

Held at Eton Wick Village Hall

Friday 14th July 2021 at 7.00pm

Present:	Cllrs J. Lovell (Mayor), M. Alexander, D. Bishop, S. Evans, M. Hayes-Powell, D. Hill, P. Lawless, M. Leach (Deputy Mayor), Y. Olney, K. Robertson, J. Stanforth & L. Tarbox
In Attendance:	Mr R. Austen (Town Clerk), Mr M. Reynolds (Accountant), Cllr S. Rayner (RBWM), Mc C. Taylor & Mr A. Pearn-Rowe (EWVA) & Ms L. Regazzacci (EWWA)
Apologies:	Cllr M. Blightman, Cllrs. J. Bowden & S. Shelim (RBWM), Dr R. Rivaz & Ms L. Bryant (ECA), Mr D. Treder & TVP

CM 5655 Welcome

The Mayor opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present and made a special welcome to the new councillor for the Eton ward, James Stanforth. The Covid-19 precautions in place in the Hall were outlined.

CM 5656 Apologies

The apologies noted above were recorded.

CM 5657 Finance

1. The Town Clerk presented the May & June monthly schedules of payments to the Meeting and it was proposed by Cllr Olney and seconded by Cllr Hill that the schedules be approved, and this was agreed unanimously.
2. Mr Reynolds presented the May & June accounts to the Meeting. Both months were uneventful and there were credit balances against most categories with the result that there is a £2K under-budget for the quarter.

Cllr Leach questioned what savings were made whilst the office was closed. It was explained that such savings were mostly made in the 2019/20 accounts.

It was proposed by Cllr Bishop and seconded by Cllr Robertson that the accounts be approved, and this was agreed unanimously.

3. Expenditure of £750.00 plus VAT with Maydencroft Ltd for weed clearance on the Boveney, which was approved by the Standing Committee on 16.6.21, was agreed unanimously. This expenditure will come from the Riparian Ownership budget.
4. Expenditure of £930.00 plus VAT with Greentouch Ltd for remedial work on Haywards Mead football pitches, which was approved by the Standing Committee on 16.6.21, was agreed unanimously.
5. Expenditure of £450.00 plus VAT with Turtle Engineering Ltd for a 5-year defibrillator service contract on both ETC units, which was approved by the Standing Committee on 16.6.21, was agreed unanimously. Cllr Lawless would continue to monitor the Eton Wick unit weekly.
6. Expenditure of £650.00 plus VAT with Greentouch Ltd for removal of stones and debris from Bell Lane Open Area following desilting operations on Common Brook, was agreed unanimously. This expenditure will come from the Riparian Ownership budget.

7. The Mayor requested approval for expenditure of £550.00 exc. VAT for work necessary to the mayoral chain, and this was agreed unanimously.

CM 5658 Public Forum

The Town Clerk reported that he had received no requests to address the Meeting.

CM 5659 RBWM Councillors' Issues

Cllr Rayner reported on the following:

- **Library Consultation:** Over 1,000 responses were received. Savings had been made by cancelling the mobile library service and by contributions from parish councils and community groups. Pop-Up libraries will be introduced in some areas, financed by parishes, and volunteers will deliver books to needy households instead of the mobile library. In response to a question from Cllr Evans, Cllr Rayner advised that only 4 clients were using the mobile library in Eton.
- **RBWM Remote Meetings:** It had been decided that face to face meetings would be necessary for decision-making, however remote meetings (and a combination of the two) have been agreed for other meetings.
- **EWVG:** Cllr Rayner has been working with EWVG, Eton College, Thames Water and Maydencroft Ltd to solve the recent flooding problems in Eton Wick and Eton. Water levels were now reducing.
- **Cycling & Walking Consultation:** RBWM was looking at ways to support these activities.

Cllr Leach requested that the issue of obeying traffic regulations be highlighted (notably in the case of Eton High Street) and this was agreed by Cllr Rayner.

Cllr Hayes-Powell advised that she was working with Dr Rivaz of ECA and RBWM to introduce signs on the Bridge.

Cllr Olney had attended the Cycling & Walking Group meeting and had explained our problem to them. There is funding for specific projects and it is important that ETC responds to the Consultation.

- **Finance:** In response to a question from Cllr Alexander regarding RBWM underspends of £4.4m in 2019/20 and £2.2m in 2020/21 to date, Cllr Rayner advised that the Borough had been required to make these savings and she had saved £300K from the Libraries budget with no redundancies involved.
- **Wild Eton Wick:** Cllr Rayner was working with Ms Taylor with regard to planters and pilot projects on planting wild flowers in Eton Wick.
- **Waste Collection:** There had been very few complaints in the past months and recycling was improving all the time.
- **Cockpit:** This building is up for sale and RBWM is awaiting news of the purchaser. Land charges are being imposed to ensure that the new owner takes full responsibility for maintaining the building.

Cllr Alexander asked what had happened to the stocks? Cllr Rayner agreed to investigate.

Action: Cllr Rayner

- Platinum Jubilee: Eton was planning a street party and Eton Wick a family fun day, culminating with the lighting of the beacon. Ms Taylor was involved with the Queen's Tree Planting campaign.
- Crown Farm: There was no updates from Planning.

Cllr Leach asked who is responsible for cutting the grass verge between the fence and the road?
Cllr Rayner will investigate. **Action: Cllr Rayner**

Cllr Lawless read out a letter from Victoria Goldberg of RBWM Planning who indicated that there was nothing that could be done at the current time. It was suggested that Victoria be invited to attend an ETC meeting, however the Town Clerk advised that he was already seeking a meeting of RBWM councillors and planning officers and Crown Farm would be included on this agenda.

- Tivoli: RBWM was monitoring their progress as they had been under-performing.
- Covid-19: There was a need to encourage young people to get vaccinated and a Grab a Job campaign was in progress.
- The Mayor enquired that now that Planning is back 'in house', will there be greater influence from ETC on planning issues? Cllr Lawless pointed out that ETC is a consultee in all planning applications and can only make suggestions on distinct planning grounds. Cllr Alexander highlighted the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan when commenting on planning applications.

The Mayor thanked Cllr Rayner for her report.

CM 5660 Thames Valley Police Liaison

The report from TVP had been circulated to Members ahead of the Meeting and there were no questions.

CM 5661 ECA & EWVA/EWWG Liaison.

- **ECA**

The report from ECA had been circulated to Members ahead of the Meeting and there were no questions.

- **EWVA/EWWG**

The reports from EWVA and EWWG had been circulated to Members ahead of the Meeting. Members congratulated Ms Regazzacci and Ms Taylor on their magnificent efforts on the waterways in Eton Wick and in dealing with the recent localised flooding.

Cllr Tarbox confirmed that Jake Hemming had been nominated as the next Chair of EWVA.

CM 5662 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Town Council

The draft minutes of the Meeting held on 21st May 2021 had been circulated to Members, and with no changes required Cllr Tarbox proposed and Cllr Hill seconded that they be approved as a correct record. This was agreed unanimously.

CM 5663 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Town Clerk Actions:

- **CM 5635 Finance**
 1. Arrange for work to proceed with Playground Facilities for repairs at H/Mead. **Actioned**
 2. Arrange for work to proceed with Earth Anchors Ltd & My Handyman for dog bin. **Actioned**
 3. Arrangements for 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement. **Actioned**
 4. Arrangements for 2020/21 Accounting Statement. **Actioned**
 5. Arrangements for rebates to football clubs. **Actioned**
 6. Arrange for Shorts Ltd as dog bin contractor. **Actioned**
 7. Arrange for work to proceed with My Handyman for repairs to slide at Stockdales. **Actioned**
 8. Arrange for work to proceed with My Handyman for new sign at Haywards Mead. **Actioned**
- **CM 5641 Library Provision**
 - 1) Confirm with Cllr Robertson the decision not to support RBWM library service. **Actioned**
- **CM 5652 Recreation Ground & Open Spaces**
 - 1) Entrance sign for Stockdales – refer to Environment Committee. **Pending**
 - 2) Tidy-up and replanting at corner of Stockdales – refer to Environment Committee. **Pending**
 - 3) Raise Duke of Edinburgh plaque at Stockdales – refer to Environment Committee. **Pending**

ETC Members' Actions

- **CM 5662 Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces**
 - 1) Cllr Hemming to arrange for Covid-19 signs from RBWM for play areas. **Not Actioned**
 - 2) The Mayor to confirm with Greentouch plans for H/ Mead football pitches. **Actioned**

CM 5664 Reports from Committees

- **Standing Committee**

The notes of the Meeting held on 16.6.21 had been circulated to Members and had been posted on the website. The Mayor highlighted certain points:

1. Item 10 on the notes - Size of ETC Agendas:

The Mayor explained his wish to reduce the size of the agenda and was proposing to eliminate the Mayor's Report, which serves no real purpose, and the Action List, whose subjects are now included in the committees and working groups and so is a duplication. This proposal was agreed unanimously.

2. Item 7 on the notes – ETC Promotion to the Communities:

Proposals for this were presented by Cllr Leach:

- a) Poster: Includes names and portraits of all the councillors, together with their individual responsibilities in the community. Cllr Leach requested that Members check their details for accuracy and confirm ASAP. **Action: All Members**
- b) ID Card: Important when meeting with residents. This will come with a lanyard.
- c) Visiting Card: This will be a generic one with space on the back to include individual's name.

These proposals were agreed unanimously and Cllr Leach will progress.

Action: Cllr Leach

3. Item 4 on the notes – ETC Debit Card

The Mayor advised that there was now a debit card which will enable ETC to make purchases instead of councillors using their personal credit cards and being reimbursed. The Town Clerk will be the only user.

CM 5665 Action List

This would be the final Action List to be presented following the decision made above.

Eton & Eton Wick Footpaths	<p>Cllr Olney is leading this project.</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to monitor the condition of the footpaths.</p> <p>At the ETC meeting on 21.5.21 Cllr Olney reported that all was well.</p>
Cycling Problems in High Street	<p>Cllr Hayes-Powell is leading this project</p> <p>The purpose of the project is to control incidents of cyclists riding the wrong way up the High Street.</p> <p>This issue is included in the Eton ASB initiative.</p>
South Meadow Lane Traffic Flow	<p>A new Councillor will be needed to lead this project.</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to prepare a long term solution to the traffic problems along South Meadow Lane when road works are instigated.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 7.1.21 the Mayor advised that he had met with Dr Rivaz and ECA and ETC are exploring ways to improve the traffic flow in Meadow Lane and South Meadow Lane. Further suggestions had been made including restricting access for wider vehicles, removing the 1st car parking space at Meadow Lane and narrowing the width of traffic bottlenecks along South Meadow Lane and this would eventually lead to a consultation organised by the Highways Department.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 1.4.21 Dr Rivaz advised that the consultation is likely to proceed this year.</p>

Minutes of the Council Meeting

South Meadow Lane Pavilion, Eton	<p>Cllr Leach is leading this project.</p> <p>The purpose of the project is to seek a solution to the dilapidated state of the building.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 4.3.21 Cllr Lovell reported that a meeting of the Task & Finish Group would be held w/c 8.3.21 to discuss what happens next. Current thinking is to develop the existing building by building a second floor. WFCY was very supportive.</p> <p>A grant of £5K from RBWM was paid in February, to cover the earlier design work that was paid from ETC reserves. This £5K will be returned to reserves.</p> <p>At the Task & Finish Group meeting on 25.3.21 it was decided to proceed with designs and quotes for a second floor which would not contravene Lammas land regulations.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 21.5.21 Cllr Leach advised that he had spoken with Paul Mitchell of WFCY and asked whether they could help with the design work for the 2 storey building. There is a possibility that WFCY would pay for this work – TBC. Cllr Leach stressed that all interested parties would be consulted on progress.</p>
Haywards Mead Play Area Redevelopment	<p>Cllr Tarbox is leading this project.</p> <p>The purpose of the project is to enhance the appearance and facilities of the play area and entrance.</p> <p>At the ETC Meeting on 21.5.21 Cllr Tarbox reported that the new entrance sign was due to be installed in the next week.</p>
Plans for Sustainability & Climate Change	<p>A new Councillor will be needed to lead this project</p> <p>The purpose of the project is to develop plans for sustainability and climate change in line with RBWM policy.</p>

Crown Farm Cllr Lawless is leading this project.

The purpose of the project is to monitor the situation at Crown Farm and ensure that RBWM takes appropriate action when necessary.

At the ETC Meeting on 21.5.21 Cllr Lawless confirmed that there had been no updates from RBWM and Legal Services was dealing with various issues including Lammas land. New businesses had started up and these had been reported to RBWM but no response.

CM 5666 Website & Social Media/YouTube

The May and June 2021 website reports from Cllr Blightman had been circulated to Members ahead of the Meeting. The Mayor advised that Cllr Stanforth would be managing social media.

CM 5667 Correspondence

Items of correspondence received during May and June 2021 had been circulated to Members ahead of the Meeting and there were no questions.

CM 5668 Development Control – Town Council Consultation

The following planning applications had been received and circulated and ETC responses were invited. Cllr Stanforth declared an interest in all Eton College applications.

Application 21/01538/FULL Corner House, Eton College	No Objection
Application 21/01570/FULL 47 Eton Wick Road	No Objection
Application 21/01649/FULL 21 Tilstone Avenue	No Objection
Application 21/01729/FULL 88B High Street	
Application 21/01728/LBC 88A High Street	
Application 21/01727/FULL 88A High Street	

Comments from residents (amongst other concerns):

There are errors in the planning application, which makes it not possible for planners or those affected to understand it. In particular, the elevations are wrongly labelled relative to their orientation on both existing and proposed plans. Also, the block plans do not differentiate between solid building and open space, making it very difficult to read the context clearly.

Cllr Lawless will ask Dr Rivaz whether these 3 applications are aligned with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Action: Cllr Lawless

It was suggested that RBWM planning staff have not visited the site.

It was agreed that Cllrs Alexander and Lawless would draft a response to RBWM which the Town Clerk would send.

Action: Cllrs Alexander & Lawless

Application 21/00913/TCA Sunbury Court, Sunbury Road	No Objection
Application 21/01854/TCA Eton Bank Court, Tangier Lane	No Objection
Application 21/01817/FULL Dumford House, Eton College	No Objection
Application 21/01818/LBC Dumford House, Eton College	No Objection
Application 21/01869/CONDIT 36 Victoria Road	No Objection
Application 21/01888/CONDIT Memorial Buildings & Dumford House, Eton College	No Objection
Application 21/01903/DEM 36 Victoria Road	No Objection

Details of applications are attached.

CM 5669 Other Organisations

The following reports were received from the nominated Members:

1. **Baldwins Bridge Trust:** Cllr Bishop advised that the AGM will be held on 22.6.21. Cllr Tarbox is the new Bridgmaster and Cllr Evans is the new Bridgeman. A new ETC representative is needed for the Trust and Cllr Leach agreed to take this position. The Town Clerk will advise Sue Milne accordingly. **Action: Town Clerk**
2. **Eton Wick Football & Social Club:** Cllr Lawless agreed to be the new ETC representative at the Club.
3. **Eton Poors Estate:** A new Councillor will be needed to report on this organisation. The next meeting was scheduled for 4.10.21.

CM 5670 Recreation Ground & Open Spaces Reports

The following reports were received from the nominated Members:

- 1) **Stockdales Recreation Ground:** Cllr Lawless reported that the dead tree will be felled next week. A replacement tree will be sourced from the Woodland Trust. All is well at the recreation ground and play area. We are awaiting parking plans from RBWM.
- 2) **Haywards Mead Recreation Ground:** The Mayor advised that the newly laid grass was responding well. The 5 a side goals have been relocated by the Football Club who are in discussion with Mr Johnson regarding youth football. A request by the Club to hold a Family Day on 14.8.21 was approved.
- 3) **South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground:** Cllr Hill reported that all was well with the recreation ground and the play area.
- 4) **Bell Lane Open Area:** Cllr Robertson advised that all was well. ETC ownership of the Bridge, previously agreed in principle at the ETC meeting on 21.5.21, was ratified and work was proceeding.
- 5) **Jubilee Square & Waterman's Arms:** Cllr Hayes-Powell reported that all was well.
- 6) **Barnes Pool & Baldwins Shore:** Cllr Bishop advised that the East side of Barnes Pool was in excellent condition, despite the earlier flooding. A meeting of the Barnes Pool Restoration Group on 8.7.21 had expressed concern about the state of the West side which is owned by Eton College and which is starting to look untidy. Cllr Bishop would be writing to Janet Walker on behalf of ETC pointing this out and also the flow of the brook. Cllr Stanforth agreed to help in this.
- 7) **Riparian Works:** A new Councillor will be needed to report on this subject. Ms Regazzacci reported on flooding of footpaths and cycleways in Eton Wick and Eton, all of which were on College land. It was suggested that the Green Eton group might contribute to this effort. The Mayor agreed and Ms Regazzacci offered her advice if needed. Cllr Olney reported that she had asked Anthony Hurst of RBWM to contact the College.

Maydencroft Ltd had completed riparian works on the ETC Boveney stretch, the cost split with Eton College.
- 8) **Allotments:** Cllr Olney agreed to take on this project. There had been productive moves with the Wild Eton Wick group regarding a nature survey.

CM 5671 Platinum Jubilee Plans

Eton Wick Family Event
Eton Street Party

CM 5672 Minor Matters & Items to be Included in Future Agendas

- The Town Clerk informed Members that the Notice of a Vacancy for the Eton Wick ward had been posted on the ETC Noticeboard today.

CM 5673 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 2nd September 2021 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber.

The Meeting concluded at 9.20pm following a brief Part 2 session.