APOLOGIES:** None

**2. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

No specific declarations

**3. NEW COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS:**

Cllrs. J Conner and R Brand completed Notifications of Financial and Other Interests, both declared no interests except Trusteeship of The Coffee Tavern as part of their role as Parish Councillors.

**4. PUBLIC FORUM:**

No items to report.

**5. CHAIRMANS CORRESPONDENCE & COMMENTS:**

The following correspondence had been received:

- i.) Notice of Temporary Road Closure, Bower Lane and Doolittle Lane. The work will take three days during the period 12.06.06. – 23.06.06.
- ii.) Letter from Cllr. Heyland in response to the question of School Governors. Cllr. Heyland gives her opinion that there is no need for the P.C. to provide another Governor as there is currently a full compliment and that relevant information is passed to the P.C. by herself or Ken James.
- iii.) A Thank you from Bedfordshire Heartlands for the donation of £20 towards the cost of their publication, "Days Out".
- iv.) An offer has been received from the Campaign to Protect Rural England to deliver a presentation to the P.C. concerning Planning. It was agreed unanimously to accept this offer.
- v.) Notice of Chiltern Chalk Streams Annual Forum, 14<sup>th</sup>. June 2006.
- vi.) Information from Charter 88 requesting support for their Campaign for a Sustainable Communities Bill, with a cost of £30 to join the campaign.

The council voted 5 to 3 against joining this campaign.

**Items placed in the circulation file**

- Notice of Chiltern Chalk Streams Annual Forum
- Information from Charter 88

**ACTION**

Clerk.

## 6. MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH MEETINGS:

It was unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup>.May 2006 and the Parish Council Meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup>.May 2006 as true and accurate records. Both minutes signed by the Chairman.

## 7. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES:

**Cllr. B Piggott** joined the meeting and reported that funding for the Safety Partnership is to move to County Council and would be cut by 11% next year, reducing to zero by 2011. There is £ 6,000 available this year to spend on highways. The question was raised as to whether we have received information about this grant and whether it might be used to update existing monitoring systems.

Cllr. Heyland raised the matter of speeding on the dual carriageway passing Wellhead, Cllr. Piggott suggested raising a petition to voice local concern.

Clerk

Cllr. Heyland

**PC Josh Tonkin** reported that April crime figures for the village were down by 15% compared to April'05 at 11 offences, cautions had been issued to two riders of Mini motorbikes on the recreation ground, also that speed checks had been carried out with no penalty notices issued.

## 8. MATTERS ARISING:

Appointment of committees; Following the proposal by Cllr. Heyland, Cllr Windmill agreed to serve on the Planning Committee.

7.5 ton lorry ban; The Clerk to write to Bedfordshire Highways requesting a report on The Rye, The High St., Bower Lane, and Totternhoe Rd.

Clerk

Maps; It was agreed that all existing maps of the parish held by Cllrs. and the Clerk should be brought together to research and establish areas of Public ownership.

GP

Handyman's toolkit; This item to remain on GP agenda

GP

Bower Lane Cemetery fence; Aaron fencing had advised that there was additional work connected with clearing the site, at a further cost of £275 incl.VAT. Cllr Marriage proposed that the Council agree to this, seconded by Cllr. Windmill and agreed 6 votes to 1. It was also agreed to allow the burning of cleared scrub on site, proposed by Cllr. Marriage, seconded by Cllr. Brand , agreed 5 votes to 1. Clerk to contact Aaron Fencing.

Clerk

Cllr. Brand advised the Council that he had been informed by the Hines family that a grave had been encroached upon by an adjoining grave. It was decided that a party of Cllrs. and the Clerk would visit the cemetery to investigate.

Clerk &  
Cllrs.Conner  
and Brand

Bus shelter, The Meads; Work still outstanding, JGS to be contacted.

Clerk

## 9. MARKET SQ. DOG BIN:

Cllr Marriage gave details of a supplier and model of a suitable bin. Cllr Tribbick proposed, seconded by Cllr. Heyland and agreed unanimously that the Council should proceed with installing this if Mr Sparrow of The White Horse was still prepared to purchase the bin. Mr. Sparrow to be contacted.

Clerk

## 10. TRAFFIC CALMING:

Cllr. Beal had received a letter from Neil O’Leary regarding Vehicle Activated Signs, estimating the cost to be approx. £7,500 each, and suggesting that it might be more cost effective to develop existing enforcement measures. Cllr Beal to follow up.

Cllr Beal

## 11. PARISH COUNCIL BYELAWS:

The Chairman read a letter from DEFRA outlining the procedure for giving notice of new byelaws, with a strong recommendation that all other means be used before making changes. After some discussion about the proposed changes, it was decided to circulate the existing byelaws to all Councillors together with the proposed changes. Cllr. Beal is to respond to the letter and request information about “all other means”.

Cllr Beal

## 12. COFFEE TAVERN:

Stairlift; The Chairman reported that there had been a meeting with the Fire Officer to discuss the feasibility of installing a stair lift. We have not yet received a report but the feeling was that a stair lift would not be suitable as it would restrict access on the stairs, it was also suggested that alterations to the supporting wall might be necessary, reducing access still further. It was noted that the Parish Council and other public meetings could be held on the ground floor if required, although consideration would need to be given to other users of the premises. Both Fire and Disability agencies have stated that the Council is not obliged to install a lift.

Redecoration; Job specifications are to be drawn up for the interior and exterior decoration, and also for inspection and repairs to the chimney flashing.

Cllr Pearson & Clerk

## 13. MILL END CLOSE AND CONSERVATION AREA:

Cllr. Brand circulated a sketch of Mill End Close, together with a file of correspondence he had been given regarding the access to land to the rear of Mill End Close and ransom strips adjoining the properties. He expressed the great concern of residents that the public freely used these areas and had been observed looking into the houses from the land in question. Correspondence from the Parish Council had often been contradictory and Cllr Brand asked that the Council now look into the matter and establish the status of the land and try to solve the problems. After some discussion concerning the upkeep of the area, it was agreed that the G.P. committee visit the site and report to the council.

G.P.

Cllr. Brand reported that the footbridge in the conservation area seemed to be in a dangerous state and areas along the riverbanks required attention. Cllr Brand is to write to Edlesborough P.C. as the area extends across both parishes. The G.P. Committee will investigate further.

G.P.

## 14. EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Cllr. Brand requested that this item remain open for further research.

**Sean Hayden and Phil Gallaher** joined the meeting to introduce Phil to the Council as he is taking over from Sean on the Parish Paths Partnership (P3).

The Chairman expressed his own and the Council’s thanks to Sean for all his work and support in the past.

Phil told the Council that he is looking forward to working in the area and is keen to discover what is happening now and establishing a programme of projects for the future, he will welcome suggestions from the Council.

## 15. CLERK

- i.) The Clerk requested up to date contact information from all Councillors, to be circulated a.s.a.p.
- ii.) Change of mailing address and signatories forms were completed for the bank accounts.
- iii.) It was agreed unanimously that the Clerk could attend a Burial Ground Management Course at a cost of £45.

## 16. GP COMMITTEE REPORT:

Minutes; The minutes of the GP Committee Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup>.May 2006 were signed by Cllr. Marriage as a true record of the meeting.

Letter from Mr. Hicks re Speeding; It had been agreed that the Clerk would respond to Mr. Hicks' letter, stating that there was to be a Public Meeting in July and that we would respond in September.

Clerk

BT pole on the Pound; The Clerk to write to BT requesting a meeting to discuss the erection of the pole without permission.

Clerk

Chilterns AONB grant; It had been agreed to apply for a grant to be used to purchase a traditional signpost for the village. Cllr. Marriage passed the completed claim to the Clerk.

Clerk

Councillors monitoring areas; a map prepared by Cllr. Marriage is to be distributed to all Councillors.

Clerk

Children's play equipment; Wickstead have provided a new quote based on the revised job list. Cllr. Marriage to establish definite figures for the July P.C. Meeting.

Cllr Marriage

It was agreed unanimously to arrange account facilities with Browns for the handyman's use, with a monthly credit limit of £200. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Heyland.

Clerk

## 17. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS:

It was proposed by Cllr Heyland that the accounts be audited before the Council is asked to accept them. This was agreed and the Clerk was requested to contact Ray Foster to arrange this. It was noted that the Annual Return was due to be submitted on the 30<sup>th</sup>. June, and that it might be necessary to seek an extension to this deadline. It might also be nessecary to arrange an extra P.C. meeting to sign the accounts.

Clerk

## 18. NEXT AGENDA:

Transfer of funds to establish a Coffee Tavern Account

To agree income and expenditure for Coffee Tavern i.e. Rent payable by P.C.

Insurance implications of Coffee Tavern.

Report from Youth Club leader.

**19. PLANNING:**

A Notice of Grant of Planning Permission had been received re. 18 Greenways, Eaton Bray Revised Applic. SB/TP/2005/1255.

The Planning Applic. TP/06/0465 for a single storey rear extension and front porch at 35 The Nurseries was examined, with no objections raised.

**20. PAYMENTS:**

The Chairman proposed to pay the May accounts seconded by Cllr Marriage and agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 10.40