

Tuesday 08th November 2011 – There were no residents present at the public open forum.

Laura Synnuck from the Pershore Volunteer Centre attended the Meeting. Laura outlined the purpose of their current Community Transport Scheme and discussed the possibility of working with Parish Councils in order to run a scheme that would be of benefit to more residents within the community. The Meeting agreed that with the reduction of the 382 service, it was very likely there would be a need within the village of an additional transport service of some nature. Laura informed the Meeting that they are presently waiting for confirmation regarding funding, however once the figures have been received, she would contact the Parish Council again to discuss pursuing this matter further. Laura also agreed that she would be happy to carry out a survey within the village to assess transport needs.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 08th November 2011

149/11 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Smith, Glaze, Bainbridge, Forrest, Ransted, Wilkes and Wood.

150/11 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Cameron. The Meeting agreed to accept the apologies.

151/11 Declarations of Interest – No Declarations were received.

152/11 Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 2011 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th October 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.

153/11 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis gave the following report:

- Highlighted the extra lottery funding currently available for community projects;
- Localism Bill – currently going through the House of Lords;
- Wychavon District Council now expect that they will recover all funds lost relating to Icelandic Banks.

154/11 Progress Reports – Clerk:

The Clerk informed the Meeting that Roy Fuller (Worcestershire Highways Liaison Officer) will attend the December Meeting to discuss the possibility of a reduction of the speed limit in School Lane, and other Highway matters.

Eckington bridge works – the Clerk informed the Meeting that the recent work undertaken by Worcestershire Highways had revealed:

- The road closure for 2012/2013 will be for a relatively short duration;
- The bridge will need re-waterproofing and resurfacing;
- Necessary work to the underside of the arches will be undertaken, without the need for traffic management;
- Richard Attwood will attend a PC meeting in early 2012 to discuss further.

Breach of planning permission 02450 – Wychavon DC confirm the matter has now been investigated and that although the outside area has not increased, a change of layout has taken place internally. A planning application relating to this variation should be expected during the next few weeks.

Parking on yellow lines in Station Road – the matter has been reported to Wychavon DC and parking enforcement officers are monitoring the problem.

Village Hall – Successful fundraising reported.

Electrics to be checked every 3 years instead of annually.

Obtaining a music licence had been discussed at the recent meeting – no decision taken as yet.

A draft letter of support for building works will be required from the PC, to be sent to possible funding opportunities. Clerk to draft this.

Rec Centre – It was reported that the recent bonfire evening had been extremely successful.

Minor ongoing repairs were also reported.

Footpaths - It was reported that all officially adopted footpaths have now been prioritised by Worcestershire County Council.

BHCG – It was now confirmed that Overbury Estate, who are the owners of Parsons Folly (Bredon Hill monument), are not in favour of English Heritage taking over responsibility for the monument. Cllr Ransted will keep the PC updated in this matter.

155/11 – 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 11th October 2011:

Planning Approvals

W/11/02008/PP Court Gate Corner, Manor Road – construct first floor bedroom over existing utility room.

Planning Application to be discussed:

W/11/02144/PP Sunrise, Manor Road – replacement garage (retrospective amendment to previous permission W/11/00766/PP) – no objection (although queries raised)

W/11/02245/CU Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – change of use from redundant agricultural barn to 2no semi detached residential dwellings, each with separate garage/storage buildings – no objection

W/11/02350/PP Russetts, Manor Close – demolish conservatory and erection of new extension – no objection

Planning application W/11/01914/OU (Anchor Inn – outline planning 3 terraced dwellings) – withdrawn.

The Parish Council discussed a letter received from the Owners of the Anchor Inn regarding a proposed new planning application. It was agreed that the original comments from the PC still apply, as no indication had been given regarding the development of the pub itself, only the car parking area.

It was also agreed that a letter should be written to Wychavon District Council relating to planning enforcement.

156/11 – Burial Fees – It was agreed that the Clerk would seek to compare current fees with other neighbouring parishes and that the matter would then be placed on December's Agenda for further discussion.

157/11 – Cala Homes - The Meeting discussed the results of the Section 106 Village Questionnaire. It was agreed that a further meeting would be arranged with Wychavon District Council to discuss initial thoughts on possible uses for the money. A working party consisting of Cllrs. Bainbridge, Wilkes and Forrest was agreed. It was also agreed that the working party would report back to the PC regarding the Wychavon DC.

(8.15 – County Councillor Hardman arrived).

Cllr Hardman discussed the following points:

- Proposed 20mph speed limit for School Lane – agreed to pursue the issue;
- 382 bus service – confirmed a later bus service is currently being investigated;
- Footways improvements – urged the PC to consider what improvements are currently required within the village, then to inform Worcestershire Highways in order that the work may be considered – it was agreed this will be discussed at the next Meeting.
- Removal of grit bin from Pershore/Drakesbridge Road to Russell Drive – Cllrs Hardman agreed to pursue this matter.

158/11 – Vehicle Activated Speed Sign – The Clerk confirmed currently no date had been received for the installation of posts required for the sign, although the matter is still being pursued. It was also confirmed that the Lengthsman would consider taking responsibility for the moving of the sign, once installation has been completed.

The Meeting agreed to the purchase of 100 ‘30mph’ speed stickers to be attached to wheelie bins along New Road and the main road. A proposal was therefore made by Cllr Forrest and seconded by Cllr Glaze.

159/11 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – Cllr Glaze informed the Meeting that the amount of funding to be made available for use by Parish Councils’ had not yet been officially confirmed. It was therefore agreed that the matter would be included on the December agenda, when it was proposed that a working party in relation to this matter would be agreed.

160/11 – Community Bus Service Scheme – Cllr Glaze reported that he had attended a second Pershore transport meeting and confirmed that a representative from Aston’s (bus company – 382 service) had agreed to attend the next meeting in order to answer concerns raised. Cllr Gaze would attend and report back to the PC Meeting.

161/11 Cemetery & Graveyard Inspection – The Meeting discussed the quotes received in relation to the maintenance work required. Cllr Forrest proposed that the Parish Council accept the cheapest quote, this was seconded by Cllr Wilkes.

The Meeting discussed the quotes received in relation to mole control at the cemetery. Cllr Glaze informed the Meeting that he also had a contact in relation to this matter, and it was therefore agreed that if this proved to be the cheaper option, the Clerk would instruct his services. It was agreed that the Clerk would pursue this matter.

162/11 – Eckington Wharf - The Meeting discussed the response received from Countryside Services in relation to the recent letter sent by the PC regarding recent work undertaken at the Wharf. The Parish Council agreed that written communication from Countryside Services relating to the intended works would have been appropriate in this matter in order that the PC

would have been fully aware of plans for the area, before the works had taken place. It was therefore agreed a further letter would be sent to Countryside Services expressing this view and to enquire when seeding at the Wharf will take place.

163/11 – Correspondence for Information – The Meeting noted the file of correspondence available for inspection.

164/11 – Finance – Cllr Bainbridge proposed and was seconded by Cllr Forrest that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£309.34
Admin expenses & mileage	£24.42
Lengthsman salary	£166.88
Roger Small	£540.00
Village hall hire (September & October)	£20.00
Nils Wilkes (reimbursement – bulbs, war memorial)	£4.50
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£237.64
Eckington Recreation Centre	£1250.00

The Meeting agreed that the Clerk would arrange the precept meeting, for the finance committee's attendance.

165/11 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

Highways issues:

- Grit bin request on Hammock Road/Manor Road junction;
- Padlock requested for use on 'bridge closure sign'.

It was agreed that the Clerk would make a request to Worcestershire Highways relating to these matters.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th December 2011.
The meeting was closed at 10.15pm.