

**MINUTES OF THE EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD on 5<sup>th</sup>. March 2007 at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. M.. Beal (In the chair)  
R.Brand  
J. Conner  
M. Crace  
M. Heyland  
D. Pearson

Clerk: E.Bird

**IN ATTENDANCE:** District Cllr. K. Janes

**ALSO PRESENT:** None

**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllr. P. Gallagher; Cllr. D. Marriage; Cllr. R.Windmill

**2. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**3. PUBLIC FORUM:**

No matters.

**4. CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE & COMMENTS.**

The following correspondence has been received:

- 1.) A leaflet from the MacMillan Fund seeking support. This is to be considered for the next meeting.
- 2.) A letter from Mrs. Hounslow, Head Teacher of Eaton Bray Lower School, advising the Council that no alterations would be necessary to the Coffee Tavern to enable it's use as a "safe place" in the event of an emergency at the school.
- 3.) An email from PCSO Josh Tonkin giving apologies for not attending the meeting.

The crime figures for February are: 1 house burglary, 2 theft of a motor vehicle, 3 theft from a motor vehicle, 3 criminal damage.

The Clerk was asked to contact Josh regarding youths entering the Lower School grounds.

- 4.) The village handyman has reported that the bus shelter at Three Corners has been extensively damaged by ivy growth.

Following advice received regarding painting freshly treated timber, the Chairman has instructed the handyman to position the allotment marker posts as they are, and paint them next year.

**5. MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH MEETINGS:**

It was unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup>. February 2007 as a true and accurate record.

The Chairman signed the minutes.

The G.P. committee minutes for the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2007 were agreed by the councillors who attended, and signed by the Chairman.

Clerk

Cllr Pearson

## 6. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

District Cllr Ken Janes joined the meeting and advised the Council that:

The District budget was now completed and that there was provision for Rural and Youth projects, although decisions regarding the administration of these funds have not yet been made.

Proposals for the county structure have been submitted to central government as part of the debate on local governance.

The preferred Northern route for a Dunstable by-pass has been publicised.

Following complaints of noise, the metal recycling bins in School Lane are to be replaced with plastic bins.

Fly tipping continues to be a concern in the area.

## 7. G.P. REPORT

### Skateboarding.

To be progressed at the next meeting.

### Village Signpost.

The Clerk has been in contact with the suppliers and will be claiming the grant from the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

Clerk

### Traffic calming.

Ongoing.

### Bower Lane Land.

The GP committee will investigate the possibility of leasing this land in conjunction with St. Mary's PCC.

GP

Cllr Heyland advised the Council that the land in question is an allotment site, and planning permission would be required for any change of use.

## 8. CEMETERY REGULATIONS

Cllr Conner has received some comments and suggestions from the Council. A new draft of the regulations will be prepared for the next meeting.

Cllr Conner &  
Clerk

The Clerk was asked to arrange for the new section of the cemetery to be cleared, and the gate to be adjusted.

## 9. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS.

Following a review of the regulations, the Clerk proposed the following amendments to be made:

**Item 5.3:** Cheques drawn on the bank account in accordance with the schedule referred to in paragraph 5.2 or in accordance with paragraph 6.4, shall be signed by three members of the Council.

*To be changed to read:*

*Cheques drawn on the bank account in accordance with the schedule referred to in paragraph 5.2 or in accordance with paragraph 6.4, shall be signed by the Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) and two members of the Council.*

Cllr Heyland proposed acceptance of the amendment, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cllr Crace. Unanimous.

**Item 5.4:** To indicate agreement of the details shown on the cheque or order for payment with the counterfoil and the invoice or similar documentation, the signatories shall each also initial the cheque counterfoil.

*This item to be deleted.*

Cllr Brand proposed acceptance of the amendment, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cllr Conner, Unanimous.

**10. REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Clerk will complete the review and advise the Councillors before the next meeting.

Clerk

**11. TELEGRAPH POLE on THE POUND.**

The Clerk has been in contact with BT Openreach and is advised that the decision to move the pole is being actioned. Awaiting further information from BT.

**12. 2007 CARNIVAL STALL.**

Cllr Crace suggested that the Council uses this opportunity to compile an email address list of local residents, that could be used to advertise the Parish Council Meeting Agendas more effectively and encourage participation in the Parish Council Meetings through the Public Open Forum.

The Council unanimously agreed in principle to a prize draw as an incentive for residents to give their addresses.

Following discussion, the Chairman proposed that the Council follows this suggestion for a trial period of six months. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cllr Brand. Unanimous.

Cllr Crace

**13. MEMBERSHIP of the CAMPAIGN to PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND.**

The Chairman proposed that the Council becomes a member of the CPRE. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cllr Brand. Unanimous. The Clerk will complete the application.

Clerk

**14. CLERK.**

The Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup>.March 2006 has been returned from the external auditor, together with the auditor's report.

The auditor's recommendations are that the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are reviewed, and a Risk Assessment carried out, as soon as possible. Copies of the Annual Return and Auditor's Certificate will be displayed on the parish noticeboards.

Clerk

**15. OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM FEBRUARY MEETING.**

Cllr Heyland asked the Clerk to obtain detailed guidance regarding the criteria used by SBDC when considering planning applications.

Clerk

Cllr Heyland also reported that the carpets and curtains were now in the Coffee Tavern cottage.

The Chairman reported that the proofs of the P3 booklet have been approved and returned to the printers.

## **16. PLANNING.**

The following applications were considered:

SB-TP-07-0149        9 The Nurseries, Eaton Bray.

Erection of single storey front, side and rear extensions.

No objections, with the comment that the alterations to the front of the building should be in keeping with existing features.

SB-TP-07-0143        12 Knights Close Eaton Bray.

Demolition of existing store & covered way and erection of single storey side and rear extension.

No objections.

SB-TP-07-0109        8 Comp Gate, Eaton Bray.

Erection of single storey side and rear extension.

No objections.

SB-TP-07-0202        44a Moor End, Eaton Bray.

Single storey rear extension.

No objections.

SB-TP-07-0205        Minus 1 Tring Road, WellHead, Eaton Bray.

Roof extension to form new bedroom. Change of use of 381 sq m. of field to garden & vehicular access.

No objections to building work.

Objections to change of use of land and vehicular access, this would set a precedent and vehicular access would be dangerous.

SB-CED-06-1187        The Paddocks, Springfield Road, Eaton Bray.

Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use.

The Council confirms that the buildings and land have been used as builders workshop and yard for 10 years or more. The Council have no objection to the continued use of the land in this way, with the condition that the buildings and yard are for the sole use of the freeholder.

## **17. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:**

It was unanimously agreed to pay the February 2007 accounts.

## **18. NEXT AGENDA**

To consider quotes for new path at cemetery.

Risk assessment.

The meeting closed at 21.45

Next meeting to be held at the Coffee Tavern on 2nd. April 2007 at 7.30pm.