

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held on 4th January 2010 at The Coffee Tavern

PRESENT	Cllr D. Marriage (<i>Chairman</i>) Cllr M. Hawkes Cllr J. Conner	Cllr D. Pearson Cllr A. Garofall Cllr R. Windmill
IN ATTENDANCE	Heidi Head (<i>Parish Clerk</i>)	
ALSO PRESENT	Ward Cllr Ken Janes PC Viv Dady Mr Gordon Johns General Public x2	

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Ward Cllr Mustoe, Cllr Moxey and Cllr Heyland sent their apologies for absence.

2. SPECIFIC DELARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

The Parish Council were asked what progress was being made with regards to updating the burial records. It was confirmed that the non-consecrated burial records are now updated/computerised; with the consecrated side currently being updated/computerised.

4. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Co-option of new Parish Councillor: An applicant for the position of Parish Councillor was asked to address the Parish Council. Mr Gordon Johns outlined his reasoning behind wishing to join. The Councillors agreed unanimously to co-opt Mr Johns onto the Council. Mr Johns then completed and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor, countersigned by the Parish Clerk.

- (1) Email from Louise Ashmore regarding changes to payments by cheques; read to all Councillors.
- (2) Enquiry from resident regarding a property in Moor End/Moor End Lane; recommended Clerk/Cllr Heyland to look into (running business from home etc) and contact Simon Barnet, Enforcement Officer at Central Bedfordshire to look into (if needed). All agreed.
- (3) Letter from Falcon Motor Club Ltd regarding the March Hair Classic Trial, 7th March 2010; forwarded to Cllr Johns/Cllr Pearson to look into further/action. All agreed.
- (4) Letter from Central Bedfordshire regarding the draft Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy Consultation; recommended to General Purposes Working Group to look into. All agreed.
- (5) Christmas Card from EB Lions; read to all Councillors.

Clerk/
Cllr Heyland

Cllr Johns/
Cllr Pearson

GP Working Group

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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| (6) Letter from Mr/s Stanley regarding Poppy Appeal/Royal British Legion and new contact details; read to all Councillors. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr & Mrs Stanley. Agreed. Clerk to action. | Clerk |
| (7) Letter from Central Bedfordshire regarding electoral review of Central Beds; read to all Councillors. Reviewed at General Purposes Working Group with a recommendation to the Parish Council to support the electoral area suggested by the Conservatives. This was proposed, seconded, all in favour. Clerk to action. | Clerk |
| (8) Letter from St Mary's Church regarding the new flower beds; read to all Councillors. It was recommended that the Parish Council write to Eaton Bray Lower School/children thanking them for their excellent design/work towards these flower beds. All agreed. Clerk to action. | Clerk |
| (9) Enquiry to Parish Council for sponsoring a bench etc. within the parish in memory of a deceased resident. Forwarded to Cllr Hawkes to look into. All agreed. | Cllr Hawkes |

5. POLICE REPRESENTATIVES

PC Viv Dady attended the meeting. There have been eight recorded crimes for the month and 4 recorded road traffic incidents within December 2009.

PC Dady asked the Parish Council to forward a details list of the policing priorities for the parish. All agreed; forwarded to General Purposes Working Group to look into.

PC Dady informed the Parish Council that the police are still looking into implementing a Community Safety Forum for the area, with the option of holding the forum prior to a Parish Council Meeting. All Councillors agreed a good option. PC Dady to look into further.

GP Working Group

The police are assisting in the process of setting up the youth club for the village. Cllr Hawkes agreed to progress this matter. All agreed.

Cllr Hawkes

It was commented that the children using the Skate & Ride area believe that there has not been a great deal of police presence in the vicinity (although there have been no problems there) would still like to see visits from the police showing their support for this facility (especially on busy days – Saturdays etc). PC Dady confirmed that the police do visit the area, have had pleasant chats with the children using the facility and will continue to do so.

Police

6. CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE/S

Ward Cllr Ken Janes attended the meeting. He expressed his disappointment at the outcome of the last Parish Council Meeting (7th December 2009). He wished to inform the Parish Council that he did not at any time propose/second the vote for the planning application to go through, but did however finally agree to the application. He reiterated that there were no technical planning arguments for the application to be refused. Cllr Janes wished to remind all electors that he does represent all parishioners; however in a vote for planning there would need to be solid planning arguments to be able to vote against such. The residents/Parish Council's views/issues had been detailed by Cllr Marion Mustoe to the Development Management Committee (Planning) at Central Bedfordshire. However on the evidence supplied there was no reason for this application to be refused.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr Janes for coming to the meeting and explaining in more detail the reasons/details surrounding this application.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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7. SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 7th December 2009

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7th December 2009; the Chairman signed the minutes

8. SIGNING OF MINUTES OF GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP, 17th December 2009

It was agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the General Purposes Working Group Meeting held on the 17th December 2009; the Chairman signed the minutes

9. MATTERS ARISING (for information): PARISH COUNCIL & GENERAL PURPOSES MINUTES

(1) Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting:

Street lighting: The Clerk confirmed she is contacting Central Bedfordshire regarding the damaged/removed street light in High Street.

Blocked drain: Cllr Garofall confirmed he would check the exact position of the blocked drain in Church Lane, getting back to the Clerk with his findings.

20 MPH speed limit: Clerk confirmed she is contacting Central Bedfordshire on the possible installation of a 20 mph speed limit in School Lane.

Christmas trees: All those who were involved in the installation/putting up of the parish Christmas trees were thanked for their help.

(2) General Purposes Working Group:

Youth football: The Clerk confirmed that she has signed the Parish Council section of the football agreement and forwarded to Cllr Garofall to organise the signing off from EB Lions.

10. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning Issues

- It was put to the Parish Council that planning application; CB/06434-0643426 be put before the Development Management Committee/Planning. All agreed.
- Minus One, Tring Road: It was brought to the Parish Council's attention of a possible breach of planning regulations. It was recommended the Clerk contact Simon Barnet, Enforcement Officer at Central Bedfordshire to look at area concerned. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Planning Applications, December 2009

The Parish Council looked at the Planning Applications presented before them.

The following decision was made by the Parish Council:

Application	Address/Development	Decision	Comments
CB/09/06947	20 Cantilupe Close/Erection of first floor rear extension	No Objection	n/a
CB/09/07053	3 Knights Close/Erection of two storey/single side extension	No Objection	(1) Please note – close proximity to boundary.

The Clerk to report Parish Council's decision to the relevant authority. All agreed.

11. BUSINESS MATTERS

- (1) **2010-2011 PRECEPT**: The Parish Council looked at the recommended capital projects for 2010/2011; it was recommended that the 2010/2011 Precept be increased from £48,400 to £49,000 (1.2% increase). It was proposed/seconded and

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put to the vote that the Parish Council increase the Precept to £49,000 for 2009/2010; 6 in favour/1 abstention. Majority in favour. Agreed. Clerk to action.

It was proposed to the Parish Council to agree to a salary rise for the new financial year for the parish Handyman from £8.25 p/hr to £8.50 p/hr. Proposed, seconded, all in favour. Clerk to action.

It was agreed to review the Clerk's salary at the PC Meeting in February.

Clerk

Clerk

PC Meeting/Feb

- (2) **Risk Assessment:** It was put to the Parish Council to agree to the amendments within the Parish Council Risk Assessment document. Proposed, seconded, all in favour.

12. REPORTS

- (1) **Recreation Ground Improvements/Skate & Ride Area:** The Skate & Ride area is being well used by all ages. Currently waiting the fitting of the final benches (weather permitting!). It was recommended that the Parish Council, reiterate to users of the facility that adequate safety equipment must be worn at all times. All agreed. Clerk to include within Focus report. It was proposed that Cllr Hawkes visit the Lower School to make a presentation to the children about using the equipment within the park safely. All agreed. Cllr Hawkes to arrange. It was put to the Clerk, to make payments to the build contractors of the skate & ride, up to £60k – until final completion of the skate & ride build (benches/grass restoration). All agreed.

Cllr Hawkes

- (2) **Coffee Tavern:** The stair lift is now fitted and working.

- (3) **Cemetery:** It was suggested that the Clerk look into the acquisition of additional land for the parish burial grounds. All agreed. All Councillors were asked to look through the Cemetery Notes, for discussion as the PC Meeting in February. All agreed.

Clerk

All Councillors;
PC Meeting/Feb

13. PARISH CLERK REPORT

- 1) Dog Hygiene Bins – The Clerk informed the Parish Council that two of the new dog bins are full/overflowing. Central Bedfordshire has been informed of this matter and is awaiting a response. It was recommended that if nothing is sorted within a week, the Clerk take this matter further with the Chief Executive at Central Bedfordshire. All agreed.
- 2) Streetlights – It was recommended that all Councillors check their allotted patch within the parish for any damaged/not working street lights and report back to the Clerk with their details (position/number). All agreed.
- 3) It was recommended that the Clerk contact contractors to find out cost/quote for repair to damaged seating in The Rye. All agreed.
- 4) It was recommended the Clerk look into obtaining quotes for the installation of the village sign. All agreed. The installation specification will be reviewed.
- 5) The Clerk proposed to the Parish Councillors that any Councillors, by the request of the Parish Council, involved in a large project for the council be able to claim back expenses (telephone calls/mileage) for such. It was agreed in principle that the Parish Council need to be aware of additional costs being incurred by individual Councillors when involved in a large project, who must be able to claim expenses when acting on the Parish Councils request. All agreed.
- 6) The proposed letter to Cllr Janes was looked at, Clerk to put together and once agreed fully (Clerk to get advice) to send out (dependant on advice); 6 in favour/1

All Councillors

Clerk

Clerk

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EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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abstention. Majority in favour. Agreed. Clerk to action.

- 7) The Clerk asked for the Parish Council's agreement to purchase a large flask/hot water urn to enable hot drinks for all parish meetings. All agreed. Clerk to action.

Clerk

14. TO RESOLVE TO PAY DECEMBER 2009 ACCOUNTS

It was unanimously agreed to pay the December 2009 accounts.

15. NEXT AGENDA

- Items for the Parish Council Meeting Agenda to be submitted to the Clerk **NO LATER THAN** Tuesday 19th January 2010.

All Councillors;
PC Meeting/Feb

The meeting closed at 10:45pm.

Next meeting/s to be held:

- (1) Monday 1st February 2010, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern
(2) Monday 1st March 2010, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern