

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011 – John Wiffen attended the open public forum. Mr Wiffen questioned whether a speed reduction in School Lane would be effective. Various other ideas for speed calming were briefly discussed. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed in more detail later in the Meeting.

Roy Fullee (Worcestershire Highways Senior Highways Engineer) attended the Meeting. The following matters were discussed:

- Various possibilities relating to speed calming were outlined. Roy agreed that he would send details of all these options to the PC for their consideration;
- It was confirmed that the four posts required for the VAS sign would be erected during the next few weeks;
- The potential hazards for pedestrians at Pike House along the narrow path were discussed. Roy agreed to make a site visit to assess the area and contemplate whether any improvements regarding safety could be made;
- The issue of padlocking the ‘bridge closure’ sign was discussed. It was agreed that the PC would monitor the matter during the coming months.

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th December 2011**

166/11 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Cameron, Smith, Glaze, Bainbridge, Forrest, Ransted, Wilkes and Wood.

167/11 Apologies – No Apologies were received.

168/11 Declarations of Interest – No Declarations were received.

169/11 Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 08<sup>th</sup> November 2011 – Following one minor amendment (157/11 remove ‘Ransted’), the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 08<sup>th</sup> November 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.

170/11 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis gave the following report:

- Budgets will be finalized January/February, savings have been achieved;
- The issue of opening times for Evesham Hospital was discussed – Roy agreed to further investigate this matter.

171/11 Progress Reports – Clerk:

The Clerk informed the Meeting that the following matters had been/are being attended to:

- Mole clearance has begun at the cemetery. The cost is £80 plus VAT. The contractor will inform the Clerk once the matter has been fully attended to;
- Eckington Wharf – grass seeding and installation of benches has now been completed, more benches will be installed during the coming weeks.
- Relocation of the grit bin on the corner of Pershore Road/Drakesbridge Road has now taken place.

It was also agreed that:

- The Clerk would organise a donation of £50 to Wychavon CAB (only if this has been undertaken in the last few years);
- The Clerk would request that Laura Synuck (Pershore Volunteer Centre) carry out a survey within the village to assess need in relation to the community bus scheme;

- The Clerk would put a notice in the Parish Magazine informing residents that the PC is in possession of sandbags and water pumps, should the need arise.

Village Hall – The Meeting was informed that the Village Hall Committee have now begun making applications for funding. The Meeting discussed the draft letter which endorses the support from the PC in relation to the proposed new build. One minor amendment to the letter was made.

Footpaths - It was confirmed that comments from the PC regarding footpaths (Piecing/Hammock Lane) have now been made. The PC agreed that contacting the Ramblers Association in relation to this matter could be an option for the future.

BHCG – It was now confirmed that Overbury Estate will remain the owners and be responsible for Parsons Folly (Bredon Hill monument).

CALC – The Meeting was informed that a presentation regarding the New Homes Bonus Scheme had been made, although there was no real update concerning this matter.

PACT – It was reported that the parking issue on Station Road had been reported to the PACT meeting, the matter would be reported to the parking enforcement officers at Wychavon DC. The Meeting was in agreement that the problem had improved slightly.

172/11 – 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 08<sup>th</sup> November 2011:

W/11/02503 Manor Farm, Manor Road – increase in habitable space – objection.

### **Planning Approvals**

W/11/02245/PP Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – change of use – barn to 2 semi detached dwellings.

### **Planning Application to be discussed:**

W/11/02285/OU land adjacent Sandrene, Tewkesbury Road – outline application for the erection of one dwelling and garage – objection.

W/11/02566/LB 4 Woollas Hall, Woollas Hill – replacement windows – no objection.

Consultation request – proposed removal of hedgerow – to examine plans and submit a response – objection (Clerk also to contact CPRE for advice).

173/11 – Highway Matters – Footpath resurfacing (Highways request) – it was agreed that a request for the following areas would be made:

- Station Road (east of the railway, both sides);
- New Road, from Pass Street to Upper End (on south side);
- Glenmoor.

The Meeting discussed concerns raised by a local resident, and agreed that the concerns should be brought to the attention of Worcestershire Highways.

It was also agreed that a request would be made to Highways to remove traffic lights currently situated on Drakesbridge Road.

174/11 – Burial Fees – The Meeting discussed and compared the current fees for the Parish of Eckington with that of neighbouring parishes and agreed that the 5% increase proposed by

Eckington PC would be acceptable, a proposal was therefore made by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Ransted.

175/11 – Cala Homes - The Meeting examined the report made by Cllr Glaze in relation to the recent meeting held at Wychavon DC, to discuss possible use of the Section 106 funding. The Section 106 working party agreed that the meeting had been positive and that the PC were now in a position where an approach to the vendor of the land identified had been made, and further developments regarding this matter were now awaited. It was also agreed that Cllr Wilkes would be the point of contact from the PC for any initial developments.

176/11 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – Cllr Glaze informed the Meeting that official figures regarding this scheme had now been received. It was also confirmed that this amount goes some way in replacing grant funding within the County. The Meeting agreed that the Clerk would write to every group within the village requesting that any small projects which may require funding, be brought to the attention of the PC. A working party consisting of Cllrs Cameron, Smith and Glaze was agreed.

177/11 – Community Bus Service Scheme – Cllr Glaze reported that he had attended the third Pershore transport meeting. It was reported that:

- One change had been made to the current 382 service (change of time relating to last bus) – Clerk would put notice regarding this in Parish Magazine;
- Currently there was still no flood timetable available – the Clerk would write to Astons (bus company) to request this.

Due to the fact that there had been no attendance from an Astons representative at the meeting, there was therefore no further developments to report.

178/11 Jubilee Trees – The Meeting discussed the request to plant trees within the village to commemorate this event. The Meeting agreed the request in principle, and agreed the matter would be further discussed later in the year.

179/11 – Grass Cutting & Tree Maintenance - The Meeting discussed the idea of appointing a contractor to carry out all grass cutting and minor tree works. It was agreed that the matter would not be pursued.

Cllr Glaze proposed and was seconded by Cllr Wilkes that one further grass cut of the season be carried out by the PC contractor.

180/11 – Wychavon Bursary 2011/2012 – One nomination for the bursary was discussed. The Meeting agreed that following verification of suitability, a nomination should be made.

181/11 – Worcestershire Sport Relief 2012 – The Meeting discussed the request received from BBC Comic Relief. It was agreed that the request would be passed to the Recreation Committee for their consideration.

182/11 – Allotment Stile – The Meeting discussed and agreed the request to move the stile to an alternative spot. The Meeting was in agreement that the allotment holder who had made the request would carry out the work.

183/11 – Correspondence for Information – The Meeting noted the file of correspondence available for inspection.

184/11 – Finance – Cllr Glaze proposed and was seconded by Cllr Wilkes that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£309.34
Admin expenses & mileage	£34.98
Lengthsman salary	£141.90
P B Safety Supplies	£216.00
L Gerber (reimbursement – BT phone line)	£69.24
P Westwood (cemetery stone works (Turnbull))	£354.00

The Meeting discussed the budget for 2012/13 prepared by the Finance Committee. All were in agreement to request the proposed precept, therefore a proposal was made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Smith.

185/11 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

It was agreed that the report prepared by Cllr Bainbridge concerning the Section 106 village questionnaire would be included in both the parish magazine and village website.

Cllr Wilkes agreed to prepare documents for the grass cutting tender (due February 2012).

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

The meeting was closed at 10.45pm.