

# Eton Town Council

## Minutes of the Unofficial Council Meeting

Held via a Zoom Conference Call

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs R. Lewandowski (Mayor), D. Bishop, M. Blightman, G. Fussey, D. Hill, P. Lawless, J. Lovell, Y. Olney, D. Reed, K. Robertson & L. Tarbox

**In Attendance:** Mr R. Austen (Town Clerk), Mr M. Reynolds (Accountant), Dr R. Rivaz (ECA) & , Ms C. Taylor (EWVA/EWWG)

**Apologies:** Cllrs S. Evans & M. Leach, Cllrs J. Bowden & S. Rayner (RBWM), Sgt E. Pendry (TVP)

The Mayor opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present and the apologies were recorded. It was noted that this meeting of the Council cannot be considered official because members of the press and public had not been included, however the business and minutes of the meeting will be ratified at the next official Council meeting.

The Mayor expressed his gratitude to all those that have been involved in dealing so effectively with the challenges facing the two communities with the Coronavirus epidemic. Particular mention was made of the shops in Eton Wick and Eton that have been so supportive and the two community organisations ECA and EWVA that have worked tirelessly to ensure that the needs of vulnerable residents in both communities were being attended to. It had been a heart-warming and humbling experience.

### **CM 5374 Motion to Recognise the Community Response to the Coronavirus Epidemic**

Cllr Fussey raised the following motion. That this Council:

- 1) Values its collaboration with ECA and EWVA in organising volunteer support networks for local residents who are having to isolate themselves in our two communities
- 2) Thanks local stores and pharmacies for the excellent service they continue to provide at these challenging times.

The motion was seconded by the Mayor and was enthusiastically agreed by all Members.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk will write a letter to the shops expressing the gratitude of the Council and the two community associations for their valuable support. The letter to include the motion from Cllr Fussey.

**Action: Town Clerk**

### **CM 5375 Finance**

1. The Town Clerk presented the March monthly schedule to the Meeting and pointed out two large payments that had been made, one for £2,146 plus VAT to HAGS-SMP for essential work to the play area at South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground (previously agreed) and one for £1,965 plus VAT to Excellent Plants for accumulative month's invoices for Eton Greenery and Barnes Pool maintenance. It was pointed out that a proportion of the Excellent Plants payment will be reclaimed from Eton College and Baldwins Bridge Trust in due course.

Mr Reynolds requested that future invoices from Excellent Plants Lts be sent more frequently.

**Action: Town Clerk**

2. Mr Reynolds presented the March YTD accounts to the Meeting which will be the final accounts for the 2019/20 fiscal unless any new invoices are received to be included in 2019/20. The accounts show a YTD deficit of £1,979 which is attributable to non-budgeted expenditure on election costs, ECA grant from the previous year and increased salary costs as a result of increasing the Town Clerk's hours of work. Positive variances from reduced dog waste expenditure, projects and income sources reduced the overall deficit.

The accounts were approved unanimously.

### **CM 5376 RBWM Councillors' Issues**

Cllr Rayner had telephoned the Mayor with the following points:

1. Normal bin collection service will commence after 3 months.
2. The homeless in Windsor and Eton had been housed in hostels and hotels.
3. RBWM is undertaking a recovery programme following the Coronavirus epidemic which will include support for local traders.

Cllr Bowden had emailed the Mayor with nothing to report.

### **CM 5377 Thames Valley Police (TVP) Liason**

The report from Sgt Pendry had been circulated ahead of the Meeting and there were no questions.

### **CM 5378 Eton Community Association (ECA) & Eton Wick Village Association (EWVA & EWWG)**

#### **ECA**

Dr Rivaz made the following points:

1. ECA had worked closely with Cllr Fussey on the Eton response to the Coronavirus epidemic and 170 volunteers had been gathered to support the community.
2. The gasworks in the High Street were now on hold, however it had been possible to finish the works as far as the junction with Tangier Lane.
3. The Eton Action List was progressing well with Cllr Fussey.
4. Contact had been made with TVP to protect empty premises in Eton.
5. The ECA AGM was on hold.

The Mayor thanked Dr Rivaz for her report.

#### **EWVA & EWWG**

Cllr Robertson made the following points:

1. 65 volunteers had been gathered in Eton Wick to deliver food and goods from the local shops to vulnerable residents.
2. Regular telephone contact is being organised with the lonely and isolated.
3. A grant of £500 from RBWM had been received to support community response activities in Eton Wick and Eton. This application had been made on behalf of ETC.

Ms Taylor advised that she was researching future works required to the waterways and was investigating potential sources of funding. Contact with stakeholders was being maintained.

The Mayor thanked Cllr Robertson and Ms Taylor for their reports.

### **CM 5379 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Town Council**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March had been circulated and with no alterations requested at the Meeting, were approved. The minutes will be signed at the next official Council meeting.

## CM 5380 Matters Arising from the Minutes

### Town Clerk Actions:

- **CM 5351 Any Other Business**
  - 1) Write to Ms Karen Waller of Eton Wick School regarding use of school for an ETC meeting in 2020/21. **Actioned**
  - 2) Circulate to members the A4 poster announcing plans for emergency transport for Eton Wick residents via Windsor Voluntary Drivers. **Actioned**
- **CM 5361 Standing Committee**
  - 1) Notices advising public speaking times at ETC meetings of 3 minutes maximum would be placed on seats at future meetings. **Pending**
  - 2) Photographs & emails of Members would be posted on the ETC website and publicised through the two community magazines. **Actioned**
  - 3) Cllrs Bishop, Blightman & Hill to be added to the List of Councillors' Responsibilities for Eton Poors Estate. **Actioned**
- **CM 5366 Development Control**
  - 1) Application 20/00456 37 Bell Lane, Eton Wick. Advise RBWM Planning of ETC concern with overlooking from second floor over adjoining properties. **Actioned**
- **CM 5371 Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces Reports**
  - 1) South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground: Write to David Warner of Eton College (now Michael Long) regarding state of football pitches. **Actioned**  
Attend to falling branch. **Pending**
- **CM 5372 Any Other Business**
  - 1) Extend new invitation to Paul Bayley of Eton College to attend next ETC meeting to discuss disruption caused by beginning and end of term parking. **Actioned – Mr Bayley Not Available**
  - 2) Make enquiries of a new tree survey. **Pending**

### Members' Actions:

#### Cllrs Lawless & Tarbox

- **CM 5344 Action List**
  - 1) Meet to discuss progress on Haywards Mead Play Area. **Pending**

#### RBWM Members' Actions

#### Cllr Bowden:

- **CM 5337 RBWM Councillors' Issues**
  - 1) Check whether CIL is due on Eton College Sports Centre. **Pending**

#### Cllr Rayner

- **CM 5312 Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces**
  - 1) Progress proposed woodland area at Bell Farm with Ms Taylor of EWVA. **Pending**

Cllr Lawless advised the non-collection of dog waste at Bin 11 at Stckdales Recreation Ground and Cllr Lovell advised that Bin 8 at Haywards Mead needed replacing. The Town Clerk will follow up. **Action: Town Clerk**

## CM 5381 Standing Committee

The Mayor reported that the Standing Committee had not met.

## CM 5382 Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that in response to the Coronavirus epidemic he had initiated the organisation of the volunteer structure for both communities and had invited all interested parties to the first meeting (on 15<sup>th</sup> April), only to find that he and several councillors plus the Town Clerk had had to step back on the grounds of age (over 70). The co-ordination then devolved to the Deputy Mayor and the two community groups ECA and EWVA.

## CM 5383 Action List

### Issue                      Action / Status

<p><b>Cycling Problems in Eton High Street</b></p>	<p>Cllr Fussey is leading this project</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 3.10.19 it was reported that regular cycle watches by TVP are taking place.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 6.2.20 it was reported that a cycle watch had taken place that week. Town Clerk to write to TVP requesting notification of future cycle watches so that Members could assist. A positive response had been received, with dates.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 5.3.20 it was reported that the gasworks in the High Street had delayed the cycle watch programme.</p>
<p><b>Haywards Mead Play Area</b></p>	<p>Cllr Tarbox is leading this project.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 5.3.20 Cllrs Tarbox and Lawless advised that they would be meeting soon to discuss progress.</p>
<p><b>South Meadow Lane Pavilion, Eton</b></p>	<p>Cllr Reed is leading this project.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 5.3.20 Cllr Reed advised through a written report that he had not received a response from RBWM regarding the £5K grant towards drawings already approved, or to wait for notice of whether the ETC capital bid for £100K has been successful as it is understood that ETC cannot have both payments. The Town Clerk had progressed this with Cllrs Bowden and Rayner and is awaiting a response. Cllr Reed also advised that he would submit further applications to third party funds for grant applications in March.</p> <p>A meeting with the Chairman of Windsor FC with the Mayor and Town Clerk had taken place on 5.2.20 and opportunities were discussed. The Club will come back with their proposals in due course.</p> <p>A meeting with the Chairman of Windsor Youth FC with the Mayor and Town Clerk took place on 21.2.20 and the Club will come back with their proposals in due course.</p>
<p><b>Eton &amp; Eton Wick Footpaths</b></p>	<p>Cllr Olney is leading this project.</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to monitor the condition of the footpaths and report any problems to the Town Clerk.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 5.3.20 Cllr Olney reported that she had met with Anthony Hurst of RBWM and had an interesting discussion. Plans are being made for a residents' ramble of lesser known footpaths.</p> <p>Cllr Olney is working closely with Ms Taylor of EWVA and Ms Taylor has walked all the footpaths.</p>

<b>Plans for Bio-Diversity &amp; Climate Change Emergency</b>	<p>Cllr Fussey is leading this project.</p> <p>The 2020/21 budget includes £4,200 for sustainability projects in Eton &amp; Eton Wick. Plans to be formulated.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 6.2.20 Ms Taylor reported on the formation of Wild Eton and Eton Wick group which will encompass biodiversity issues across the two communities. A ‘wish list’ had already been published and circulated to Members and this will work in harmony with the Neighbourhood Plan. Other ‘Wild’ groups had been established in neighbouring parishes, forming a chain of groups within RBWM and following their policy of Climate Change Emergency initiatives.</p> <p>The Mayor confirmed the commitment of ETC to Wild Eton and Eton Wick and to be part of the ongoing process with Cllr Fussey as the lead member. EWWG Stakeholder Meetings had been well supported with both ETC and RBWM Members in attendance. Eton College boys are very enthusiastic and need to be involved in the group. The Mayor concluded that biodiversity is just one aspect of climate change and the objective of attaining carbon neutrality across the Borough has the full support of ETC.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 5.3.20 Cllr Fussey reported that he had attended 3 meetings of the RBWM Climate Change Emergency group with two College boys and was due to attend the next one on 25.3.20. It is hoped that this next meeting will produce some actions.</p> <p>Ms Taylor reported on the formation of River Rangers who will report bi-annually and meet monthly to survey the areas and get a better picture of what is needed to go into the Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>Earth Watch will involve schoolchildren in examining the biodiversity of the River Thames and its tributaries to help determine the health of the watercourses.</p> <p>Ms Taylor had walked the watercourses with the Fisheries Officer and Biodiversity Officer at RBWM and will come back with plans for review by ETC and Eton College.</p> <p>Cllr Fussey wished to involve College boys in this activity and they are available on Saturday afternoons.</p> <p>Cllr Fussey outlined College plans for an orchard alongside Eton Wick Road which will happen in Tree Week in November.</p>
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**It was confirmed that owing to the current situation with the Coronavirus epidemic there will be no progress on the Action List.**

### **CM 5384 Correspondence**

Members had received the following correspondence during March 2020:

1	Email Residents' Newsletter from RBWM dated 26.2.20	Emailed to Members 26.2.20
2	Email News Release from RBWM dated 28.2.20 regarding RBWM in top LA's for adult social care	Emailed to Members 2.3.20
3	Email CEO Bulletin from NALC dated 28.2.20	Emailed to Members 2.3.20
4	Email Press Release from Maddie Pinkham of RBWM dated 28.2.20 regarding Statement in Court	Emailed to Members 2.3.20
5	Email from Fields In Trust dated 28.2.20 regarding Guide for Community	Emailed to Members 2.3.20
6	Email from Shilpa Manek of RBWM dated 2.3.20 regarding Parish Conference 3.3.20	Emailed to Members 2.3.20
7	Email from Fire & Rescue Service dated 2.3.20 regarding Risk Management Plan	Emailed to Members 2.3.20

8	Email from Calor Gas dated 10.3.20 regarding Rural Community Fund	Emailed to Members 10.3.20
9	Email Action for All Bulletin from CCB dated 10.3.20	Emailed to Members 11.3.20
10	Email Press Release from Joe Difford of RBWM dated 12.3.20 regarding Free Scam Blockers Available	Emailed to Members 12.3.20
11	Email from Amy Taylor of HALC/BALC dated 13.3.20 regarding Coronavirus	Emailed to members 13.3.20
12	Email CEO Bulletin from NALC dated 13.3.20	Emailed to Members 13.3.20
13	Email from Keep Britain Tidy dated 13.3.20 regarding Coronavirus	Emailed to Members 13.3.20
14	Email from Paul Roach of RBWM dated 13.3.20 regarding Economic Impact of Coronavirus	Emailed to Members 13.3.20
15	Email from Callum McGregor of CPRE dated 14.3.20 regarding Campaign Update	Emailed to Members 14.3.20
16	Email from Suzanne Martin of RBWM dated 15.3.20 regarding Cancellation of Police Commissioners' Election on 7.5.20	Emailed to Members 15.3.20

From w/c 16.3.20 there has been numerous emails, bulletins and newsletters from various sources regarding Coronavirus, all of which have been circulated to Members in a timely fashion. Additional correspondence:

17	Email from Keep Britain Tidy dated 17.3.20 regarding Spring Clean postponed to September	Emailed to Members 17.3.20
18	Email from Sandra Mc Cann of Windsor Youth FC dated 18.3.20 regarding matches and training suspension on SML	Emailed to Members 18.3.20
19	Email from Matthew Barber dated 18.3.20 regarding Police and Crime Bulletin	Emailed to Members 18.3.20
20	Email from Paul Roach of RBWM dated 18.3.20 regarding Royal Collection Trust Closure	Emailed to Members 18.3.20
21	Email Newsletter from CCB dated 18.3.20	Emailed to Members 18.3.20
22	Email Planning Appeal Notification 20/60024 dated 19.3.20 regarding Bellsfield Court	Emailed to Members 19.3.20

### **CM 5385 Website**

The March 2020 report from Cllr Blightman had been circulated and there were no questions.

### **CM 5386 Development Control – Town Council Consultation**

The following applications had been received from the Royal Borough in March 2020

#### **Application 20/00583 Cllr Fussey declared an interest**

Type: Listed Building Consent

Proposal: LBC for the replacement of existing tower access ladders and fall restraint protection

Location: The Cloisters, Eton College, Eton

Applicant: Provost & Fellows of Eton College

Decision Date: 16.4.20 **No Objection**

#### **Application 20/00625**

Type: Variation Under Reg 73

Proposal: Variation of planning permission 19/01548/FULL to vary the wording of Condition 6

Location: 49 Victoria Road and Shepherds Hut, Eton Wick

Applicant: Mr Tejpal Chatha

Decision Date: 28.4.20 **No Objection**

## Planning Appeal

Appeal By: Cornerstone & Telefonica UK Ltd

Site Address: Intersystems House, 70 Tangier Lane, Eton

Proposal: Installation of 2 x GRP chimneys housing 6 x antennas and ancillary works thereto

Comments to RBWM to be received by 15.4.20

## CM 5387 Planning Decisions & Information

The following planning decision notifications were received from the Royal Borough in March 2020:

### Application Number: 19/02988

Application Date: 29.10.19

Location: Provost Lodge, Eton College, Eton

Type: LBC

Proposal: PBC for replacement staircase

Decision: Consent Granted

### Application Number: 20/00414

Application Date: 19.2.20

Location: 43 Tilehurst Close, Eton Wick

Type: Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Development

Proposal: To determine whether proposed extension is lawful

Decision: Planning Permission is Required

### Application Number: 20/00120

Application Date: 17.1.20

Location: 67 High Street, Eton

Type: Listed Building Consent

Proposal: LBC to display a non-illuminated sign

Decision: Consent Granted

### Application Number: 20/00154

Application Date: 22.1.20

Location: Eton Antique Bookshop, 88 High Street, Eton

Type: Listed Building Consent

Proposal: LBC for new advertisement

Decision: Consent Granted

### Application Number: 20/00153

Application Date: 23.1.20

Location: Eton Antique Bookshop, 88 High Street, Eton

Type: Advertisement

Proposal: Consent to display advertisement

Decision: Consent Granted

**Application Number: 20/00162**

Application Date: 28.1.20

Location: Bellsfield Court, Bell Lane, Eton Wick

Type: Full

Proposal: Installation of 6 x Antennas and other installations

Decision: Permission Refused

**CM 5388 Other Organisations**

The following reports were received from the nominated members:

- 1) **Baldwins Bridge Trust:** Meeting held on 10.3.20, decision was taken to waive rents on commercial premise whilst the Coronavirus epidemic was forcing them to close. This to be reviewed monthly.
- 2) **Eton Wick Football & Social Club:** Nothing to report.
- 3) **Eton Poores Estate:** Meeting on 16.3.20 was cancelled.
- 4) **Heathrow Airport Expansion:** The airport was now operating from 1 runway.

**CM 5389 Recreation Ground & Open Spaces Reports**

- 1) **Bell Lane Open Area:** Nothing to report
- 2) **Stockdales Recreation Ground:** Nothing to report
- 3) **Haywards Mead Recreation Ground:** Nothing to report
- 4) **South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground:** Nothing to report
- 5) **Jubilee Square, Watermans Arms & Memorial Garden:** Nothing to report
- 6) **Barnes Pool:** Nothing to report
- 7) **Riparian Works:** Nothing to report

**CM 5390 Any Other Business**

- Members agreed that the date of the May ETC meeting be changed from 14<sup>th</sup> May to 7<sup>th</sup> May because the Police Commissioner's Election was no longer taking place on 7<sup>th</sup> May.
- Cllr Fussey wished to record ETC appreciation to Dr Rivaz, Ms L.Bryant & Mr P. Highy for their sterling efforts for the Eton community during the current Coronavirus epidemic.
- The Mayor wished to record ETC appreciation to Ms C. Taylor & Cllr Robertson for their hard work for the Eton Wick community during the current Coronavirus epidemic.

The Mayor concluded the Meeting with a request for Members to reflect on the loss of life in the Coronavirus epidemic and to be grateful for the volunteer support from within the two communities.

**CM 5391 Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm in the current virtual format. Information on whether this will include the Annual Meeting will be advised in due course.

**The Meeting concluded at 7.50pm**