

Tuesday 14th October 2014 – 6 residents attended the Open Public Forum.

Mr Martin requested clarification as to why the PC had stated that they ‘Did not object in principle’ regarding planning application 14/01617 & 14/01794 (Manor Farm & Lower End House, Manor Rd) and also the process by which the PC came to a decision regarding a planning application.

The PC informed the residents that all planning applications receive full consideration by the planning committee and, if necessary, a site visit will take place before a group decision is agreed upon.

The residents present informed the meeting that it was their belief that (due to a significant increase in traffic and noise pollution), approval of this application would have an extremely adverse effect on the village.

The residents also expressed concern that Wychavon DC had failed to notify/consult with the majority of neighbouring properties in relation to the planning applications and that residents had only been made aware of these by notification on the Parish Council notice board. The Meeting was informed that WDC had also not attached any planning notices in the immediate area of Manor Road.

It was suggested that a full noise assessment report should be undertaken and that the issue of increased traffic requires further investigation.

In conclusion the PC agreed in the first instance to ascertain whether further comments could still be made to Wychavon DC regarding this application. It was agreed that if this were the case, the PC would consider all new comments made at the meeting, following which a further response to the application would be formulated.

The second issue raised was regarding planning application 14/01862 – Church Cottages, Church Street. Issues of concern were as follows:

- Not enough information on the planning application regarding the car port, including distance from border of property;
- Parking arrangements have not been sufficiently considered;
- Inclusion of a secure space for wheelie bins has also not been considered;
- There is a potential for contamination from the site (due to the fact it was previously a fuel station);
- Not enough detail generally in the application.

The Parish Council thanked the resident for attending and bringing these concerns to their attention. It was confirmed that the issue would receive full consideration later (during the PC meeting).

The PC was asked to consider adding Councillor contact details and the latest Agenda and Minutes to the Parish Council section of the WCC website.

The PC informed the residents that all the information requested was already included on the village website. The residents were informed that the matter would be further discussed during the Parish Council Meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th October 2014

142/14 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Cameron, Forrest Glaze, Wilkes and Ransted.

143/14 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Bainbridge, Wood and Smith. The Meeting unanimously accepted the apologies.

144/14 Declarations of Interest – None received.

145/14 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 09th September 2014 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 09th September were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Williamson, this was seconded by Cllr Ransted. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

146/14 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis reported the following:

- Jack Hegarty has now been appointed as a shared Chief Executive with Wychavon DC and Malvern DC;
- The proposed new railway station at Norton Parkway is currently scheduled for May 2017;

The Meeting thanked Cllr Davis for his recent support in relation to concerns raised by the PC (planning application 14/01171 – land at rear of Roman Meadow) at the recent Planning Committee Meeting.

147/14 Progress Reports – The following was reported:

Clerk: The following was reported:

- Second speed survey – it was confirmed that the survey was not undertaken in July but would be carried out during October, following which the Safer Roads Partnership will consider how to proceed. Cllr Wilkes agreed to request sight of the recent speed survey undertaken by Cala Homes;
- The Clerk informed the Meeting of a Street Trading Consultation which is currently taking place in Wychavon (details of which can be found on Worcestershire Regulatory Services website).

Police Report:

- Three crimes were reported during the last 4 weeks; one burglary and two reports of damage to property;
- Concerns regarding parking in Station Road and near to the School have been investigated and continue to be monitored.

PACT: Cllr Ransted confirmed that the current speeding and parking issues were raised at the recent meeting.

BHCG – It was reported that the next meeting will take place on 22nd October.

148/14 – 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 09th September 2014:

W/14/02049/LB Whitehouse, Church Street – External works including additional rooflights – no objection.

W/14/01171/PN Land rear of Roman Meadow – New residential development of 26 dwellings including 8 affordable dwellings with associated infrastructure – Objections sent.

W/14/01920/PP Hogarth House, Boon Street – Demolish conservatory and erect single storey rear extension – no objection.

Applications to be Discussed:

W/14/01862 Church Cottages, Church Street – New 3 bed house. Alterations to annex to provide guest accommodation. Changes to front of property and to access and parking – site visit necessary.

W/14/02152 Eckington Village Hall, School Lane – Demolition of existing element of building comprising stepped external and internal access – lobby and toilet accommodation. Construction of new level access entrance, lobby and toilet accommodation – no objection.

W/02130 The Cottage, Upper End – Outline approval for new timber dwelling and reform existing driveway – site visit necessary.

Approvals:

W/14/01484/PN Courtgate Nursery, Station Road – Demolish existing block pig sty and temporary canopy and construct new single storey storage facility for forklift trucks and materials.

W/14/01554/PP Meadowcroft, Church Street – Proposed rear extension & conversion of garage.

It was requested that the Clerk write a letter of thanks to the resident who attended the Open Public Forum and raised issues to consider, regarding planning application 01862.

The Meeting discussed the issues raised during the Open Public Forum, regarding planning applications 01794 and 01617. It was agreed that:

- The PC would check with Wychavon DC regarding whether comments relating to the applications could still be made. A planning committee meeting would then be convened in order to discuss the issues raised and to formulate a second response to WDC;
- The PC would investigate legislation regarding business licensing.

149/14 – Highways – The following was reported:

- Junction Jarvis Street/School Lane/Cothridge Lane – cones installed by Police, situation continues to be monitored. Highways have confirmed they will re-paint road markings at the junction;
- Station Road (The Bell side) – investigated by the Police, but no issues found. Police will continue to monitor.

Issues to report:

- Loose BT cover on New Road/Jarvis Street.

Modification Order – Hammock Lane/The Piecing: Cllr Glaze read out, the agreed response in relation to issues raised by a resident regarding the above matter.

150/14 – Neighbourhood Plan – It was reported that:

- The Steering Group had now been formed and had already met 3 times. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/11;
- The required 6 week consultation on the Plan has now commenced;
- Foxley Tagg have produced a proposed timeline, which is well within the 2 year period;
- Anticipated cost - £11,000/£12,000. It is expected that most of this will be covered by grants, although these may come in stages. The PC budget will have to be carefully monitored.

151/14 – Grass Cutting – It was reported that WCC had now carried out a visit to the village in order to assess areas requiring grass cutting. The Parish Council will be contacted within the next

few months with regard to a budget, should the PC take on the responsibility of grass cutting themselves.

The Meeting discussed and agreed that an extra cut (under the current WCC contract) be requested for the end of October.

152/14 – Section 106 Funding – Nothing to report.

153/14 – New Homes Bonus – It was reported that the application in respect of the Village Hall has now been submitted and would shortly be considered by the WDC Executive Board.

Two more requests for funding have been made:

- Under Fives – water proof clothing;
- Purchase of feather flags (for general use within the village).

154/14 – Cala Homes – The Meeting thanked Cllr Forrest for attending and speaking at the recent Planning Committee meeting at Wychavon DC. It was agreed that the decision to defer the application until the expiry of the consultation period and a site visit and meeting with the Parish Council had taken place, was a positive one.

155/14 – Cemetery – The Meeting considered the quote received regarding further works. It was agreed that Cllr Wilkes would speak with the contractor in an effort to reduce costs. It was also agreed that Cllr Williamson would seek an additional quote in relation to the removal of surplus soil.

Following the recent survey undertaken at the Cemetery, the Meeting discussed the amount of available plots and thus the future of the Cemetery in providing for the needs of the village. It was agreed that the matter would require further consideration.

156/14 – WCC Website – The Meeting discussed the matter and agreed that Parish Council contact details and up to date information should be added to the village website, rather than to the WCC website. It was agreed, however, that in order to make the information as accessible as possible, a clearer link on the Parish Website was required.

157/14 – Telephone Box – The Meeting was informed that permission has now been received from BT for the Parish Council to purchase the telephone box. It was therefore agreed that the box would be purchased and a request placed in the Parish Magazine seeking suggestions for its use. It was also agreed that once the box had been purchased, re-painting could begin (to be undertaken by a local resident).

158/14 – Standing Orders – The Meeting discussed and agreed to the removal of paragraph 3L in the current SO's (in line with current legislation).

159/14 – Finance – Cllr Williamson proposed and was seconded by Cllr Cameron that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£376.81
Admin expenses & mileage	£33.54
Lengthsman salary	£174.09
Village hall hire	£69.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£621.18
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec cut)	£390.60

L. Gerber (ink cartridge)	£20.63
PAYE	£55.20
Foxley Tagg	£2100.00
BT Payphones	£1.00
Cllr Wilkes (reimbursement – plants & ball cock (water trough))	£21.38
L. Gerber (reimbursement for lap top parts/breakdown insurance)	£286.00

The Meeting considered and agreed the Clerk's request for reimbursement regarding computer parts/breakdown insurance paid by the Clerk since the purchase of the laptop in 2012. The payment was proposed by Cllr Wilkes and seconded by Cllr Williamson.

A meeting was scheduled for the finance committee, for the purpose of considering the budget for 2015/16.

160/14 – Correspondence for Information – Noted.

161/14 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda – Clerk to report BT cover in need of maintenance (see Item No.149/14).

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 11th November 2014, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 10.30pm.