



## **Minutes of the Eton Community Association Meeting on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 at the Hop House, The George Inn**

**Attendees:** Ros Rivaz, Leonie Bryant, Katherine Blightman, Michael Blightman, Celia Harvey, John Harvey, Simon Carpenter, Kim Carpenter, Barbara France, Peter Eaton, Bryn Lee, Dawn Lee, Dawn Palmieri, David Palmieri, Shirley Young, Roger Prior, Pauline Martin, Luke Martin, Maggie Waller, Bridget Bartlett, Amanda Snell, Katie Leach, Katherine Rogers, Stewart Rogers, Malcolm Leach, PC Craig Hammond, PC Connor Rose, PCSO Lizzie Davidson, Sylvia Ellis.

**Apologies:** Cllr Devon Davies, Cllr Mark Wilson, Cllr Julian Tisi, Christine Barber, Monaliza Cadwallader, Ben Willcox, Elizabeth McMahon, Hardip Virdee.

### **1 Thames Valley Police Update**

- i. A TVP consultation session preceded this meeting.
- ii. December to January had 7 incidents in Eton and 11 reports in Eton Wick.
- iii. The operation to tackle e-bikes and e-scooters in Eton High Street will be repeated throughout 2025.
- iv. Today (22<sup>nd</sup> Jan), there were hi-visibility patrols in Eton High Street.
- v. Investigation is ongoing into an attack in Dorney. Someone known to the police has been arrested.
- vi. These link to more information:  
<https://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/Alerts/A/206863/Operation-LYCRA> and Matthew Barber PCC - <https://matthewbarber.co.uk>
- vii. QR codes can be scanned at the Eton Information Centre where you can also check for the latest updates.

### **2 Welcome & Apologies**

- i. Welcome new attendees Pauline and Luke Martin. Luke teaches at Eton College.
- ii. Apologies as above. The Councillors have a full council meeting tonight.

### **3 Matters arising**

- i. Links to foodbanks were publicised in the last newsletter.
- ii. There are no public charging points in Eton.  
Action: report on number of charging points in Windsor

Cllr MW

- iii. The meeting to include car parking costs impacts hasn't been held as yet, but an update will be available at the next meeting.
- iv. No further update in getting more compensation for businesses impacted by the gas problems. This is something ECA have no influence over and therefore have asked Cllr MW if he can help.
- v. ECA has invited MP Jack Rankin to a community meeting, but our Wednesday meetings clash with Prime Ministers Question Time. Agree to organise a separate meeting on a Thursday. RR

## 4 Chair's Report

- i. High Street update:
  - Eton Sport extension is closer to being completed, currently closed for business at this point.
  - Premier Stores are closed for work to expand the shopping area out the back part of the building.
  - Cappadocia (previously Eton Mess) needs approval to make changes to the roof.
  - The Rancher is still deciding what market to aim for – may be quality light meals.
  - The George has re-opened having been closed for two weeks for refurbishment.
- ii. Eton College have taken a very responsible approach to the VAT challenge posed by the Government. For example, they are aware that VAT on means tested scholarship boys cannot be afforded by these parents.
- iii. Eton College funds much work from their reserves, not from fees paid by parents.
- iv. Update on Eton College Buildings



Eton College  
Buildings Update 220

- v. The Cockpit is going really well. The roof will soon be finished with scaffolding coming down potentially in March.
- vi. 'Have Your Say' flagged the lack of speed sign repeaters in the High Street. These may be installed.
- vii. The signs for the Thames Path on the post by the bridge are pointing in the wrong direction and can no longer be just moved back. To be rectified.
- viii. Deadline for the 'Name a Brick' is 31<sup>st</sup> March. You can apply using a paper form, e-mail [secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk), e-mail [chair@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:chair@etoncommunity.co.uk) or <https://www.etoncommunity.co.uk/post/buy-an-engraved-brick-in-jubilee-square>. Ron Lewandowski is investigating how to clean the existing bricks.

## 5 Treasurer's Report

- i. Funds in both the main and savings accounts are in good health.
- ii. Financial year runs to end of February with the AGM planned for Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April.

## 6 Eton Porny School

- i. Maggie Waller attended the meeting to give us an update.
- ii. OFSTED have made a return visit, and the school has retained its status of good, with overwhelmingly positive parents.
- iii. Safeguarding audit is due this coming week.
- iv. RBWM have sent a letter congratulating the school on its Foundation year performance, achieving a score of 83% compared to the 68% national average.
- v. 80% have achieved the target phonics level.
- vi. Locally, this is the school of first choice. There are currently a few spaces created by families moving out of the area.
- vii. There is a newsletter on the school website <https://www.etonporny.org.uk/>

## 7 Eton Town Council

- i. Councillor Leach gave an update on recent issues:
- ii. Thames Water intend to demolish the pumping station in Tangier Lane. SE queried whether it was the pumping station itself, or just two sheds containing generators.  
Action: check scope of planning application(s) SJE
- iii. The new town clerk, Anne Pett starts on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. She replaces Bob Austen who retired recently.
- iv. The council offices have hosted their first wedding with other bookings and enquiries coming along. Contact Dawn Lee if you want to book an event - dawn.lee@etontowncouncil.gov.uk
- v. Eton Wick want to re-open their library.
- vi. Eton Town Council have a vacancy for an Eton Councillor. This will be published in the Shout Out newsletter  
Action: ask Emma Jessop to put a link in Shout Out ML

## 8 Local Resident's Update

- i. Two new residents to Eton, Pauline and Luke Martin suggest that we all clean our property exteriors, including drainpipes and sweeping outside our frontage on a regular basis. This "Property Pride" approach will be published in Shout Out and is supported by this ECA meeting attendees.
- ii. Simon Carpenter shared information about the Eton Arts Week, which is taking place on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May through to Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> June. This will raise funds for the Eton Information Centre (EIC), increase footfall and raise Eton's profile. This needs volunteers to introduce the artists to Eton. MW suggests that SC talks to Eton Porny School.  
Action: e-mail MW with activities for children SC
- iii. A local resident whose property backs onto Cappadocia has concerns that the proposed roof changes could impact the residents of King Stable Street. RR reports that there was

a meeting but KB says that she couldn't attend. RR will ask Cappadocia to contact KB and MB. The proposed changes will have a pre-application.

## 9 Eton Information Centre

- i. The ball on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March will help raise funds for the EIC. Book through RR or BL, preferably book a full table of 12, but there may be a few spaces on existing tables. This event includes a (legal) casino and an auction.
- ii. The EIC is being refurbished to make more space. This should be finished next week.
- iii. The Dick Whittington Cat Christmas competition was a great success, the winners have been announced and they enjoyed free tickets to see the pantomime.
- iv. The EIC already has three walking tours booked. Pop into the EIC if you wish to join a future tour.
- iv. You can hand in the TVP forms which outline what your concerns are in the neighbourhood to the EIC, and the police will collect them next week.

## 10 Events

- i. Curry Evening - Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> January which still has a few spaces. If interested, please e-mail [secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk)
- ii. Early Spring Litter Pick – Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Meet at 10:30 am outside the Council offices. Eaten Café to provide brunch to all participants after the pick.
- iii. Pub Walk - April for the next pub walk. Information to come later.

## 11 Business Update

- i. Oxana, the owner from Tastes was unable to attend this evening and sends her apologies.  
A week ago, the flat above the shop had a burst water pipe which flooded the shop. Oxana was appreciative of the local help and support helping to clear up.

## 12 AOB

- i. The Eton Bride Shop at 21 High Street are putting in a planning application to provide more residential accommodation. A local resident was concerned that existing residents already have difficulty in finding somewhere to park. BW says that ground floor residential applications are unlikely to be approved because of flood concerns. 109 High Street and the old bank have both had permission to add or increase residential space on the ground floor.

Action: Discussion to be had at the next ECA meeting

CIlr Wilson/ML

- ii. Discussion around the number of available parking slots, the number of permits and the different groups of people who want or need to park. Spare parking mostly belongs to Eton College who charge to allow block parking and who don't want to manage individual requests.

Action: raise with Cllr Wilson

RR

Action: talk to Chris Reeve (College) to give him context and background

RR

- iii. Now that residential parking no longer uses badges, the whole set of different systems are not working efficiently. You have to phone to park, and this does not always seem to be recorded.
- iv. The next community meeting is Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March at 18.30 at The Hop House.

Please e-mail AOB for next meeting to [secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk](mailto:secretary@etoncommunity.co.uk).