

Eton Town Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting

Held in the Council Chamber

Thursday 5th May 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs J. Lovell (Mayor), M. Alexander, D. Bishop, M Blightman, S. Evans, D. Hill, M. Hayes-Powell, N. Howarth, P. Lawless, M. Leach, Y. Olney, K. Robertson & J. Stanforth

In Attendance: Mr R. Austen (Town Clerk), Cllrs J. Bowden & S. Shelim (RBWM), Ms L. Regazzacci (EWWG), Ms H. Branscombe-Davies (EWVA) & Mr D. Treder

Apologies: Cllrs L. Tarbox (ETC) & S. Rayner (RBWM), Mr M. Reynolds (Accountant), Dr R. Rivaz (ECA) & Ms C. Taylor (EWVA)

CM 5824 Welcome

The Mayor opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present and advised those that wished to should wear their face masks although this is not a legal requirement anymore.

CM 5825 Apologies

The apologies listed above were recorded.

CM 5826 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Stanforth declared an interest on all matters relating to Eton College.

CM 5827 Thames Valley Police (TVP) Liaison

PCSO Melita Diprose advised the Meeting that there had been no crime reports during April 2022.

Cllr Hayes-Powell requested an update on the homeless person that frequented Windsor & Eton Bridge and who had shown aggressive behaviour. PCSO Diprose responded that all such aggressive incidents should be reported to TVP as it was a public order offence. The various support agencies were aware of this person.

It was stressed that all crimes should be reported immediately to TVP through 101 or the TVP email process.

The Mayor thanked PCSO Diprose for her attendance.

CM 5828 Confirmation of the Minutes

The draft minutes of the ETC Meeting held on 7th April 2022 had been circulated to Members and with no alterations requested, Cllr Olney proposed and Cllr Evans seconded that they be filed as a true record of that meeting and this was agreed unanimously.

CM 5829 Matters Arising

Town Clerk Actions:

- **CM 5811 Finance**

1) Transfer £10K of general reserves from 2021/22 accounts to the Play Area Reserve. **Actioned**

CM 5813 TVP Liaison

- 1) Write to TVP requesting a meeting with Sgt Griffiths regarding poor TVP representation at ETC meetings.

Follow-up: Sgt Griffiths has moved on and so her temporary replacement Sgt Andy Ward has been requested for TVP attendance at the ETC meeting on 5.5.22. **Actioned**

- **CM 5819 Development Management**

- 1) Write to RBWM Planning Officer indicating strong ETC support for the revised Shepherds Hut planning application. **Actioned**

- **CM 5821 Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces**

- 1) Write to RBWM Community Wardens regarding continuing problems with dog fouling on the High Street and elsewhere in Eton. **Actioned**

ETC Members' Actions:

- **CM 5811 Finance**

- 1) Cllr Leach to organise purchase of ceremonial mugs for Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. **Actioned**

- **CM 5816 Reports from Committees**

- 1) Cllr Leach to make arrangements to meet with contractors regarding SML Play Area surface. **TBC**

CM 5830 Finance

1. The Town Clerk presented the April monthly schedule of payments to the Meeting and there being no questions, Cllr Leach proposed and Cllr Robertson seconded that the schedule be approved and this was agreed unanimously.
2. In the absence of Mr Reynolds, the Town Clerk presented the April monthly and YTD accounts to the Meeting. The following points were highlighted:
 - £10,000 transferred from General Reserves to Playground Reserve (as agreed at ETC meeting on 7.4.22)
 - Grounds Maintenance budget offset in lieu of invoice due from Greentouch.
 - Eton Greenery credit due to payments from Eton College and BBT.
 - £11,322 payment from Barnes Pool Development (BPD) restricted fund to Eton CIC (Information Centre) bank account. Remaining £10,000 in the BPD restricted fund transferred to Information Centre restricted fund. This then closes the BPD restricted fund, as per instructions of Dr Rivaz.

It was proposed by Cllr Leach and seconded by Cllr Olney that the April monthly and YTD accounts be approved and this was agreed unanimously.

3. Expenditure of £171.54 plus VAT with Elementary Signs for printing a sign 'Queen Elizabeth Arch' to be sited over the archway alongside the Council Offices, and £165.00 with My Handyman for making the backboard and installing the sign, was discussed. It was proposed that the funding would come from CIL. It was proposed by Cllr Hayes-Powell and seconded by Cllr Hill that this expenditure be approved, and this was agreed unanimously.

4. Expenditure of £1,500 with S.R. Decorating for redecorating the passageway outside the Council Offices was discussed. It was proposed that the money would come from CIL. It was proposed by Cllr Hayes-Powell and seconded by Cllr Evans that this expenditure be approved and this was agreed unanimously.

Cllr Leach pointed out that the front of the Council Offices needed cleaning and this would be performed at the same time.

5. Contribution of £1,919.45 to Eton Wick Football & Social Club for reforming the front entry ramp for disabled access was discussed. It was agreed that this discussion would be held over until the June ETC meeting when approval to build the ramp on the pavement had been received from RBWM. If this was not forthcoming, then an alternative site for the ramp alongside the side of the building would be considered.
6. Expenditure of £2,452.45 plus VAT with Adamson Construction Group Ltd for replacing concrete areas on Haywards Mead Recreation Ground, and making good the step to the rear door of Eton Wick Football & Social Club, was discussed. It was proposed that the money would come from CIL. It was proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Lawless that this expenditure be approved and this was agreed unanimously.

It was agreed that ETC should ask the Club to make a contribution towards the cost when it is financially stronger.

7. Expenditure of £1,440.00 plus VAT with Turtle Engineering Ltd for supplying and fitting a defibrillator to the wall of Eton Wick Football & Social Club was discussed. It was proposed that the money would come from CIL. It was proposed by Cllr Lawless and seconded by Cllr Evans that this expenditure be approved and this was agreed by a majority vote.

It was agreed that the existing defibrillator in Eton Wick outside the pharmacy should be relocated to a site on the opposite side of Eton Wick Road. Eton Wick councillors were asked to propose a suitable location, for agreement at the June ETC meeting.

8. Expenditure of £160.00 with My Handyman for maintenance work on the bus shelter in Eton, ownership of which is unclear, was discussed. It was proposed that the money would come from CIL. It was proposed by Cllr Hayes-Powell and seconded by Cllr Olney that this expenditure be approved and this was agreed unanimously.

CM 5831 Public Forum

There had been no requests received from members of the public.

CM 5832 RBWM Councillors' issues

Cllr Bowden was invited to speak on RBWM-related matters:

- The Council has reviewed the planning panels and has decided to keep the two panels as currently operating.
- The recycling rates for the Council continue to rise and so appreciation is due to residents for their support.
- The grasscutting of verges in Eton Wick was completed this week. It was pointed out that the brambles and undergrowth remain untouched and Cllr Bowden would follow this up. **Action: Cllr Bowden**
- An improved maintenance regime at the Eton Churchyard has been agreed.
- The black bag collection for Eton High Street is with the RBWM Waste Team to review.
- A308 route from Runnymede to the M4 was being studied.

Concern was expressed over the failure of RBWM to monitor the performance of their ground contractors. Cllr Bowden agreed to forward the schedule of grasscutting to the Town Clerk. **Action: Cllr Bowden**

Cllr Stanforth stressed the need for a black bin bag collection in Eton w/c 29.5.22 and Cllr Bowden will look into this. **Action: Cllr Bowden**

CM 5833 Eton Community Association (ECA) & Eton Wick Village Association (EWVA & EWWG)

The reports from EWVA and EWWG had been circulated to members ahead of the meeting. The report from ECA had not been received but was subsequently received on 6.5.22 and was circulated.

Ms Regazzacci invited all councillors to attend the EWWG Stakeholder Meeting on Zoom on Monday 16.5.22. Rising ground water levels is affecting both Eton and Eton Wick. Cllr Howarth will attend the meeting as the ETC representative.

ETC and Eton College will work collaboratively on weed clearance on the Boveney.

CM 5834 Reports from Committees & Working Groups

• **Standing Committee**

The Mayor advised that the Committee had not met in April but would meet in May.

• **Environment Committee**

Cllr Robertson advised that the Committee had not met in April but would meet in May.

• **Facilities Management Working Group**

This Group had not yet met and is awaiting confirmation from RBWM over the Sports Centre SLA.

• **It Task & Finish Group**

Cllr Stanforth advised that training Ms Saran-Brar was continuing.

• **South Meadow Lane (SML) Pavilion Working Group**

Cllr Leach advised that he was meeting with Mr Treder on 6.5.22 to update on progress. A meeting with the Football Foundation was scheduled.

CM 5835 Correspondence

The list of correspondence received during April 2022 had been circulated to Members and there were no questions.

CM 5836 Website

The April report from Cllr Blightman had been circulated to Members ahead of the Meeting and there were no questions. Cllr Blightman reported an average month of activity.

CM 5837 Development Management – Town Council Consultation

The following planning applications had been received in April 2022:

RECEIVED	APP. NO.	DATED	TYPE	ADDRESS	ACTIONS
ETON					
14.4.22	22/00968	14.4.22	FULL	LAND TO E OF SPORTS CENTRE	NO COMMENT
28.4.22	22/01093	25.4.22	FULL	4 THE GABLES, ETON WICK RD	NO COMMENT
29.4.22	21/03536	30.11.21	FULL	THE BRIARY, COTTAGE, CHAPEL	MA TO ADVISE TOWN CLERK
ETON WICK					
11.4.22	22/00720	8.4.22	FULL	CROWN FARM, ETON WICK RD	NO COMMENT
11.4.22	22/00722	8.4.22	FULL	CROWN FARM, ETON WICK RD	NO COMMENT
14.4.22	22/00977	11.4.22	FULL	49 COLENORTON CRESCENT	PL TO ADVISE TOWN CLERK
19.4.22	22/00979	19.4.22	FULL	51 COLENORTON CRESCENT	PL TO ADVISE TOWN CLERK

CM 5838 Other Organisations

The following reports were received from the nominated Members:

- 1) **Baldwins Bridge Trust:** The Mayor advised that the next meeting would take place on 7.6.22.
- 2) **Eton Wick Football & Social Club:** The Mayor advised that Don Thorn was not resigning as Chair after all. The lease had now been signed.
- 3) **Eton Poors Estate:** Cllr Hill advised that there had not been a meeting in April.
- 4) **Eton Wick Allotment Society:** Cllr Olney advised that she had not been informed of a meeting of the Society the previous week. Cllr Olney will ask the Society Chair how ETC can assist the Society in improving the allotments.

It was suggested introducing a scheme to direct surplus produce to foodbanks.

- 5) **Eton Wick Waterways Group:** Cllr Howarth will report in this section in future.

CM 5839 Recreation Ground & Open Spaces Reports

- 1) **Bell Lane Open Area:** Cllr Robertson reported that all was well.
- 2) **Stockdales Recreation Ground:** Cllr Lawless expressed concern over the condition of the swings and the disabled access. The Town Clerk was following this up with HAGS. Cllr Leach pointed out that neither of these concerns was highlighted on the recent inspections as being necessary.
- 3) **Haywards Mead Recreation Ground:** The Mayor reported that the mound of rubbish alongside the rear of Princes Close properties had now been removed. The DNA Academy was using the Ground and was proving very well attended. 2 cup finals had been played the previous weekend with many spectators in attendance.
- 4) **South Meadow Lane Recreation Ground:** Cllr Hill reported that all was well and the College was taking good care of the grounds. Cllr Leach advised that he was following up the play area surface issue and was convinced that a rubber surface was the way forward.
- 5) **Jubilee Square, Watermans Arms, Public Hard/Slipway & Memorial Garden:** Cllr Hayes-Powell expressed hope that there would be good support for the Windsor Morris who will be dancing at Jubilee Square on 21.5.22. The Platinum Jubilee lamp post signs had been installed and were being well received. The SLA is awaited for the public hard/slipway and the Town Clerk is continuing to prompt Catriona. Excellent Plants has started its cleaning regime on the slipway. The dog waste culprit has been identified and will be made known to the Community Warden.
- 6) **Barnes Pool:** Cllr Leach reported that he would be meeting Derek Bishop to walk the site. The area is being well used and is looking very smart.
- 7) **Public Rights of Way:** Cllr Olney reported no issues.

CM 5840 Minor Matters & Items to be included in Future Agendas

There was nothing tabled.

CM 5841 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 9th June 2022 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber.

The Meeting concluded at 8.55pm.