

Tuesday 08<sup>th</sup> October 2013 – Mr A Donnelly attended the Open Public Forum.

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 08<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

128/13 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Wood, Smith, Cameron, Forrest, Ransted, Wilkes and Glaze.

129/13 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Bainbridge. The Meeting accepted the Apologies.

130/13 Declarations of Interest – No declarations were received, although Councillors were reminded to fill in forms for all Declarations.

131/13 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Wilkes, this was seconded by Cllr Glaze. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

132/13 District & County Councillor Reports –  
Cllr Davis:

- WDC will continue to implement cost cutting measures;
- NHB Funding – A response from the Minister is expected by the end of the year/beginning of next year. Cllr Davis advised the Parish Council to carry on preparing the applications in readiness for submission to WDC in January.

Cllr Hardman was unable to attend the Meeting but sent the following short report:

- WCC face a considerable budget challenge during the next 3 years, however every effort will be made not to retreat to a core service model;
- Cllr Hardman confirmed that he would continue to pursue the ongoing Highway matters ((i) marker posts – Mill Lane (ii) clearance of grips on B4080) relating to the Parish.

133/13 Progress Reports – The following was reported:

Clerk –

- Glenmoor – It was reported that the schedule of works drawn up by Rooftop has now been completed/dates of completion given. The Meeting was informed, however, that rubbish still needed to be cleared from the garages area. The Clerk agreed to pursue this matter;
- All Councillors were reminded of date/timings for the annual village Remembrance Day Parade;
- The Meeting agreed that the Lengthsman should check all salt stocks within the village, reporting to the Clerk should they need replenished.

Village Hall – It was reported that as the first Big Lottery application had been rejected, preparations were now underway for a second application to be made.

Recreation Centre – It was reported that the Recreation Centre had not accepted the offer made by the Parish Council (to purchase rabbit proof fencing enabling the Rec. Centre to erect the fencing themselves). Instead, an enquiry had been made to the PC as to whether NHB funding could purchase the fencing. It was therefore agreed that Cllrs Williamson and Wilkes would visit the site to evaluate the extent of the problem.

Footpaths – The following two matters were reported:

- Right of Way (Hammock Lane, The Piecing) – Currently under discussion is the restriction of the path to 1.8 meters in width. It is likely this will be included in the report to the Secretary of State, who will then have 6 months in which to look into the matter;

- A complaint has been received relating to cattle harassing walkers with dogs and fisherman at the Parish Meadow. It was therefore reported that a Public Rights of Way Officer will visit the site to investigate the issue further.

Church & Bridge Trusts – It was reported that a recent meeting had taken place, however nothing of interest to the PC to report.

CALC – Cllr Glaze informed the Meeting that he would attend the forthcoming AGM.

PACT - Cllr Ransted informed the Meeting that the issue of speed enforcement had been brought to the attention of the meeting.

PMTF – Cllr Ransted attended a recent meeting. Various matters concerning Pershore Town were discussed, although no matters regarding the Parish were discussed.

134/13 – 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 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013:

### **Planning Approvals**

W/13/01504/OU The Old Pike House, Pershore Road – Outline planning application for the erection of a 3 bed detached dwelling and garage.

135/13 – Highway Matters – The following issues were brought to the attention of the Meeting:

- Tewkesbury Road (at bus turning area) - Robinia in need of pruning – Clerk to ask Lengthsman to cut lower dead branches but speak to Highways again regarding higher branches;
- B4080 (clearing of grips) – WCC have now instructed the works;
- Lengthsman to cut back lower branches on large tree in bus turning area and to clean all 30mph signs, also checking whether other signs within the village require cleaning;
- Clerk to speak to Cllr Hardman regarding yellow lines on the road adjacent to the war memorial/old Post Office;
- The Clerk informed the Meeting that The Safer Roads Partnership had now carried out their speed data investigation and had confirmed that they wished to go ahead with their Community Concern Programme. It is therefore anticipated that speed enforcement measures will be set up in the village within the next couple of weeks and will last for a duration of 6 months.

136/13 – Section 106 Funding – The Meeting was informed that plans regarding the proposed work at the Recreation Ground are expected within the next few weeks, with works anticipated to commence in May.

137/13 – New Homes Bonus Meeting - All Cllrs were reminded of the importance of attending the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October (to discuss and receive support from the community in relation to the current NHB applications), following which an application for the funding will be made to WDC.

138/13 – Cemetery & Churchyard – The Meeting discussed and agreed the quote received from New Farm Grounds Maintenance relating to the clearance of undergrowth along the Churchyard boundaries.

The Meeting discussed and agreed the quote received from Simply Stone regarding works required at the Cemetery, following the annual safety inspection.

The Meeting discussed and agreed the removal of the large conifer tree situated in the centre of the Cemetery (due to its size and the fact that several graves lie in this area), and agreed to the quote received by Stuart Blunsom.

The Meeting agreed to an additional two hours' work to be requested from the Lengthsman, in order to clear overgrown holly and ivy at the Cemetery. A proposal was therefore made by Cllr Forrest and seconded by Cllr Cameron.

139/13 – Next Generation – The Meeting briefly discussed the information received from WCC regarding this new initiative. It was agreed that no action regarding this matter was required from the PC at present.

140/13 – Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule – Cllr Williamson briefly highlighted the main issues regarding this new initiative, which will run in addition to the current Section 106 Funding. It was agreed that all Councillors will investigate the issue further and e-mail responses in relation to information sent from WCC, direct to Cllr Williamson.

141/13 – Superfast Broadband – The Meeting agreed that, as there is already a committee set up within the village relating to this matter, there was no need for the PC to set up an additional sub-committee within the Parish Council.

142/13 – Finance – Cllr Forrest proposed and was seconded by Cllr Cameron that the following payments should be approved:

**Payments Already Made:**

Grant Thornton	£240.00
Bellinger Design	£2260.61

**Payments to be Made:**

Clerk's salary	£376.81
Admin expenses & mileage	£50.02
Lengthsman salary	£148.00
N. Wilkes (War Memorial plants)	£36.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£359.64
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec. cut)	£273.60
Worcestershire CALC (training)	£5.00
Anne Angood (WI projector)	£26.09
L. Gerber (reimbursement – printer ink cartridge)	£25.49

143/13 – Correspondence for Information – Noted.

144/13 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

- Finance committee meeting to be arranged for November.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013, in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 9.25pm.