

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2020, 7:30PM, REMOTE/ZOOM ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE

Parish Councillors: Cllr Marie Brewer (Chairperson), Cllr Mark Tomkins (Vice-Chairperson), Cllr Helen Chubb, Cllr Joan Conner, Cllr Kathy Ellison, Cllr James Melzack, Cllr Adam Richardson, Cllr Mike Simkins

Public: 1x resident

Others: Parish Clerk, Cllr Philip Spicer (CBC)

The Chairperson presented the rule regarding remote/Zoom attendance.

(1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Cllr Gavyn Lugsden.

(2) SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No declarations of interest were made at this point in the meeting.

(3) PUBLIC OPEN FORUM:

No matters were brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

(4) SIGNING OF MINUTES: Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7 December 2020

It was proposed to unanimously accept the minutes. All agreed. The Chairperson will sign the minutes when Covid-19 restrictions allow.

(5) MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES: 7 December 2020

(5.1) EB Academy – Litter Pick Equipment (05/10/2020): quotations for pickers/gloves have been received, awaiting final quotation for Hi-Viz vests.

(5.2) Other matters arising to be discussed within the current meeting agenda.

(6) REPRESENTATIVES:

(6.1) CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL [CBC]:

Cllr Phillip Spicer addressed the Parish Council.

(6.1.1) December report submitted by Cllr Philip Spicer.

(1) The Rye/Annex: The separate annex is not listed as a separate building, i.e., council tax purposes, and CBC/Cllr Spicer are looking into this. The caravan does not have planning permission, however under current Government guidelines (Covid-19) CBC are not able to move anyone residing there and potentially make homeless.

(2) The Rye/Annex entrance: The entrance has been widened without planning permission, Cllr Spicer to investigate.

(3) Fix My Street: Now up and running, Cllr Tomkins to put all links (supplied within Cllr Spicer's report) on the Parish Council website and the Clerk to put details on Facebook. All agreed.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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

(4) Covid-19 Vaccinations: Sites are now opening within Bedfordshire. People are to wait till contacted by their surgery with the allocated date/location.

(5) Greenways: Due to bad weather CBC have been unable to complete works to tidy verges but is on their works plan to do so. With regards to a solution to the parking problems in this location, Cllr Spicer is still looking into this matter and trying to locate the original plans put forward by CBC.

(6) Fly-Tipping: CBC has been collecting dumped rubbish and bags of collected rubbish from areas when reported. The Parish Council is grateful for the quick response. However, the builder/rubble bags have still not been removed from Three Corners, this was reported to CBC on 18 December 2020. The Clerk has chased CBC today (11 January 2021) regarding the removal of these bags.

(6.2) BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE: No police were in attendance.

(6.2.1) Police Priority Setting Meeting: It was proposed that Cllr Kathy Ellison be the Parish Council representative at the Police Priority Setting Meetings. All agreed.

(7) PLANNING REPORT:

(7.1) No matters raised.

(7.2) Planning Applications/Appeals received:

(7.2.1) CB/20/04428, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane, LU6 1QX - Demolition of outbuildings and the erection of two new detached dwellings: Parish Council comment – all agreed.

- *Parish Council comment: Whilst we accept that replacing the old buildings with new low-level houses will improve the site, we are concerned that this would be the start of a larger development. This is a heritage site within the green belt and in an AONB and whilst the Parish Council support this application subject to normal planning conditions, we would wish for reassurance that this development is not the start of a larger development. Any further development on this site would not be in line with our Neighbourhood Plan which does not support building in the Green Belt.*

(8) BUSINESS MATTERS:

(8.1) MILL END CLOSE:

(8.1.1) Waterside: The Parish Clerk received an email from the Internal Drainage Board [IDB] informing her that they ([IDB]) will get back with some new dates to meet.

(8.2) VILLAGE YOUTH PROJECT:

Cllr Chubb is speaking with Simon Bailey, CBC Youth Engagement Office to understand more fully the processes needed to be put in place to set up a Youth Project Group. Cllr Chubb and Cllr Ellison to look into this further. All agreed.

(8.3) VILLAGE SECURITY:

(8.3.1) Streetwatch: Due to current lockdown, matter is on hold.

(8.3.2) CCTV: It was proposed to put this matter on hold. All agreed.

(8.4) VILLAGE RECREATION GROUNDS:

(8.4.1) School Lane: Cllr Brewer is in talks with play equipment providers, however due to lockdown guidelines will be unable to meet up with contractors on location till a later date.

(8.4.2) Skateboard Park:

(1) Footpath – new path/repairs: We looked into this as the matter was raised during the recent Raspas inspection. The Parish Council need to look at work being carried out to

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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

ensure that drainage is improved in this location, otherwise the current issues will continue. Because of the amounts involved, the Parish Council are required to go out and request three quotations for carrying out the work. All agreed.

(2) Metal Benches: The benches at the skatepark require replacement. It was proposed the Parish Council look at installing two new metal benches, in bright colours. All agreed.

(8.4.3) The Rye Ground: Outdoor Gym Equipment: Parish Councillors were reminded that CBC will be instrumental in the decision making, due to approving the release of the S106 money. Parish Council preference (i) Jupiter Equipment – proposed, seconded, all agreed. Cllr Brewer to enquire about the maintenance costs with the suppliers. All agreed.

(8.5) HIGHWAYS MATTERS:

(8.5.1) Speedwatch: Due to lockdown guidelines – no Speedwatch. Hopefully to start back up in March 2021.

(8.5.2) Zebra Crossing: Looking at how the two villages work together (Eaton Bray/Totternhoe) and how best to move forward. Parish Councillors from Eaton Bray have met with members of Totternhoe Parish Council are awaiting further information from them.

(8.5.3) Pavements – cleaning/maintenance: Due to Covid-19 some works have been put back. Cllr Spicer will look into this. Matter ongoing.

(8.5.4) Storm Drains: CBC recently carried out some storm drain cleaning, working through the parish (High Street), however some areas have still not been cleaned. Cllr Spicer reminded Parish Councillors/residents that if they see a blocked storm drain, to report this on Fix My Street.

(8.6) FLIGHT PATHS:

Consultation being carried out by London Luton Airport, details forwarded to Parish Councillors for information. It was proposed that Cllr Simkins to investigate this in more details and report back to the Parish Council. All agreed.

(8.7) PARISH TREES:

(8.7.1) St Mary's Churchyard trees: It was proposed that the works to the trees be split into two works, (a) dead wood removal (b) crown reduction, removal of dying tree - the Parish Council to put in a planning application for the proposed works. All agreed.

(8.7.2) Tree planting/CBC: CBC are looking at parishes taking up at least five trees, if the Parish Council do not apply for the initiative this time there will be another initiative later in the year. CBC recommend engaging with residents for suitable locations, however the Parish Council would need to ensure that the locations would not cause a major problem in future years. Would CBC look at dedicating some land, owned by them in the area, and turning it into a wood? Cllr Spicer to look into the CBC land bank for this area. All agreed. The Parish Council does have a strip of land in the area, Bower Lane, however it is a narrow strip and with poor parking. It was proposed that Cllr Melzack and Cllr Richardson walk around the parish to look at potential locations, observing social distancing guidelines. All agreed.

(8.8) VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS/EVENTS:

(8.8.1) Sleepers: Cllr Simkins looked into the costs regarding sleepers made from recycled plastic. Clerk to go back to contractor and ask for a more detailed breakdown of costs for the new planter, i.e., sleeper size/materials/number of sleepers. All agreed.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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

(8.8.2) Hanging Baskets: Cost for each basket £30. It was recommended the Clerk purchase one basket, Cllr Simkins to put it in a suitable location and for other Councillors to have a look at the style/quality. All agreed.

(8.9) TENDERS/QUOTATIONS:

(8.9.1) See minutes page 1858, item (5) (5.1).

(9) REPORTS:

(9.1) PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON: No matters to report.

(9.2) PARISH CLERK: No matters to report.

(9.3) PARISH AMENITIES/VENUES:

(9.3.1) Cottage: The heating has now been sorted.

(9.3.2) The Coffee Tavern: Cllr Conner has had to do a daily check of the building (heating) during the cold weather, in case pipes freeze. It was proposed that the trust put in a new timer for the boiler, Cllr Conner to look into. All agreed.

(9.3.3) The Village Hall: No matters to report. Cllr Richardson did contact the Village Hall Committee regarding meetings etc., awaiting reply. Clerk to forward village hall contact details to Cllr Richardson. All agreed.

(9.4) PARISH BURIAL GROUNDS:

(9.4.1) Bower Lane Cemetery: The Clerk has been going through the 2020-2021 burial records and has sent out reminders for outstanding payments.

(9.4.2) Parish Allotments:

(1) Holman's Field: The Clerk sent a letter to the allotment holders in this location asking them to ensure their plots are cared for, as set out in the allotment tenancy. The holders have come back and confirmed that these plots will be fully cultivated by the required time.

(2) Allotment Renewals: The Clerk has sent out final payment reminders for outstanding allotment payments (deadline, 1 February). After that available plots will be released to those on the waiting list.

(10) MONTHLY ACCOUNTS:

(10.1) BUDGET 2021-2022:

The recommended budget was put to the Parish Council (to include spend on new play equipment). Proposed, seconded, all agreed.

(10.2) PRECEPT 2021-2022:

It was recommended that the Precept not be changed and remain the same as 2020-2021. Proposed, seconded, all agreed.

(10.3) S106 FUNDING: see minutes page 1860, item (8) (8.4.3) (1).

(10.4) CLERK – OUTSTANDING HOLIDAY:

The Clerk has not taken all her holiday allowance for 2020, therefore it was proposed to formally accept the outstanding holiday entitlement as payment (19 days). Proposed, seconded, all agreed.

(10.5) TO RESOLVE TO PAY DECEMBER 2020 ACCOUNTS: Proposed, seconded, all agreed.

A copy of the Parish Council monthly accounts can be obtained by applying to the Parish Clerk.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

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

(11) ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

(11.1) Next Meeting: It was recommended that the next meeting for Eaton Bray Parish Council be on Monday 8 February 2021. All agreed.

(11.2) Agenda items: (i) Youth Project (ii) Parish Calendar (iii) Water generator/hydro power.

(12) Meeting closed at 21:31hrs.