

Tuesday 09 April 2013 – There were no residents present at the Open Public Forum.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 09th April 2013

45/13 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Ransted, Cameron, Wood, Smith, Glaze, Bainbridge and Wilkes.

46/13 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Forrest and were duly accepted by the Meeting.

47/13 Declarations of Interest – No declarations were received.

48/13 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12th March 2013 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th March were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Wilkes, this was seconded by Cllr Bainbridge. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

49/13 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis reported on the following issues:

- The new Police & Crime Panel is now operational;
- The Civic Centre (Persnore), is now partially tenanted (previously the whole building was used by WDC);
- Cllr Davis informed the Meeting of organizations where advice can be obtained by local residents, regarding the new welfare reform changes.

50/13 Progress Reports – The following was reported:

Village Hall – Replacement windows and cladding have now been installed.

Footpaths – The outcome relating to the Modification Order concerning Drakesbridge Road/Peason Lane, is still awaited.

BHCG – The Meeting was informed that it was now extremely likely that the re-development at Ashchurch Army Camp will take place in the near future.

PACT – Concerns over speeding within the village had again been discussed. This was noted by the local Police present.

PMTP – Cllr Ransted had attended the recent meeting, where a presentation regarding Broadband within the locality was given.

Tree Warden – Cllr Wood informed the Meeting that he had make investigations into whether it would be possible to inject local ash trees to prevent a fungal infection, however it was apparent that this would not be possible at present.

50/13 – 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 12th March 2013:

W/13/00505/PN Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Proposed conversion of existing redundant stable and dairy buildings, to 2 residential dwellings, complete with 2 detached garage buildings – No objection

Planning Approvals

W/12/02620/PN Land adjacent Sandrene, Tewkesbury Road – Re submission of application No. W/12/00833/PN for one detached bungalow, parking and access.

Planning Applications to be discussed:

W/13/00509/PP Croft Cottage, Upper End – Construction of a dovecote in garden area – No objection (Clerk to check with WDC that neighboring properties had also received details of planning application).

51/13 – Highway Matters –

Nafford Road (overgrown hedges) – Highways have now confirmed they will make another site visit to the area and if they are in agreement that there is a safety issue with regard to the hedges, they will instruct contractors to cut back.

Grass verge cutting – Highways are currently in the process of awarding contractors their specific grass cutting areas within the County, following which the contractor can be contacted to enquire about the cost to the Parish for an additional cut.

Highways have also confirmed that within the next two weeks they will visit Eckington in order to take exact measurements of the areas which are cut, in order that an accurate figure for the funding which would be allotted to the Parish (if the PC were to take on the responsibility for rural grass cutting themselves), could be given.

Nafford Road (subsidence) – The matter is now with the local works team. The work will be subject to funding availability.

Relocation of the bus turn – A decision regarding the relocation from The Close to Glenmoor is still awaited. The Clerk will continue to pursue the matter with Astons Coach Company.

Mill Lane – Request for gullies to be jetted out (in order that water can soak away more effectively). It was agreed that another request be made to Highways for white posts to be reinstated along this stretch of road.

Station Road - It was requested that the Clerk speak to Highways regarding the re-surfacing of pavements at Station Road (as this did not take place in the last financial year as promised).

Speeding Issues – The following findings regarding the recent speed data received from Highways were discussed:

- 15% improvement since the implementation of the VAS sign;
- Differences were noted between northbound and southbound speed;
- The need for another speed survey to be undertaken in December 2013 (in order to compare with December 2012).

The Meeting agreed that a representative from Worcestershire Highways should be invited to a Parish Council meeting in order to discuss and interpret more fully the latest data collated.

52/13 – Section 106 Funding – It was reported that the Recreation Committee have scheduled a meeting with a planning consultant in order that advice may be given relating to plans for use of the funding. Quotes for the work will then be sought.

53/13 – New Homes Bonus Meeting - The following was reported to the Meeting:

- The new slide will shortly be installed at the Recreation Ground;
- All the money received from WDC so far has now been spent (apart from the portion allocated to the WI, which it is anticipated will go towards a new projector);
- Application for use of monies for Village Hall – awaiting detailed costing information. The money can be used only for projects yet to commence;
- Suggestions for use of further money – following further discussion, it is anticipated a report will be made to the June Meeting with regard to best use of the funding. A meeting with residents to discuss this issue will also take place.

54/13 – Parish Lengthsman- It was agreed the Clerk would liaise with the Chair to arrange the Parish Lengthsman's yearly appraisal.

55/13 – CiLCA Qualification – Following recent Parish training regarding CiLCA (undertaken by CALC), it was agreed that the Clerk would not pursue the qualification at present.

56/13 – Parish Defibrillator – The Meeting was informed that the Clerk had been in contact with the Vale of Evesham CFR Group, who had confirmed that they had been given the Parish defibrillator three years ago. The Clerk had therefore made a formal request in writing for the defibrillator to be returned to Eckington, as a request had been made to the PC for one to be available for use within the village. It was agreed that the matter would be further discussed, once the defibrillator had been returned to the PC.

57/13 – Finance – Cllr Glaze proposed and was seconded by Cllr Cameron that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£318.46
Admin expenses & mileage	£33.75
Lengthsman salary	£148.00
Wychavon District Council – rating demand	£57.66
Worcestershire County Council – grit bin	£150.00
LCR subs	£16.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£179.82
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec. cut)	£136.80

58/13 – Correspondence for Information – Noted.

59/13 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

- Clerk to update budget in readiness for half yearly finance meeting;
- Request WDC to empty overflowing dog bin on Station Road;
- Moles activity in cemetery reported – Cllr Wilkes will investigate and report back to the Clerk;
- Clerk to request WCC to ensure grass cut has taken place during the week before the Open Garden weekend;
- Clerk to check there will be enough Councillors at the next Meeting to ensure a quorum;
- The Meeting discussed the response given by WDC planning enforcement regarding concerns raised by the PC in relation to vehicles associated with the building works at Riverdene parked on Pershore Road and the corner of New Road. It was agreed that the response was unsatisfactory (this had been a condition of planning so parking restrictions should be enforced). Due to the fact that the PC felt parking was hazardous to both motorists and pedestrians, it was therefore agreed a further letter would be sent to WDC relating to this matter.

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting and will take place on Tuesday 14th May 2013, in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 08.45pm.