

MINUTES OF THE EATON BRAY ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD on 9th. May 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs. M. Beal (In the chair)
R.Brand
J. Conner
M.Crace
P. Gallagher
M.Heyland
D. Marriage

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk: E.Bird

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. S. Willis
County Councillor B. Piggott

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr.R.Windmill; Cllr.D. Pearson

2. Election of Chair:

Cllr Beal was elected as Chair.

Prop. Cllr Marriage; 2nd. Cllr Heyland; 5 in favour, 1 abstention.

3. Election of Vice Chair :

Cllr Crace was elected as Vice Chair.

Prop. Cllr Beal; 2nd. Cllr Heyland; 5 in favour, 1 abstention.

4. Appointment of committees:

See attached.

5. Specific declarations of interest:

Cllr Beal declared his connection with the youth club (item 13).

6. Public forum:

Mr. Willis expressed his concern that it had been decided not to allow a flagpole to be erected on Three Corners Green to fly the St. George flag, he feels that provision to fly the flag in the village is desirable.

The Chair explained that the parish council had gone through a process seeking the opinions of those who would be effected most and had listened to those residents who attended the council meeting at which the decision had been made. The overwhelming response had been against siting the flagpole on Three Corners Green. A different site, at the Coffee Tavern, is now being considered.

7. Chairman's comments and correspondence:

A note from Mr. & Mrs. Wise drawing the councils attention to an article in the Leighton Buzzard Observer concerning development of the area.

The clerk was asked to write thanking Mr.& Mrs.Wise, welcoming them to the village, and giving an assurance that the PC would respond to any plans for development as it becomes aware of them.

Clerk

A letter from Cllr Heyland declaring that she would be standing down as Allotment Warden, but was willing to stay on the Planning Committee and maintain her involvement as School Governor.

The chairman expressed thanks on behalf of the council for the time and effort Cllr Heyland had contributed in the past to support the PC.

A letter from Andrew Selous MP, asking to use the Coffee Tavern for a constituency surgery on 22nd June 2007.

Clerk

The Chairman commented with thanks, that the youth club had agreed to move their evening to Thurs. to enable the PC to meet.

The council was informed that Cllr Pearson is making good progress following his recent operation.

8. Signing of Minutes:

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 2nd. April 2007, with the following corrections:

- i). Change the date in the title to **2nd April 2007**
- ii). Item 7.1. Insert: **“The council unanimously voted to reject the request.”**
Between the first and last sentences.
- iii). Item 11 omitted. Insert: **Item 11. Meads allotments: Following complaints received concerning dogs, Cllr Heyland had inspected the allotment site and found gaps in the hedge adjacent to Church Lane. Action: G.P.**

With the corrections noted, the Chairman signed the minutes.

Cllr Marriage signed the minutes of the GP meeting held on 12th April 2007 with the unanimous approval of those councillors who had been present.

9. District & County representatives:

County Cllr Piggott addressed the meeting and gave some information relating to the new county budget, and an idea of the level of funding that would be available to Eaton Bray, including a Highways Partnership Grant of £4k, and the Community Safety Budget shared across the county according to population figures.

Local Government re-organisation is going forward, with alternative proposals being considered.

When asked if the barrier at the travellers site was being repaired, Cllr Piggott said this would be followed up.

Cllr Brand commented on policing levels and the trend away from “Full PC’s”.

Cllr Piggott responded that policing levels are a matter for the Police Authority, the County Council can only offer financial support through the Community Safety Budget, which could be available to fund an additional PCSO, possibly in conjunction with other parishes.

No district representative was present.

10. G.P. report:

Meads allotments.

The GP committee has received feedback from the handyman regarding the gaps in the hedge and asked P3 if something can be done for the short term, whilst providing a long term solution by planting new hedge plants.

Cllr Gallagher will advise the PC at a future meeting.

Traffic management:

a). Vehicle Activated Signs. The process of deciding sites and specifications is going well, and opinions are being sought from residents. Funding proposals are being considered and look promising with grants available from the Parish Partnership.

Cllr Piggott offered to explore how the different grant schemes could work together.

b). Mr. I. Robinson, roads advisor, will attend the next council meeting to advise on traffic control.

11. Cemetery regulations:

It was agreed unanimously to have plot number markers on all new graves.

The grounds maintenance contractor would be asked to check the graves twice yearly and turf any newly settled graves. Agreed unan.

Cllr Conner proposed new cemetery fees to commence 1st. June 2007.

All burial fees include 75 years exclusive rights.

	Parishioners of Eaton Bray	Non-Parishioners
Burials	£75.00	£300.00
Burial of ashes	£45.00	£180.00
To re-open (for 2 nd . Burial)	£25.00	£100.00
To place a memorial	£20.00	£ 80.00

The proposal was 2nd. Cllr Gallagher and agreed unan.

12. Cemetery path:

Awaiting tenders.

13. Youth club:

There is a vacancy for a youth club leader, Cllr Beal asked the councillors to circulate a notice inviting applications

14. Police contact detail flyers:

Cllr Marriage proposed that he gets quotes to produce an A5 flyer that shows contact details for local police support, to be circulated throughout the parish.

The GP committee to bring a proposal to the June PC meeting.

The council gave unanimous support in principle.

15. Policing levels – funding:

Covered above.

16. Skateboarding facilities:

Cllr Gallagher reports that research is on-going. The GP will meet to look at possible sites in the village.

17. Coffee Tavern Trust:

It was agreed to advance a loan of £2000 to the Coffee Tavern Trust to provide working funds. Prop Cllr Beal; 2nd. Cllr Marriage: unan.

18. Wheelie bin stickers:

No further information has been forthcoming from the printers. It is felt that this is not worth pursuing.

Clerk

Clerk

All

GP

GP

19. Draft accounts for year ending 31st March 2007:

The clerk distributed copies of the draft accounts, final accounts will be compiled by the Finance Committee for consideration at the next council meeting (June '07).

Clerk & Finance committee

20. Carnival stall:

Cllr Crace reported that a stall has been booked at the 2007 carnival and asked for volunteers to man the stall on the day.

It is proposed to display photographs of councillors and projects that the PC has been involved with.

Parishioners of Eaton Bray will be encouraged to give their email addresses to create a database to be used to promote Parish Council activities. A meal for two has been offered by Cafe Masala to be used as an incentive.

It was suggested that the new Village Booklet could be displayed, with copies for sale. Large scale footpath maps of the area could also be displayed.

It was proposed and agreed that up to £100 could be spent to produce a re-usable sign for the stall. Prop. Cllr Marriage: 2nd Cllr Crace: unan.

Cllr Crace

21. Planning:

The following applications were considered:

- TP/07/0313 122 High St, Eaton Bray.
Construction of vehicular crossover.

- TP/07/0410 Icknield Way Farm, Tring Rd.
Erection of single storey side & rear extensions.

- TP/07/0434 Harling House, Harling Rd.
Erection of single storey rear extension.

- CC/07/0452 Eaton Bray Lower School, School Lane
Erection of nursery building and construction of
hardstanding play area and footpath.

- TP/07/0481 123 High St, Eaton Bray.
Erection of two storey side extension

There were no objections to these applications.

22. Payment of April accounts:

It was proposed by Cllr Gallagher: 2nd Cllr Brand: unan. to pay the April accounts as attached.

Clerk

23. Next agenda:

Ground maintenance contract

Mr. I. Robinson – Traffic management

Carnival stall

Code of conduct

Annual accounts

Items for the June agenda to be requested no later than Mon 28th May 2007

The meeting closed at 22.10

Next meeting to be held at 7.30 at the Coffee Tavern on 4th June 2007.