

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held on 3rd November 2008

PRESENT	Cllr D. Marriage (Chair) Cllr R. Brand Cllr J. Conner Cllr M. Heyland	Cllr T. Moxey Cllr D. Pearson Cllr R. Windmill Cllr M. Hawkes
IN ATTENDANCE	Heidi Head (Clerk)	
ALSO PRESENT	District Cllr K. Janes	2x public

1. APOLOGIES

County Cllr B. Piggott, Cllr P. Gallagher

2. SPECIFIC DELARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Marriage/Cllr Pearson declared their involvement with the Sports and Social Club.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

A representative from EB Lions wanted to ask about the possibility of erecting a storage container (20ftx8ftx8ft) in Holmans Field for their equipment. EB Lions confirmed that planning permission would be requested for the container but wanted to know in the Parish Council agreed in principle to the container. Concerns were raised as to what would happen to the container if EB Lions ceased to function. Agreeing that a five year plan would need to be implemented, with a yearly licence renewable each year, and maybe a Bond, if this storage was to go ahead. The Parish Council agreed in principle to the storage container and recommended that this be put forward as a future Parish Council meeting item for discussion. Better control of any keys on loan will be necessary. All agreed.

4. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Letter from Beds County Council, 6th October 2008; Confident Communities Fund 2008/2009; read to all Councillors, forward to GP Working Group. 2) Letter from South Beds District Council, 27th October 2008 regarding charging for street naming and numbering; read to all Councillors. 3) Copy of letter sent to Mill End Close residents from the Parish Council regarding adjoining field/ransome strip; read to all Councillors. 4) Email sent from PC Viv Dady, 21st October 2008 regarding creating a community safety group/forum with Totternhoe; read to all Councillor, agreed to speak to PC Viv Dady to discuss further. 5) Letter from St Mary's Village Carnival 2008 regarding £150 donation to Parish Council; read to all Councillors, all Councillors wished to thank St Mary's Village Carnival Committee for their kind donation. 6) Letter from South Beds District Council, 20th October 2008 regarding Minus One, Tring Road; read to all Councillors. 7) Email from resident regarding overgrown hedging along Bower Lane and cars parking on pavements within the Parish; read to all Councillors. All agreed to remind all residents (via Focus) on parking within the Parish. It was also asked for the Clerk to contact the owners of the hedge and ask for it to be trimmed, Cllr Marriage agreed to obtain contact details. All agreed. 8) Email from Bernadine Brewer, Independent Studios UK regarding East Anglian Film Archive – DVDs entitled Bedfordshire Matters Part 1 and Part 2; Clerk to forward details to S. Siddons for Focus. 9) Result of Wicksteed Safety Inspection of Playground Equipment; Cllr Hawkes suggested obtaining an independent report on the playgrounds in addition to the Wicksteed report. All agreed. | <p>GP Working Group</p> <p>Parish Council/
PC Viv Dady</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/Cllr Marriage</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Hawkes</p> |
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| 10) Invitation to a Charity Ball at Warren Weir, Luton Hoo, 27 th March 2008; read to all Councillors, if interested to contact Clerk direct. | All Councillors/
Clerk |
| 11) Invite to Seminar regarding New development & Urban Greenspace, 13 th November 2008 at Stafford Gatehouse Theatre; no Councillors are able to attend. | |
| 12) Further report on treats for troops; due to a number of concerns raised regarding the type of collection for the troops the Parish Council was given clarification of the collection boxes (full details can be obtained by contacting the Parish Clerk) which confirmed that the box collection is indeed ongoing and goes through the office of the Royal Air Force association. The Parish Council agreed to continue to support this organisation. | Report/Clerk |
| 13) Invitation regarding the Countryside Design Awards, Saturday 6 th December 2008; no Councillors able to attend. | |
| 14) Bedfordshire County Council Highway Maintenance Survey; to be forwarded to GP Working Group, once completed to bring to the PC Meeting in December 2008 for approval. | GP Working Group
Clerk |
| 15) Letter from resident regarding road condition of Booth Place; agreed problem with state of road. Parish Council agreed to contact owner with concerns, Cllr Pearson agreed to obtain contact details, in the interim the Parish Council agreed to organise the road to be tidied up at the entrance way/public footpath. Clerk to action. | Cllr Pearson

Clerk |

5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

District Cllr Janes gave an update on the development on the new Central Bedfordshire Council, confirming elections due to take place next year.

Cllr Marriage informed Cllr Janes that no feedback had yet been received following the meeting in September on the driving of HGV's through villages. Cllr Piggott is investigating.

Cllr Janes confirmed that he had reported fly tipping at Wellhead, raising concerns with the rubbish building up along Northall Road.

Cllr Janes was also informed of a proposed meeting being set up with South Beds District Council and the Parish Council to walk around the village looking at the grass verges due to problems encountered with the cuts during the year. Clerk to organise.

Clerk

6. POLICE REPRESENTATIVE

PC Viv Dady attended and introduced to the Parish Council the new PCSO for the Parish, PCSO Joanne Glen (badge number 4937).

PC Dady informed the Parish Council that the next newsletter is due out within the week. Clerk to action accordingly.

Clerk

PC Dady confirmed that the majority of crimes recorded within the Parish from August to October were vehicle related and has put this area as a priority for the area. A letter has been put together by the police for all residents reminding them of issues within the parish. Clerk to put together a report on the issues raised to be put in a future edition of Focus. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

The Parish Council raised their concerns with the lack of police presence within the parish and concerns raised to the Parish Council from local residents. PC Dady informed the Parish Council that they do come to the Parish, will be visiting the village shortly for a morning walk round. The Parish Council were not happy with how incidents being reported to the police are not acted upon and little feedback to relevant parties. PC Dady confirmed that the newsletter sets out the actions of the police to date. PC Dady reiterated once again the importance of residents contacting the police when they see anything suspicious.

PC Dady mentioned the proposal to create a community safety group or forum for Totternhoe/Eaton Bray mentioning that it would require a group of interested residents to come together every three months or so to discuss issues, problems and policing priorities for the neighbourhood. It would have the full support of Bedfordshire Police and South Beds District Council and would hopefully encourage representatives from other agencies to attend and support e.g. fire, ambulance, health, education, youth, and the church. Cllr Marriage and Cllr Brand agreed to attend the initial forum but

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expressed reservations on whether anything substantial would come of this. PC Dady reassured the Parish Council that this would be the best way of looking into the policing in the parishes.

The Parish Council felt that a letter should be sent to the Chair of the Police Authority, raising their concerns. It was agreed for a draft letter to be put together, to be agreed by the Parish Council and forward to relevant parties. All Agreed. Cllr Marriage/Cllr Brand agreed to put together a draft report on issues for the draft letter to be forwarded to the Clerk to put together ready for Parish Council approval.

Cllr Marriage/
Cllr Brand

Cllr Marriage/
Cllr Brand/Clerk

7. SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, 6th October 2008

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 6th October 2008, the Chairman signed the minutes.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES (*for information*)

- Youth Club: The Clerk confirmed that she would be collecting all the Youth Club records and be putting them in the Parish Council files.
- Email received from Sue Norman regarding Cutting Your Carbon Funding: Currently being looked at by the GP Working Group.
- Police: Cllr Brand confirmed that he has spoken to the Clerk regarding the issues relating to communications with the police regarding a Special Constable and is in the process of putting together relevant details to enable the Clerk to send a letter.
- Memorial/Garden: Plans are in place for the cleaning of the War Memorial and the garden area surrounding it. It will be ready for the Remembrance Service on the 9th November 2008.

9. HOUSING NEEDS WITHIN EATON BRAY

The Parish Council agreed that the residents of the Parish should be able to express their feelings with regards to the housing within the Parish and it was suggested that the Clerk put together a questionnaire, sending it to all residents via Focus, requesting their ideas/recommendations. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

10. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Apologies were received from the Clerk for her non-attendance at the Financial Committee Meeting in October, the next Financial Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday 13th November next, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern.

The Chair of the Financial Committee went through the current Parish Council expenditure, explaining that the Parish Council needs to look at future Capital Projects in order to be able to budget for the next year's Precept. It was requested that all Parish Councillors look at what they believe the spends will be for next year, *informing the Clerk of any Capital Projects for 2009/2010 by Tuesday 11th November 2008 AT THE LATEST*. All agreed.

All Councillors

Recommendations for the following current Capital Project spends to be carried forward to 2009/10 are: Skateboard Park/Youth Shelter, Bus Shelters, Vertidrainng, School Lane Recreation Park car par, trees middle-path. All agreed.

A proposal was put to the Parish Council for a donation to the Eaton Bray Lower School Nursery, to go towards the fitting of a lift into the building to give disabled access to the first floor. It was proposed/seconded and put to the vote that the Parish Council donate £1000; In favour = 6, Against = 2, Absenteeism = 1. Parish Council decision, to agree to the donation. Clerk to action. It was also mentioned at this point that many parishioners were not aware of the full use of the new building, for community use, and Cllr Heyland was asked to speak to the School to recommend they put a notice in Focus clarifying the buildings purpose. All Agreed.

Clerk

Cllr Heyland
Clerk

11. ANNUAL MONITORING FORM

The Clerk handed out a copy of the Councillors responses to the annual check. It was recommended that the items listed be put to the General Purposes Working Group to look at and make recommendations. Prioritising and informing Clerk of any urgent

GP Working Group

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work. All agreed.

12. SKATEBOARDING PARK/YOUTH SHELTER

There were no details to report on the Skateboarding Park/Youth Shelter progress. It was recommended that the project leader, Cllr Gallagher, put together a written report outlining how far we are with this project, due to timings on funding. *The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Gallagher to request this information prior to the Parish Council meeting on the 1st December 2008.* All agreed.

Clerk/
Cllr Gallagher

13. COFFEE TAVERN REPORT

It was reported to the Parish Council that the new tenants are now in the cottage. The Parish Office looks set to become functional from 1st January 2009; however the Coffee Tavern Trustees are awaiting clarification on this from the PCC. The Chair of the Coffee Tavern Trustees informed the Clerk that they would be unable to make the arranged meeting with the Parish Council's Solicitors on the date given and it was agreed for the Clerk to rearrange the meeting. Clerk to action.

Clerk

14. CLERK REPORT

- The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the costs for the weekly emptying of the proposed five new dog bins equates to £34.65 per annum (plus maintenance costs) for each additional dog bin fitted, subject to any annual increase. It was recommended that the Clerk organise the ordering of the additional dog bins and confirm to South Beds District Council, once fitted, the additional costs. All agreed. Clerk to action.
- The Clerk updated the Parish Council on the situation with the damaged Village Gateway; the insurance company are in the process of going through the application. It was recommended that the Parish Council look at the Gateway at Honeywick, to ascertain costs it to be made good. All agreed. Cllr Pearson to find out work required and costs.
- It was reported that the Coffee Tavern had a broken outside light. Cllr Marriage recommended he contact the maintenance electrician to have this mended. All agreed. It was also asked if the Clerk could get the Handyman to tidy up the Coffee Tavern car park plants. All agreed.
- The Clerk updated the Parish Council on the progress of the Council Publication Scheme documentation. It was confirmed that the General Purposes Working Group would be looking at the information required, the Clerk confirmed that she would forward the information she had put together so far to the General Purposes Working Group for their information. It was also recommended that the Parish Council invite Theo Gray to their next meeting in December to talk through the way forward with the Parish Council Website and the additional information to be added. All agreed.
- The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had not received payment for three allotment renewals, the cut-off date for receipt being the 9th November 2008. It was agreed for a letter to be sent to the allotment holders of these plots requesting their money by the end of the month otherwise their tenancy would be terminated. All agreed. Clerk to action.
- The Clerk informed the Parish Council of the sad news of Edlesborough Parish Councillor, Mr Phil Conacher (Northall Ward) who sadly passed away on the 22nd October last. It was recommended that the Parish Council express their sympathy to the deceased Parish Councillor's family/friends. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

Cllr Pearson

Cllr Marriage

Clerk

GP Working Group

Clerk

Clerk/Focus

15. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following planning applications were considered:

Application Nos.	Development Site	Decision	If Refusal: Grounds for
TP/08/1030	41 Moor End, Eaton Bray, LU6 2HN	Objection	Overdevelopment

The Clerk to report Parish Council's decision to the relevant authority. All agreed. The Parish Council were informed of concerns raised by a number of residents relating

Clerk

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to a property in Wellhead which has a large amount of heavy traffic going to/from it. It was suggested the Clerk contact South Beds District Council as to whether planning permission should have been obtained for the increase in business activities at this property. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

16. TO RESOLVE TO PAY OCTOBER 2008 ACCOUNTS

It was unanimously agreed to pay the October 2008 accounts.

17. NEXT AGENDA

Items for the Parish Council Meeting Agenda to be submitted to the Clerk no later than, Wednesday 19th November 2008.

All Councillors

The meeting closed at 10:35pm.

Next meeting to be held: Monday 1st December 2008, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern.