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Minutes of Public Meeting Wednesday 20th April, 2022 @ 7.30pm

Thames Valley Police Update – PCSO Melita Diprose

Crime statistics for Eton and Eton Wick for the 31 day period ending 12 April 2022 were shared and a hand-out provided to all attendees. Details as below.

Burglary dwellings* - The police computer shows 0 burglaries recorded.

(Police record garage break-ins of integrated garages as a 'burglary dwelling'. These have been removed from the figures, as have (a) burglaries involving domestic cases, (b) parties where items go missing, (c) shared accommodation where items go missing from shared rooms, (d) landlord and tenants, and (e) cases where it is believed that the aggrieved is suffering from mental impairment.)*

Theft from motor vehicles – The police computer shows 3 offences recorded.

4 March – Alma Road, car window smashed, and bag stolen.

4 March – Inkerman Road, car entered by unknown means, nothing stolen.

4/5 April – Common Road, van broken into, tools stolen, and van damaged.

Theft of motor vehicles – The police computer shows 0 offences recorded.

Theft of bikes - The police computer shows 0 offences recorded.

NB – Police advised they are working closely with the Windsor Cycle Hub at the Swan Pub to get as many bikes marked and recorded as possible with Bike Register.

Criminal damage – The police computer shows 1 offence recorded.

10 April – Somerville Road, brick through rear window.

A hand-out was provided to all attendees with details of the local neighbourhood police team covering Eton Wick. Details as below.

YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Local policing teams are groups of officers dedicated to serving the community. Teams are made up of officers based in the area, supported by additional officers from the wider area. Teams work closely with local authorities, organisations, partners and residents to decide policing priorities. This helps teams find long-term solutions to local problems.

WINDSOR CENTRAL, ETON & ETON WICK

Contact details for Team email:

windsorcentralNHPT@thamesvalley.police.uk



Inspector Darrah



SGT Ward



PCSO Diprose



PCSO Davidson



PCSO Bullock



PCSO Searle

PCSO Diprose reminded attendees of the StreetSafe initiative where local residents can report concerns regarding specific streets, footpaths and public areas in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. Resident reports can cover areas such as behaviour concerns (eg verbal harassment or feeling like they are being followed), environment concerns (eg poor street lighting, signs of drug use, overgrown bushes) and other observations such as absence of CCTV or empty/rundown buildings.

Questions from the room included a request for the Police to take action against the flying of large drones over the children's playground in Haywards Mead, the sportsground and residential properties, for the purpose of collecting information from Windsor Racecourse. Attendees were advised that no law was being broken and therefore this was not a Police matter.

PCSO Diprose reminded residents that they must report all concerns and observations, as well as crime, by calling 101 or using the online report form and giving as much detail as possible. Information such as location, date and time, as well as a description of events are essential. Such reports of observations and concerns enable the police to build up a picture/profile and make it much easier for them to act successfully.

Churchyard Update – Jake Hemming on behalf Rev La Stacey

Rev La Stacey was not able to attend the meeting and provided a note to be read at the meeting.

"Sadly, I am Covid positive at the moment, so won't be able to be with you. However, I do want to thank Linda and Lindsay for organising the Bingo session for the churchyard. £440 was raised. Also, the usual reminder that you may plant annuals and leave silk flowers. No plastic flowers; grave surrounds of any kind, chippings etc, perennials, ornaments etc are permitted. Please put rubbish, spent flowers etc in the relevant wheelie bins provided. Thank you to all those who take such care to keep it a peaceful place."



Eton Wick Waterways Group Update – Laura Regazzacci

Laura advised that most points she would cover were included in the detailed report which could be found in the minutes of the EWVA Public Meeting of 19th January 2022.

Key points noted were:-

The Thames Water pipeline project, which would limit the flow into the Roundmoor to 1,000 litres/second, ensuring that high volumes and storm release water would be routed into the pipe and discharged into the Thames. The pipeline would also take any additional flow

generated by future developments in Slough. The aim of the pipeline is to maintain a water supply to the Roundmoor at a more constant and manageable level and significantly reduce flood risk. Laura reminded that all current information is on the Thames Valley Water website.

The long-awaited Hydrology report from Cain Bio Engineering on the waterways surrounding Eton Wick arrived on 20th April 2022. Laura provided a top-line summary of points covered in the report, explaining that the report covered all waterways surrounding the village and included investigations into the flooding onto Dorney Common and the 'wetland' in the field behind Colenorton Crescent. Ground water levels had been surveyed as well as flow into and along the waterways. Silt build-up, water weed and reed growth, bank erosion, and damage of riverbanks by cattle had all been investigated. As the report had only been received on the same day as the EWVA Public Meeting the contents were still being reviewed.

Laura advised that the EWWG volunteers will start meeting again, once the closed season for waterways ends in mid-June, to remove water weed and promote healthy water flow. Residents were encouraged to come along and join in as more volunteers are always welcome.

Please post any questions to: info@etonwickwaterwaysgroup.org

RBWM Update – Cllr Samantha Rayner

Cllr Samantha Rayner provided an update including, but not limited to, waste collections, discounted resident parking, the new RBWM Citizens Portal and Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Cllr Rayner advised that the move to bi-weekly general waste (black bin) collections had resulted in an increase in recycling from 45% (below government targets) to 60% which is a great improvement.

The first-hour-free resident parking scheme was proving a great success and Cllr Rayner advised that she is pushing for more car parks to be included in the scheme which currently covers six parking facilities in the borough.

For the third year in a row the Council has kept within budget. Cllr Rayner assured that this was not due to the Council failing to spend but was because more money was earned than budgeted, eg more weddings taking place in the borough during the financial year which contributed an additional income of £350,000.

Cllr Rayner encouraged residents to use the new Citizens Portal which enables residents to view live data which shows how the Council is performing, eg are domestic waste collections

taking place on time, and to report/comment on council services. The aim of the portal is to provide transparency to residents and to promote a flow of information from residents to the Council to help improve services for all.

In addition, Cllr Rayner outlined all the events planned for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and encouraged residents to get involved.

Lastly, Cllr Rayner advised that the proposed new crossing outside the Eton Wick First School was progressing, and she had received a report about grass verges not being cut in the village and she had acted to resolve this.

Eton Town Council Update – Sue Evans, Eton Town Council

A short update was provided on the Shepherds Hut Planning Application advising that ETC had been working with the developer and that progress was being made towards addressing the concerns raised by ETC and Eton Wick residents. Sue also advised that Highways are looking into visibility concerns relating to the junction of Eton Wick Road and Princess Close.

Sue advised that ETC have purchased Queen's Platinum Jubilee lamp post signs which would shortly be installed on lamp posts the length of Eton Wick Road. These will remain in place until the end of June 2022.

Finance Update – Claire Taylor, EWVA Treasurer

In her Finance Update, EWVA Treasurer Claire Taylor advised that dog poop bags provided by EWVA, with support from Eton Town Council, were disappearing from the dispensers on Haywards Mead and South Field at a significantly higher rate than could be supported by owners using when they have run out or forgotten to bring their own. Over 360 poop bags had been used in the first couple of days since restocking the dispensers. This strongly suggests that they are being used as the primary source of poop bags and not as a supplementary/emergency supply which is the intention of the provision. A plea was made for dog owners to use the bags as intended as otherwise EWVA will not be able to continue to provide them.

Upcoming spend includes annual insurance and payment for the waterways report.

Diary Update - Claire Taylor, EWVA Treasurer

A litter pick in the village took place at the start of April, joined by our Councillors and many residents collecting 13 black sacks of rubbish between them and helping keep our village clean, tidy and safe for all.

Any Other Business

The Eton Wick Village Hall Committee are holding a Community Participation Coffee Morning on Saturday 7 May 2022 in the Village Hall. The aim of the event is to champion and publicise Eton Wick community groups and those who regularly book the hall to provide participative activities enjoyed by local residents. A total of 11 groups will be showcasing their activities at this community coffee morning which will run from 11am to 1pm with refreshments provided by the Village Hall.

Future Events

The Chair advised that the EWVA Public Meetings are booked in for the year already and published on the EWVA website and Facebook posts. The remaining dates for 2022 being 20 July and 19 October with agendas being published on social media in advance of each meeting. Events for the summer are planned which will be promoted over the next couple of months including the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Residents are reminded to follow EWVA on Facebook and social media, visit the website and subscribe to our email mailing list to be kept up to date throughout the year.

Jake Hemings
EWVA Chair

Helen Branscombe-Davies
EWVA Secretary

Claire Taylor
EWVA Treasurer