

Tuesday 08th January 2013 – One resident attended the open public forum.

A discussion took place regarding the approved planning application in relation to Eckington Manor Cookery School and the possible implications, due to increase in traffic, regarding road safety (with particular concern at the junction of Hammock Road and Manor Road). The resident was informed that the matter would be further discussed later in the Meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 08th January 2013

01/13 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Ransted, Glaze, Wood, Smith, Forrest, Bainbridge and Wilkes.

02/13 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Cameron. The Meeting agreed to accept the Apologies.

03/13 Declarations of Interest – None received.

04/13 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 08th January 2013 – Following two minor amendments, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 08th December 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.

05/13 District & County Councillor Reports –

Cllr Davis was unable to attend the meeting, however a report was sent covering the following issues:

- The new health structure has begun taking shape;
- The new Police & Crime Panel is now operational;
- Cllr Davis confirmed his full support for the application made by the PC for use of Section 106 funding.

06/13 Progress Reports – Clerk:

The Meeting was given information regarding the next stage in the consultation, in relation to the South Worcestershire Development Plan.

The Meeting was informed of recent land drainage matters, for which requests have been made by WDC to land owners for maintenance works.

The Meeting acknowledged the letter of thanks received from the Village Hall Committee in relation to funding from the New Homes Bonus Scheme, now allocated to the Village Hall.

Village Hall – It was reported that:

- It has been agreed that the Village Hall will be nominated for an Asda charity cause;
- The new staging has now been erected;
- The recent coffee morning was again very successful;
- The Committee are still awaiting responses from some of the funding requests made.

Recreation Centre – The Meeting discussed whether extra measures needed to be put in place in relation to some of the issues raised regarding use of the allotments. It was agreed that the PC

were fulfilling their requirements (as set out in the Allotments Tenancy Agreement) and therefore, at present, no additional measures were needed.

Footpaths – The Meeting was informed that the Modification Order in relation to Drakesbridge Road/Peason Lane was now moving forward and had been officially signed off by Worcestershire County Council.

Trees – Cllr Wood agreed to research whether any measures could be taken, in order to prevent a fungus developing in the local ash trees. Cllr Wood would report back to the next Meeting.

PACT – It was reported that a few burglaries had taken place during the Christmas Period.

07/13 – Planning – The Meeting discussed and approved the draft letter to WDC prepared in response to concerns regarding planning application W/12/02475 (Eckington Manor Cookery School) and the possible implications, due to increase in traffic, regarding road safety.

It was also agreed that a meeting with Worcestershire Highways would be requested in order to discuss these concerns and seek a resolution to these safety issues.

(Cllr Hardman arrived)

Cllr Hardman reported the following:

- Council Tax will be frozen for this year;
- Funds will continue to be put in towards flood mitigation;
- It is anticipated that, due to regular use by heavy goods vehicles, advance height warning signs will be placed at the junctions of Boon Street/Drakesbridge Road and Station Road/Manor Road

Planning – (continued) - The following planning matters have been brought before the Clerk and/or Wychavon District Council since the last Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 08th December 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/12/02383/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.

W/12/02232/CU Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Conversion of existing coach house to form new 2 bed granny annex.

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).

W/12/02282/PN Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Demolition of existing agricultural cottages and replacement with 2 semi detached residential dwellings and erection of garage block.

Planning Applications to be discussed:

W/12/02491/PP The Bungalow, Station Road – Single storey extension, hipped tiled roof over existing flat roof and internal alterations – No objections.

W/12/02655/PP The Hollies, Cotheridge Lane – Part demolition of existing garden wall and construction of new single storey lounge extension, construct new section of garden wall – No objections.

08/13 – Highway Matters –

Nafford Road & Hacketts Lane (drainage issue) and request for grit bin – ongoing. Cllr Hardman agreed to investigate, in an effort to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

Grass verge cutting – Awaiting information regarding the works from the contractors. The Clerk would continue to pursue the matter.

Debris left at either side of the bridge (due to flooding) was discussed. It was agreed that Councillors would consider this matter and where the responsibility for clearing the area lies, in readiness for the next Meeting.

09/13 – Cala Homes & Section 106 Funding - The Meeting was informed that the application for funding for improvements to the Recreation Ground had now been prepared by Wychavon District Council, in readiness to be considered at the Localism & Communities Advisory Panel due to be held in February.

It was agreed that in the meantime the Recreation Committee should be asked to supply accurate quotes for the intended work and that the Clerk would check with WDC that the works can be carried out in stages.

10/13 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – The Meeting discussed the portion of funding allocated to Eckington for year 3 of the Scheme. It was agreed that all Councillors would consider the matter in readiness for further discussion at the next Meeting.

The Meeting discussed whether the PC should be allowed to make purchases on behalf of village groups in order that VAT can be re-claimed for products purchased. It was agreed that the clerk would seek advice from CALC regarding the legality of this proposal.

11/13 – Parish Council Training - The Clerk informed the Meeting of the training dates now confirmed with CALC. It was agreed that the training should be offered to other villages surrounding the Parish (in addition to the 3 Parishes already invited).

12/13 – Finance – Cllr Glaze proposed and was seconded by Cllr Bainbridge that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£318.46
Admin expenses & mileage	£16.40
Lengthsman salary	£148.00
Village Hall hire (November)	£12.00
Recreation Centre – hire	£27.00
PAYE	£53.20

13/13 – Correspondence for Information – None.

14/13 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

- Cllr Ransted queried whether he should also be attending CALC meeting also on behalf of PTMP – it was agreed that the PC would have no issues if he wished to attend.

- 381 Bus Service – It was reported funding was now in place for a further year, offering a slightly different route (still taking in Croome and Pershore Train Station). A decision would be taken at the end of 2013 as to whether the service will continue thereafter.
- Matters to report to Highways - Jarvis Street – pothole;
Overflowing dog waste bin – Station Rd.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 12th February 2013, in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 09.35pm.