

Tuesday 12th July 2011 – There were no residents present at the open forum.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th July 2011

95/11 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Smith, Glaze, Cameron, Forrest, Ransted, Wilkes and Wood.

96/11 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Bainbridge. The Meeting agreed to accept the apologies.

97/11 Declarations of Interest – No declarations were received.

98/11 Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th June 2011 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th June were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Smith, this was seconded by Cllr Wilkes. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

99/11 District & County Councillor Reports –

County Cllr Hardman sent his report, as he was unable to attend due to annual leave. The main points were as follows:

- Eckington bridge works and works at Bredon railway footbridge are due to commence on 25th July;
- Local divisional Fund – a relatively small portion of money running for 2 years, to be used for community benefit - PC requested the Clerk to find out more information on this matter.

District Cllr Davis gave a short report:

- Localism Bill (initiative to give more powers to local authorities) – matter currently under discussion;
- New Homes Bonus (monies due for new properties built within a particular time scale within the village) – this matter was raised by the PC as it was felt more information regarding this was required, Cllr Davis agreed to look into the matter further.

100/11 Progress Reports – Clerk

School Sign, School Lane – It was reported that Highways have now inspected the sign, a replacement sign will be expected in due course.

The following invitations for Parish Councillors were given:

- Local Communities Energy Events
- Re-shaping of positive activity services
- Invitation to New Homes Bonus Event – it was agreed that Cllr Smith would consider the paperwork received and inform the Council whether attendance would be necessary.

Cllr Cameron wished to inspect the documents received regarding ‘Notice of review of polling district and polling places within Wychavon’.

Village Hall – It was reported that a recent meeting was held with the architect in order to scrutinise the proposed costs in relation to the building works proposed. It was also reported that a fundraising committee has been set up in readiness for the receipt of the planning application acceptance.

Rec Centre –

- Some minor vandalism was reported;
- A further request has been received to remove the style at the allotment site;
- It was reported that due to the fact that youths had accessed the railway line, repairs had been carried out to the fencing. It was anticipated that Network Rail would cover some of the costs involved in this.

BHCG – Parson’s Folly (Bredon Hill tower) – it is still the intention for this monument to be listed with English Heritage (current ownership is Overbury Estates). Wychavon is currently asking for views of the surrounding Parishes.

Some objections have again been received by surrounding Parishes regarding use of 4x4’s at Deer Park Hall.

CALC – The Meeting agreed that Cllr Smith would attend the CALC meetings, when Cllr Cameron is unable to be present.

PMTP – It is anticipated that a representative for the group will be nominated at the forthcoming meeting.

101/11 – Planning - The following planning matters have been brought before the Clerk and/or Wychavon District Council since the last Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14th June 2011:

W/11/00099/CU St Catherines Farm, Woollas Hill – Change of use of outbuildings to mixed business use (B1) and domestic storage – Planning Committee 23/06/11 (Recommended decision Refusal – change of use) – concerns raised.

Planning Approvals

W/11/00946/LB Dingle End, 3 Jarvis Street – Removal of existing gas fireplace & back boiler and replacement with multifuel stove. Removal of immersion heater from airing cupboard and installation of new combination boiler (including installation flue).

102/11 – Cala Homes - Section 106 – The Meeting discussed the amended questionnaire (intended to seek the views of the village in relation to the use of the funding). Following some minor amendments, it was agreed that on receipt of an agreement printing quote, a questionnaire would be sent to every household in the village. It was also agreed that delivery should take place during the month of September. The Meeting praised Cllr Bainbridge’s efforts in producing an excellent questionnaire in this regard.

103/11 – Vehicle Activated Speed Sign – The Clerk informed the Meeting that although at least two other Parishes are still interested in purchasing a sign along with Eckington, authority has not yet been granted from Worcestershire Highways for either of them to enter into the Scheme. The Meeting therefore agreed that the Clerk should keep up to date in the progress of this matter, in readiness to move forward when/if permission is granted.

It was also agreed that written confirmation regarding the 4 suitable sites in relation to the sign should be obtained from Worcestershire Highways.

Cllr Williamson informed the Meeting that Wychavon DC would not approve the use of 30mph stickers attached to wheelie bins.

104/11 – Consultation on “Landscape Character Assessment, Supplementary Guidance” – The Meeting discussed and made additions to the report prepared by Cllr Bainbridge in relation to this matter. It was therefore agreed that Cllr Bainbridge should make a written response from the

Parish Council. The Meeting asked the Clerk to thank Cllr Bainbidge for the work involved in preparing the comprehensive report.

105/11 – Village Welcome Letter – The Meeting discussed the draft letter prepared by the Clerk, following some minor amendments, it was agreed that 25 copies should be prepared and delivered to the new housing development on Tewkesbury Road.

106/11 Standing Orders – The Meeting were in agreement that the current Standing Orders should be adopted by the Parish Council, a proposal was therefore made by Cllr Cameron and seconded by Cllr Glaze.

107/11 Rural Rate Relief – The Meeting discussed the Application received (Village Stores). It was agreed that the business is of benefit to the local community and it would therefore be reasonable to grant the relief. A proposal was therefore made by Cllr Forrest and seconded by Cllr Wilkes.

108/11 Cemetery Trees – The Meeting discussed the request made by the funeral director in relation to the trimming of bushes/trees towards the rear of the cemetery. It was agreed that quotes should be sought for the work and also additional tree work required at the cemetery.

109/11 – Correspondence for Information – The Meeting noted the file of correspondence available for inspection.

110/11 – Finance – Cllr Cameron proposed and was seconded by Cllr Smith that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£309.34
Admin expenses & mileage	£28.86
Lengthsman salary	£141.90
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£327.00
Wychavon District Council	£110.96
PAYE contributions	£46.80

111/11 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

A request had been received for the Parish Council to contact County Cllr Hardman to request a meeting in relation to the re-positioning of a gate at Hammock Road (this being an on-going issue). It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Cllr Hardman in this regard.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th September 2011.

The meeting was closed at 9.35pm