

Tuesday 08th December 2012 – Five residents attended the open public forum.

Three residents raised the issue of planning application W/12/02475/PN (Eckington Manor Cookery School). Concerns were raised relating to the potential increase of traffic and additional highway safety problems. The matter was briefly discussed and residents were informed that all comments would be considered, when the matter was discussed during the Parish Council Meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 08th December 2012

174/12 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Cameron, Ransted, Glaze, Wood, Smith, Forrest, Bainbridge and Wilkes.

175/12 Apologies – None

176/12 Declarations of Interest – Cllrs Glaze, Forrest and Wood declared an interest in the Village Hall. It was agreed that these Councillors would fill in dispensation forms relating to the village hall, in order that they may participate fully in any discussion during Parish Council Meetings, regarding this matter.

177/12 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13th November 2012 – Following one minor addition, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Smith, this was seconded by Cllr Glaze. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

178/12 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis reported the following:

- SWDP – Process still ongoing, although a plan needs to be in place as soon as possible. WDC will be looking at the issue again before the new year;
- Council tax has again been frozen by the Government;
- SIL infrastructure – currently being considered by WDC;
- The new Police Crime Panel – ongoing.

Cllr Davis also informed the Meeting, that after consideration Defford PC had decided not to financially support the 381 bus service proposed for next summer (item 8 on the Agenda), due to the fact that it had not been well supported within the village.

Cllr Hardman was unable to attend the Meeting but sent a report. The following were the main items covered:

- Definitive Map – The Meeting was informed that the modification order to add a footpath to Drakesbridge Road along Peason Lane, had now been agreed and was now in the process of being added to the Definitive Map;
- Flooding – Cllr Hardman requested information regarding any recent flooding which has taken place in Eckington. The Clerk agreed to e-mail any details;
- Council Tax – It is expected that Council tax for both the District and Council next year will again be frozen;
- Boon Street - The PC were asked to consider whether an advance headroom restriction sign (due to large vehicles using this road), should be installed near Boon Street. The Meeting were all in favour of installing the sign.

179/12 – 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 13th November 2012:

W/12/02282/PN Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road (Amendment) – Alterations to the pitch of roof to cottages, windows on south elevation, and wall to front of cottages. Reduction in size of garage block – No objections.

Planning Approvals

W/12/01809/CU 2 Oatsley, Upper End – Change of use of existing garage/hobbies room use Class C3 to use Class B1/B2.

W/12/02083/PP Riverdene, Pershore Road – Two storey side and rear extension to existing dwelling to form annex.

Planning Applications to be discussed:

W/12/02383/PN Clennage, Nafford Road – Demolition of existing house and construction of new 6 bed property with separate triple garage building & detached gym with roof balcony – No objection.

W/12/02232/CU Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Conversion of existing coach house to form new 2 bed granny annex – No objection.

W/12/02475/PN Eckington Manor Cookery School, Manor Farm, Manor Road – 2 storey extension to cookery school to allow expansion of the dining area at first floor and expansion of retail, reception & admin. to ground floor as approved under App. W/10/01336/PN without compliance with condition 8 (limiting use of the dining area to visitors attending cookery school courses and demonstrations – Deferral sought from WDC until all relevant information received from the Parish Council. Cllr Davis agreed to make a request.

W/12/02140/PP & W/12/02141/LB Old School House, Jarvis Street – Single storey rear extension – No objection.

W/12/02486 & 02487 Anchor Inn, Cotheridge Lane – Conversion of the pub to a single dwelling, including demolition of extensions and erection of two semi detached dwellings – Objection.

W/12/02577 Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Conversion and extension of stable and dairy buildings to one residential dwelling – No objection.

180/12 Progress Reports – Clerk:

Correspondence received from the Cotswold Conservation Board relating to a pilot project which requires local volunteers, was read to the Meeting. It was agreed that the information would be placed in the Parish Magazine.

Village Hall – It was reported that:

- a second estimation regarding insulation had now been received;
- the new staging was due to be erected within the next few weeks.

Footpaths – The Meeting was informed that due to problems encountered by some walkers with the use of stiles, it is intended that they will be replaced by gates along the walk at Stoney Furlong.

BHCG – It was reported that:

- BHCG had opposed the application for an additional telecommunications mast to be installed on Bredon Hill;

- Concern had been raised regarding decrease in numbers of fallow deer around Bredon Hill. BHCG hoped to be able to calculate the current population in order to assess the decrease in population.

CALC – A recent meeting had taken place, where the guest speaker had reported on the need for all Parishes to produce a Parish Plan

PACT – Recent burglaries which have taken place in neighbouring parishes was reported. It was therefore agreed that the matter should be mentioned in the Parish Magazine.

181/12 – Finance (a) –

The Meeting discussed the proposed budget for 2013/14 prepared by the Finance Committee. The Meeting agreed the draft proposal. It was also agreed that a final agreement to the proposal would be made at the January meeting (when all relevant information regarding budgets had been received).

182/12 – Highway Matters –

The Clerk reported the following drainage matters:

Nafford Road & Hacketts Lane – The Clerk reported Highways’ response to these ongoing drainage issues. The Meeting agreed that the response was unsatisfactory and it was therefore agreed that Cllr Wilkes would draft a further response to Highways regarding these matters.

Grass verge cutting – The Clerk informed the Meeting that contact had now been made with the contractor responsible for verge cutting within the village, and information regarding the works was expected shortly.

183/12 – Bus Service 381 – The Meeting discussed the request received from Pershore Town Council, in relation to a funding contribution. The Meeting agreed that, as recorded data showed that residents of Eckington had made good use of the service, the Parish Council would support the service for a second year (dependent upon whether other funding sources could be secured).

184/12 – Cala Homes & Section 106 Funding - The Meeting was informed that the site meeting between Wychavon DC and the Section 106 Funding Committee (in order to discuss a recent proposal put forward by the Recreation Committee), had been now taken place and that Wychavon DC had been favourable towards the proposal. It was therefore agreed, that the Clerk would seek formal confirmation from WDC, before informing the Recreation Committee.

185/12 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – The Meeting discussed and agreed upon the donation from the New Homes Bonus funding, which would be given to the Village Hall Committee towards renovations to the hall. It was therefore agreed, that the Clerk would formally advise the Village Hall of this decision.

186/12 – Community Based Oil Buying Scheme - The Meeting discussed the Scheme, however it was agreed that there would not be a large enough need within the village for the scheme to be viable.

187/12 – Parish Council Training – The Meeting agreed that the ‘whole Council training’ offered by CALC, to be undertaken within the village, would be of interest to the Parish Council. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would seek relevant dates from CALC for the training to take place and would also investigate which other neighbouring Parishes may be interested in attending the training.

188/12 – Vehicle Activated Speed Sign – The Meeting discussed the request from Bredon Parish Council, regarding the hire of the VAS. It was agreed that Eckington PC would be interested ‘in principle’ to the sign being on loan for four months of the year (terms and conditions to be agreed at a later stage).

189/12 – Finance (b) – Cllr Bainbridge proposed and was seconded by Cllr Forrest that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk’s salary	£318.46
Admin expenses & mileage	£38.00
Lengthsman salary	£148.00
Stuart Blunsom Tree Services	£775.00
Louise Gerber (reimbursement for BT phone bill)	£75.61
Eckington Football Club	£2000.00

Payments Already Made:

Eckington Scout & Guide Group	£3178.86
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190/12 – Correspondence for Information – The Meeting noted the file of correspondence available for inspection.

191/12 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

- Re-surfacing of Station Road was discussed – work has been scheduled by Highways, although no date given.
- The Meeting was informed that an additional finance meeting would be scheduled for May, in order to update the proposed budget.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 08th December 2013, in the Recreation Hall.

The meeting was closed at 10.30pm.