

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012 – There was no attendance at the open public forum.

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

16/12 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Cameron, Ransted, Glaze, Bainbridge, Forrest, Wilkes and Wood.

17/12 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Smith and were accepted by the Meeting.

18/12 Declarations of Interest – No Declarations were received.

19/12 Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Glaze, this was seconded by Cllr Cameron. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

20/12 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis informed the Meeting of the following:

- Forthcoming Review of Health Roadshow;
- New Homes Bonus Seminar (to take place at the end of March);
- Cllr Davis informed the Meeting that he had not been involved in the decision making process regarding the application to remove the hedge at Days Farm and was therefore not able to pass on any further information to the Parish Council regarding this matter.

A discussion took place regarding the process for delegated planning matters. The Meeting expressed their concern regarding the outcome of several planning applications within the village. Cllr Davis informed the Meeting that the Parish Council could lodge a formal complaint to Wychavon District Council regarding this matter, if they wished to do so.

Cllr Hardman gave the following report:

- Worcestershire County Council budget will be frozen for the new financial year;
- Footway repairs throughout the county have been scheduled for this year;

The following matters were discussed:

- Complaints from the Police had been received regarding the 30mph stickers attached to wheelie bins – The Meeting confirmed that permission to use the stickers had been given by Wychavon DC;
- Eckington Wharf – The Meeting was informed that it is anticipated that the Parish Council may be given the opportunity to be responsible for the Wharf at some point in the future. The Parish Council should expect a letter from Countryside Services giving further information and inviting the PC to a Greenspaces Open Forum to discuss the matter further.
- VAS sign (installation of posts) – Cllr Hardman agreed to pursue this matter.
- 20mph sign (School Lane) – sign not yet installed, as Eckington are not on the priority list.

21/12 Progress Reports – Clerk:

It was reported that dates have now been received from Network Rail in relation to the necessary maintenance work at the culvert (off Tewkesbury Road). Dates proposed are 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> April.

Letters read to the Meeting:

- Copy letter from resident in relation to 'Eckington Footpaths' – noted.
- New community (Bredon Hill villages) website – Cllr Bainbridge would respond, if necessary.
- Worcestershire funding event – Cllr Bainbridge to attend.
- Letter of thanks from Wychavon CAB, with regard to PC donation sent.

Village Hall – It was reported that the following matters were raised and discussed at the recent meeting:

- The Committee now have in their possession Minutes in relation to the Village Hall dating from 1919 ;
- Fund raising, in relation to repairs, now well underway;

Recreation Centre – Request made for dog waste bin at Wharf – PC agreed it was doubtful this would be used, due to close proximity of open fields.

Footpaths - It was reported that a new stile has been installed (on route to Woollas Hall).

BHCG – The Meeting discussed the proposed additional housing (Gloucester/Cheltenham/Tewkesbury JCS) planned for Tewkesbury and the surrounding area (2,100 new dwellings up until 2031). It was agreed that such a large increase in housing would cause a substantial increase in traffic around the Bredon Hill area, including Eckington, during the next few years. The Meeting requested that the Clerk include this information in the PC Parish Magazine article.

PACT – A further burglary in the village was reported. The Meeting was informed that a Police Officer is intending to attend the March meeting.

22/12 – 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 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012:

### **Planning Approvals**

W/11/02764/PN Anchor Inn, Cotheridge Lane – two 2 bed, semi detached dwellings on part of Anchor Inn Car Park.

### **Planning Applications to be discussed:**

W/12/00001/PP Halcyon Days & Days Farm, Upper End – Demolish existing outhouses.

Construct new 2 storey extension to provide new bathroom, bedroom & utility. Form new elevation. Construct new porch – No objection.

W/12/00069/PP 5 Hacketts Lane – Conversion of flat roof to pitched & erection of porch to front of house – No objection.

The Meeting further discussed Wychavon District Council's planning process, in particular with regard to delegated matters. It was agreed that a letter of formal complaint to Wychavon DC should be sent. It was agreed that the Clerk would e-mail any relevant correspondence to Cllrs Bainbridge and Glaze, who agreed to draft the letter in readiness for the next PC Meeting.

23/12 – Highway Matters – The Meeting was informed that Cllr Williamson had met with Roy Fullee (Worcestershire Highways) to discuss any possible speed measures that could be put in place on Pershore Road. Mr Fullee will produce a report regarding this matter (Clerk will bring to the next meeting).

Clerk to make enquiries regarding grit bin for junction of Hammock Lane/Manor Road. Also to request grit bin refill at Footbridge.

24/12 – Grass Cutting Contract – The Meeting examined and discussed the quotes received regarding the 3 year contract. A proposal was made by Cllr Forrest that New Farm Grounds Maintenance should again be awarded the contract. This was seconded by Cllr Cameron.

25/12 – Jubilee Tree Planting – The Meeting noted the information received regarding Jubilee Woods (Woodland Trust), but agreed that there was nowhere suitable to plant such a large amount of saplings within the village.

26/12 – Cala Homes & Section 106 Funding - Due to the fact that no further progress had been made in relation to the purchase of land, there was nothing further to report at this stage.

27/12 – Vehicle Activated Speed Sign – Installation of posts – still ongoing.

28/12 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – The Clerk informed the Meeting that five responses from small groups and organisations within the village had now been received. Cllr Glaze agreed that the responses would be discussed at the meeting of the sub-committee.

29/12 – Community Bus Service Scheme – The Meeting received two reports regarding the recent transport meetings held in Pershore. The Meeting also examined the proposed timetable for the community service (to run between Pershore Train Station, Pershore, Defford, Eckington, Croome Park, Kempsey, St. Peter's and Worcester on Sundays). The Meeting agreed that they would be in favour of a community service, which it hoped would fill the gaps left by the reduction of the 382 bus service.

30/12 – Worcestershire Agreement – The Meeting agreed that the Parish Council should sign the Worcestershire Agreement, therefore a proposal was made by Cllr Cameron and seconded by Cllr Glaze.

31/12 – Democracy & Elections Scutiny Team – The Clerk read correspondence received from Wychavon District Council in relation to an examination of the 2011 election process. The Meeting noted the correspondence and agreed to make a response to the District Councillor when required to do so.

32/12 – Finance – Cllr Glaze proposed and was seconded by Cllr Bainbridge that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£309.34
Admin expenses & mileage	£17.30
Lengthsman salary	£141.90
Village hall hire	£12.00

**Payments already made:**

The Royal British Legion (poppy wreath)	£18.50
Wychavon CAB (donation)	£100.00
Perdix (mole control)	£96.00

33/12 – Correspondence for Information – The Meeting noted the file of correspondence available for inspection.

34/12 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

The following matters were raised:

- Queen's Jubilee – what is being done within the school to mark the occasion? – Cllr Glaze informed the Meeting that the school have already agreed how they will be commemorating the occasion for the children;
- The Meeting discussed public liability in relation to the proposed litter pick to be carried out by the WI. It was agreed that they would need to make their own enquiries in relation to this matter.

A small gift was awarded to Cllr Wilkes in recognition of his work undertaken at war memorial over many years. The gift was received with many thanks.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

The meeting was closed at 9.55pm.