

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE EATON VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT EATON GOLF CLUB, ON 18th OCTOBER 2017

The Chairman, Chris Stebbing, welcomed everyone to the meeting, including City Councillors Judith Lubbock, Caroline Ackroyd and James Wright, County Councillor Brian Watkins, P.C. Adam Binns and Editor of *Just Eaton and Cringleford*.

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Sharon Atkinson, Naomi Godding, Thelma and Gerald Cook.

2 MINUTES OF THE EVRA AGM HELD ON 20th OCTOBER 2016

Minutes of the 2016 AGM were circulated and Gwen Frazer proposed, seconded by John Brister, that these should be accepted as correct.

3 MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Chris Stebbing's report was circulated and it dealt with three main areas:

Local Issues

- There was considerable public opposition to the proposed cycle paths and shared cycle/pedestrian paths through Eaton Village.
- The scope of the Eaton Street scheme was greatly reduced when it became clear that it was unaffordable. The Cringleford element of the proposals went ahead and the traffic lights on Cringleford Bridge are working well.
- The revised scheme for Eaton is still being debated and work has been postponed. In particular EVRA has been pressing for a dedicated right turn at the traffic lights from Eaton Street into Church Lane but Transport for Norwich feel this is not justified.
- Traffic around Eaton Village remains an issue, with inconsiderate parking along bus routes and near the primary school being a real concern. The painting of double yellow lines on the corners of side roads should be completed by March 2018.
- The closure of the school swimming pool was a disappointment but the priority for expenditure was repairing the school roof.
- Despite much opposition from residents, planning approval has been granted for the Stephanie's site which has now been put up for sale

Events:

- A Pumpkin Trail was devised and organised by Carol Plunkett in October and £100 was raised for the Eaton Green Playground Fund.
- Rosemary Benton once again organised the Spring and Summer Garden Competitions. RJA IFA generously sponsored the prizes.
- Rosemary and her team of helpers continue to work hard to manage and keep the verges along Donkey Lane tidy.

- In April an Easter Egg Hunt was organised by Carol Plunkett at Eaton Green Playground and proceeds added to the Playground Fund.
- During May half-term Chris Stebbing ran a series of dyke dipping sessions on Marston Marsh and £58 was raised in donations for the Eaton Green Playground Fund.
- The main event of the year was the Scarecrow Festival in July, organised by Chris Stebbing. Notcutts and RJFL IFA sponsored the prizes. £180 was also raised from 13 garage sales and cake sales during the weekend. A successful Fun Day, organised by Vic Flute and held at the Cellar House completed the weekend's activities on the Sunday. Overall £485 was raised towards the Playground Fund. Chris Stebbing thanked all participants who helped to make the weekend a great success.

Projects:

- EVRA's main project continues to be upgrading Eaton Green Playground and adding more play equipment. Sharon Atkinson leads this project and new equipment was installed in time for the summer holidays. Fundraising continues and more equipment will be bought as funds allow. £20,000 would be a great help, even more would be better. Chris Stebbing thanked all sponsors, donors and everyone who had supported these events.
- The EVRA website and Facebook pages are well read and, along with the Newsletters, help to keep residents informed about village issues.
- Chris Stebbing thanked the network of Newsletter distributors.

Chris finished his report by thanking the Committee for all their support and hard work during the past year. As well as supporting the fund-raising events, they had also been active in the establishment of Eaton as a Dementia Friendly Village. He also thanked our City and County Councillors for their support and advice.

After the Chairman's Report, there followed some questions and comments:

1. The traffic lights at Cringleford Bridge seem to be working quite well but at present there seems to be no link between these lights and those in Eaton Street. The Bluebell Road works will be an added problem. Chris Stebbing will follow this up with TfN once work continues.
2. Residents were anxious to know when the proposed work would start and how long it would last. Once the work begins, TfN has indicated that work will last for 9 weeks providing there are no unforeseen delays.
3. Some residents were surprised that Waitrose did not have strong views about the proposed road closures.
4. County Councillor Brian Watkins commented that it was unacceptable that the slip road should be closed for 5 weeks and that residents should make their views felt.
5. Bernard Godding noted that traffic was building up around the junction resulting in long queues.
6. Councillor Caroline Ackroyd observed the lights at the Eaton Street junction at 8.35am and noted that of 70 cars turning into Church Lane, 30 did so when the lights were red. Similarly at 4.55pm. The right turn needs to be looked at again.

7. Residents felt that the officers of TfN appear to take no account of the opinions of people with local knowledge.
8. Chris Stebbing felt that all decisions seemed to be made on modelling not real evidence. Councillor Watkins agreed.
9. The question of opening the Greenways/Sunningdale link was raised but it was pointed out that the roadway is narrower now and there are often long queues at the Sunningdale/Newmarket Road junction.

5 VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This was circulated and Vic began by thanking Chris Stebbing for his tenacity in pursuing TfN, and topics dealt with included the following:

- The change to having two newsletters each year and using Just Eaton and Cringleford as a means of updating residents on a monthly basis.
- Liaising with the police.
- Co-ordinating a village speed watch and the need for more volunteers to help carry out speed checks.
- The Fun Day was a great success. Most activities cost 10p and were suitable for all members of the family. Some new games had been added this year but more would be still be welcome. Vic thanked everyone who had supported this event especially Victoria and Graham MacDonald of the Cellar House and Lucy Carne of Reality Estate Agents.
- Monday Morning Movies failed to attract an audience so this has been replaced by Tuesday at Two on the first Tuesday of each month. This is being offered in October and November to see if it is worth continuing.
- This year's Pumpkin Trail will take place on October 31st from 4-7 pm.
- Santa's Grotto will not take place this year.
- CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) is a group which has been set up to give people who are lonely, living with dementia and their companions a chance to meet and chat over a cup of tea and take part in shared activities if they wish. These meetings will be held every 4th Wednesday of the month between 2.30pm and 4pm in St Andrew's Church Hall.

6 TREASURER'S REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2017

The Treasurer thanked residents for their generosity with subscriptions which have reached £1,181 already, and their continued generous support for the play area with contributions so far reaching £5,122.74. Copies of the accounts which had been scrutinised by Ken Land were circulated. Kath Westwell proposed that the accounts should be signed as correct and this was seconded by Carol Plunkett.

7 REPORT ON THE WORK BY OUR COUNCILLORS IN THE VILLAGE

- **County Councillor Brian Watkins** commended the work of EVRA on making the village a better place. He, along with EVRA, will be badgering TfN in the next few weeks to secure a dedicated right turn at the Eaton Street traffic lights. There is a small amount of money available for minor highways work and he would welcome suggestions from residents on how it might be spent. The County Council must make more cuts in the next financial year

and the survival of the mobile library cannot be taken for granted. Councillor Watkins urged residents to support the library in a forthcoming public consultation and make their views known.

- **City Councillor Judith Lubbock** reported that she and City Councillor Caroline Ackroyd had been to see the planning officers at City Hall to try to establish why the play area on the Persimmon estate had not been adopted by the Management Committee. Another bad winter would mean more flooding in the play area with no one taking overall responsibility. The reason appears to lie with the Council's solicitors who are trying to reach an agreement with Persimmon. Councillor Lubbock has written to Persimmon and Councillor Ackroyd has written to the Chairman of the Residents' Management Committee who are also responsible for the maintenance of Howarth Way but things are at a standstill.
- Councillor Lubbock reported that two trees had been planted on Abinger Way to discourage people from parking there but parking continues. Enforcement action is taking place over changes to a dwelling in Nutfield Close.
- The cycle path is working quite well although the Council refused to paint a central white line for pedestrians as they felt the dimensions did not comply. A resident commented that cyclists should at least have and use a bell.
- **City Councillor James Wright** reported that the Boundary Commission for England is proposing to extend Norwich South constituency into Eaton and Cringleford. The ward boundaries will be redrawn in the next twelve months. Councillor Wright urged residents to become involved with the reviews and emphasise the strong sense of community that exists.
- Councillor Wright informed residents that Norwich City Council will match fund raising projects by 50% up to £51,000.
- The Citizen's Portal is due to be launched in November 2017 on the Council's website where information about the various areas of Norwich will be made available to the public.

8 ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR 2017-18

Chairman	Chris Stebbing, proposed by Rosemary Benton and seconded by Joy Davidson
Vice-Chairman	Vic Flute, proposed by Sarah Cross and seconded by Elizabeth Groves
Secretary	Patricia Seadon, proposed by Liz Pierce and seconded by Margaret Bamford
Treasurer	Sarah Cross, proposed by Gwen Frazer and seconded by Kath Westwell
Committee	Sharon Atkinson, Rosemary Benton, Carol Plunkett, Naomi Godding, Valli Rao Bernard Godding, Jane Miller, Kath Westwell, proposed by James Wright and seconded by John Brister

9 APPOINTMENT OF THE SCRUTINEER FOR THE ACCOUNTS

Ken Land, who had audited the accounts for many years, had offered to continue as scrutineer. He was proposed by Sarah Cross and seconded by Caroline Ackroyd.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Robert Farman, a Norfolk Car Club member, expressed his exasperation that nearly all the available cars were in the city centre. Chris Stebbing replied that spaces had been proposed

near the Church of the Latterday Saints and in Duverlin Close. The delay was caused by a lack of money to buy the cars. Mr Farman wondered whether it would be possible to put pressure on the Council to provide a car for the Eaton area as at present there is no incentive to drive to the nearest bay in Waldeck Road. Councillor Lubbock commented that the Council are promoting the scheme but have to be sure the car will be used. Chris Stebbing said he is aware of people who have expressed an interest and he will work with Councillor Lubbock to try to push this forward.

- A resident noted that the road sign on Burhill Close is rusting away. The Councillors will take this matter up with the Council who will deal with the sign.

(SHORT INTERVAL)

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING – PC Adam Binns

PC Binns is one of seven police officers whose job it is to support the needs of local communities in the county. PC Binns deals with the whole of Norwich and has to find out what residents need and respond to that. Although Eaton has a low crime rate it is still serviced by the police. PC Binns talked about his work in local communities.

THE MAIN POINTS ARISING FROM THE TALK

- During a consultation period in early January, local communities had been approached to list and prioritise issues affecting their neighbourhoods.
- Contact was made by Social Media, visits and meetings.
- Social Media is very important as it reaches a large number of people.
- Eaton's priority was Illegal Parking in particular near the Primary School. Police visited the school and conducted assemblies advising parents and discussing road safety issues. The school must also remain proactive in this area.
- Bernard Godding pointed out that parking on pavements is a hazard for wheelchair users. In the end it comes down to the attitude of drivers.
- PC Binns will support the local Speedwatch initiative once it is up and running.
- Although double yellow lines have been painted in some areas, people still park on the lines. At present there is no answer as there are not enough people to police this.
- Although there is very little crime in Eaton, rogue trading is an ongoing issue. Trading Standards are going to set up a No Cold Calling Zone but before that is done there will be a consultation period.
- Liz Pierce suggested a list of known rogue traders be put on the EVRA website.
- City Councillor James Wright commented that Trading Standards advice is to photograph the offending vehicle etc which is very helpful in identifying these people.
- PC Binns underlined that details of the vehicle are crucial although offenders often park away from homes.
- Cameras placed around the City give automatic number plate recognition.
- PC Binns advised residents to report anything suspicious to the Police or Trading Standards.

- Chris Stebbing agreed that Rogue Trading would be a good topic for discussion at next year's AGM.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY EATON – County Councillor Caroline Ackroyd

Caroline spoke about how she set up Eaton Dementia Friends and how far it has come in quite a short time. She also spoke of her gratitude that the local community has been so supportive and willing to help and make this initiative a success.

- There have been many well attended Dementia Friends information sessions led by inspirational speakers.
- Information leaflets have been produced.
- Dementia Friendly Eaton was launched in May 2017.
- Waitrose tokens have meant much needed money was raised to defray expenses.
- Pledges have been made: to support people living with dementia and their carers, to promote dementia friends information sessions, to explore ways in which becoming a dementia friendly community can benefit other vulnerable people.
- CAMEO has been launched as a group supporting people with dementia and their carers.

Signed

Date