



Recreational funding

As reported in the July edition of the Echo, a total of £150,000 was earmarked for an all-weather pitch "or other recreational facilities" as part of the developer contribution which came with the planning permission for new housing in the village. Having invited village organisations to send in their proposals for improving recreation in the village for the benefit of the community, we received seven submissions by the August deadline.

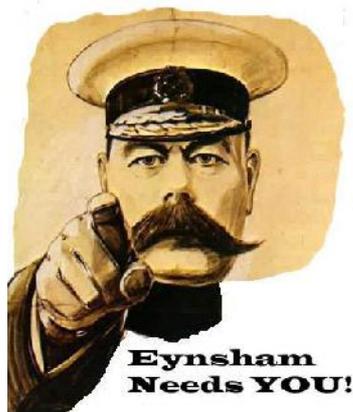
Not all submissions were costed, but the total applied for was in excess of £300,000. In sifting the applications we have tried to ensure that potential recipients had provided a clear explanation of the costs and benefits and that they best matched the original intention of the funding (physical recreation). Four schemes are now receiving further consideration: two for all-weather pitches, one for a new cricket pavilion and one for a trim trail.

The Parish Council discussed the submissions at its most recent meeting (Eynsham Online has a link to the minutes) and is currently seeking further clarification on each of them. A report outlining the options will now be prepared in time for the Council's November meeting (Eynsham Online will also have a link to the November agenda) and the Council would welcome any comments once that report has been produced.

Eynsham needs you!

Keeping the village at its best is not a one-man job. A few suggestions from our latest issue:

- Call and have your say at any Council meeting
- Clean up after your dog – use the bins provided
- Cut back your hedge and free the pavements up
- Get busy on the footpaths too – see page 2
- Join a volunteer work party at the Fishponds
- Send in your photos for our colour issue!



Solar celebration

On 14 September local MP and Prime Minister David Cameron launched a pioneering solar photovoltaic scheme at Eynsham Village Hall. Explanations came from Barbara Hammond of Oxford Low Carbon Hub (right) and Sarah Couch of GreenTEA Energy Group.



With similar panels at St Peter's, and future community installations in the county, the project aims to form a 'virtual power station'. By scaling up renewable energy – and reducing energy consumption – this could fill the gap when Didcot A (coal-fired) power station closes in 2013.

Mr Cameron congratulated the Low Carbon Hub and GreenTEA on the installations and said:

"This is the realisation, on a small, local scale, of something that's very important for the whole country."

The Village Hall will benefit from the free electricity generated by the panels, while GreenTEA and the Hub will share the feed-in tariff to promote further energy generation and conservation schemes.

Stop press

The GreenTEA thermal imaging camera can spot where heat is leaking from buildings. Both businesses and householders are invited to book a survey, which will be arranged during winter evenings when conditions are right for imaging. Please contact Lucy Dickinson: email lucymdickinson@yahoo.co.uk

Big Society

Eynsham Neighbourhood Care Scheme provides volunteer transport to hospitals, clinics etc for people who are elderly and infirm. Co-ordinator David Miller reports.

"In the last six months our drivers have made 198 journeys to clinical appointments or the Day Centre, travelling 2422 miles; and received donations of £1070.60. We were able to provide a driver for every request – a first – though on one occasion our driver forgot and in another instance the client booked for the wrong day! Thanks again for making our jobs so easy."

Colour is coming

The January issue of the Echo will appear in full colour for the first time, on an experimental basis. Why not send in YOUR photos and get your name in print?

Dog fouling



Aside from the mess and smell, dog faeces are a health risk. That is why *dogs are not allowed on Oxford Road (north) playing field.*

On Queen Elizabeth II (south) field they must be kept under control at all times.

If you own a dog you have a legal duty to clean up after it; offenders can be fined up to £1,000.

- There are several bins around the village for dog waste – and even more reminder stickers. Please respect the notices at each entrance to the playing fields and use the areas responsibly.
- The most effective remedy may be for local residents to 'name and shame' the anti-social few by calling the District Council on 01993 861020.

Fishponds update

Chair: Verity Hughes; next meeting: 19 February 2013

We have been very lucky to co-opt two new members to the Fishponds Committee. David Knight has a lifetime interest in nature conservation and the environment, stimulated by episodes of the Good Life in the 1970s! He is an expert in worm composting and was Chief Executive of Northumberland Wildlife Trust for three years before moving south. His favourite habitat is woodland so he should be in his element working around the Fishponds.

Jess Lawson, who has recently settled in Eynsham, is also interested in nature conservation and management and has links with other conservation groups.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have working mornings over the winter on occasional Saturdays and Sundays. I would like to update my list of people who might be interested in coming along. It usually involves clearing scrub and undergrowth, trimming back overgrown branches and generally keeping the site accessible. Please email verity.hughes@eynsham-pc.gov.uk if you'd like to be kept informed of dates and plans.

Footpaths update

Chair: Sue Osborne; next meeting: 12 February 2013



Every two years, committee members walk all the parish bridleways and footpaths and report obstacles, problems, etc., for Oxfordshire County Council to deal with as and when they can. This year we completed the spreadsheet in August; details at <http://tinyurl.com/footpaths2012> (Eynsham Online). The wet summer caused a heavy overgrowth of vegetation, which we hope has naturally receded or been cut back since then.

We're pleased that a team of volunteers has offered to maintain a small area of overgrown land on Spareacre Lane. If you're out for a walk, feel free to take secateurs and tidy up if you wish!

A resident has suggested a latched kissing gate at the footbridge over the Chilbrook, where footpath 206/2 leaves the south-east corner of the playing field leading on to the B4449. We have recommended this to OCC.

The committee is investigating the possibility of reprinting a leaflet of the Eynsham circular walks. If you use the web, they are available to download / print at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/eynshamwalk

As always, please report any problems you find on our parish paths to the footpaths committee, who will do their best to get them resolved. Happy walking!

Planning update

Chair: Dennis Stukenbroeker; next meeting: 13 November 2012



Planning permission has been granted for 12 houses to be built on Spareacre Lane. Jewson Holdings, owner of the Timberyte site, which also includes H&R garage and the former Spareacre Hire, has received outline planning permission for conversion to a residential development. While final details have yet to be agreed with West Oxfordshire District Council, the .32 hectare site, once the village gas works, could include a bungalow and mixture of two and three-bedroomed homes.

WS Supplies have also made an application for housing on their .24 hectare premises at 17 Mill Street. While this is still pending, the proposal would see the demolition of the WS warehouse, the conversion of an existing barn into four one bedroomed houses and the construction of five two-bedroomed and four three-bedroomed houses.

The Parish Council has supported both proposals but, because of the central locations of the sites, has called for attention to elder care compatible homes in line with current government guidelines.

Jewsons has agreed to contribute £4000 for provision or improvement of public open space, recreational / play areas or public art. The Parish Council has also requested a contribution towards Eynsham sport and recreational facilities from the Mill Street site.

Play areas

Chair: Richard Andrews; next meeting: 13 November 2012



The new play area on Oxford Road has finally opened. It was disappointing that the wet summer kept the area closed through the summer holiday and there are still a few teething troubles to get fixed.

The cost of the new play area was part of the planning process for Swinford Green and is one way in which Eynsham as a whole benefits from such developments. The work cost one and half times the total annual Parish Council budget so the village depends on such funding for anything more than maintenance. There is still money left over from this and the Merton Court development to repair and upgrade the Witney Road play area so all three play areas will have been refurbished over a four year period.

We are always keen to get comments from users – children, carers, parents and grand-parents – whether repairs are needed or you have ideas for improvements.

Rural crafts

Eynsham Allotment Association is recruiting 6 local people to lay a section of hedge in Wharf Road on 3-4 November. The Wychwood Project, funded by the Parish Council, will provide training, tools and materials. Trainees need work boots (thick soles – no trainers or wellies), thick leather gloves, stout clothing and their own lunch and refreshments – plus up to date tetanus vaccination. More details from Peter Ayres: 01865 882115.



Website

Contact Joan Stonham: email online@eynsham-pc.gov.uk

Eynsham Online is now open to local groups to add (and amend) their own events, offering greater control and extra publicity. All you need is a free Gmail address and demonstrations can be arranged on request.

Have you seen the Eynsham Bulletin yet? This *monthly* digest of local headlines and diary items arrives by email, complete with relevant links. Sign up via the Contact form at Eynsham Online – you won't regret it.

Winter artweekend

On 24-25 November more than 20 artists are exhibiting at 9 sites around the village in a seasonal feast of the visual arts. Look no further for original gifts and cards. Eynsham Art Group's show continues until 2 December in the Bartholomew Room.



Diary

- Sunday 28 October Litter Pickers: 01865 880393
- Sunday 11 November Remembrance Sunday: please support the poppy collection.

Greener travel



Look for new bike racks around the village – starting at The Spar.

Your District Councillors

- Edward James: 01865 731009
- Peter Kelland: 01865 880028
- Larry Poole: 01865 375130

Your County Councillor

- Charles Mathew: 01865 882205

Highways issues are time-consuming as ever – visibility on Station Road and at Oxford Road roundabout, the state of the old Chil Bridge, overgrown lanes in the village centre and the proposed cycle path to Botley. While I promise nothing, realistic possibilities include an enlarged traffic island, to ease crossing on Acre End Street, and new chairs for Eynsham Day Centre 'Monday Club'.



Chairman Ron Hollis reports Eynsham NAG priorities for 2012 / 13 as established by the annual residents' survey:

- **Speeding** checks to be arranged at various points
- **Parking** is now dealt with by WODC but wardens will be asked to check
- **Youth work** will continue building from this year's successful "Pimp My Bike" project.

Your Parish Councillors

Richard Andrews 17 Dovehouse Close	01865 880106
Gordon Beach (Chairman) 11 Fruitlands	01865 880979
Andrew Bickley Orchard House, Mill Street	01865 884496
Sue Brown 1 Evans Close	01865 464267
Peter Emery 5 Acre End Close	01865 731199
Verity Hughes 24 Beech Road	01865 880243
Andy Mosson 46 Spareacre Lane	01865 880889
Sue Osborne 38 Beech Road	01865 880285
Nick Relph 26 Newland Street	01865 464264
David Rossiter (Vice-Chair) 5 Bartholomew Close	01865 881568
Paul Staley 6 Merton Close	01865 881807
Dennis Stukenbroeker 12 Orchard Close	01865 880609
Jackie Tinson 33 Hanborough Close	01865 880830
Paul Wilding 9 Beech Road	01865 423556
Fred Wright 15 Cassington Road	01865 881496

You can also email them using the formula
firstname.lastname@eynsham-pc.gov.uk

CLERK Malcolm Anderson – details below: 01865 716943

Reminders

HEDGES spread across the pavement are *still* blocking legitimate users, including users of wheelchairs, prams or pushchairs. By forcing people into the road you endanger them and drivers too. Please check hedges, plants and trees are cut so they do not project beyond your boundary.

The hard-working Echo delivery team needs a break occasionally. Offers of help (for a modest payment) are always welcome; please contact the Clerk - details below.

Copy deadline for the next issue is 1 January 2013; items received later will not be included. Send your contributions to Parish Clerk, Malcolm Anderson, 13 Bailey Road, Oxford OX4 3HU: 01865 716943 email clerk@eynsham-pc.gov.uk

For lots more information and updates visit Eynsham Online: www.eynsham-pc.gov.uk

Printed by Berforts Information Press Southfield Road, Eynsham