

Tuesday 12th May 2015 – One resident attended the Open Public Forum. The following was raised:

- Update in relation to the relocation of 30mph sign on Nafford Road – The Meeting was informed that Worcestershire Highways had agreed to the request, however as it is not a priority, no timescale has been given.
- Deterioration of Verges on Nafford Road – It was requested that recent photo evidence be forwarded to the Parish Clerk for further consideration.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th May 2015

76/15 Present – Cllrs. Glaze, Wilkes, Bainbridge, Wood and Ransted.

77/15 Election of Parish Council Chairman – A proposal was made by Cllr Wilkes and seconded by Cllr Ransted, that Cllr Glaze should take the Chair. There being no further proposals, Cllr Glaze agreed to the proposal and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

78/15 Apologies – No Apologies.

79/15 Election of Vice Chairman – A proposal was made by Cllr Wilkes and seconded by Cllr Ransted, that Cllr Bainbridge should take Vice Chair. There being no further proposals, Cllr Bainbridge agreed to the proposal and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

80/15 Co-Option – The Meeting considered the two applicants for co-option. The Meeting unanimously agreed that both candidates should be co-opted to the Parish Council. As two further vacancies remained on the Parish Council, it was agreed that further co-option would be considered at the next Meeting.

81/15 Declarations of Interest – Councillors were reminded to update their Register of Interests (if needed).
Declarations of Interest for the new term of office were received by the Clerk.

82/15 Standing Orders – The Meeting agreed that Standing Orders (modified in 2014), would not need reviewing at present.

83/15 To Appoint Sub-Committee Members – The Meeting agreed that this item would be postponed until the next Meeting, when the additional co-opted Councillors would be in attendance.

84/15 Annual Subscriptions – The following subs were agreed:

- CLPG
- ANT
- Community First
- LCR
- CALC

A request was made to renew the subscription to CPRE. Following a short discussion, a vote was taken regarding the matter. The Meeting voted in favour of not renewing the annual subscription.

85/15 Annual Risk Assessment – Following minor adjustments, the Meeting agreed the annual risk assessment.

86/15 Appointment of Individual Councillors to Additional Roles - The Meeting agreed that this item would be postponed until the next Meeting, when the additional co-opted Councillors would be in attendance.

87/15 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14th April 2015 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th April 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.

88/15 District & County Councillor Reports – Apologies were sent from Cllr Davis.

89/15 Progress Reports – The Following was reported:

Clerk: -

- Enforcement issue at Eckington Riverside Caravan Park – matter has been reported to Wychavon District Council, who have agreed to look into the matter;
- Community Speedwatch – It was reported that 8 volunteers have now agreed to participate in the Scheme. A training session has been arranged for the end of May;
- Network Rail - The Clerk confirmed that a further letter had been sent requesting a site meeting and the addition of rabbit proof fencing along the boundary of the railway line and the allotments. A response from Network Rail was presently awaited;
- Grass Cutting – It was reported that the April cut (including Manor Road) has now been undertaken. A request has been made for a cut to take place before the annual Open Garden Weekend;
- The meeting noted the letter sent from Mr Kerrigan to BT (relating to Broadband installation).

Police Report:

- Damage caused to a shed on Tewkesbury Road;
- Theft of a Land Rover from Pershore Road.

Village Hall –

- WDC have agreed a grant of £7000 towards the hall extension project;
- Detail schedule of costs being drawn up by the architect, in order that Phase 1 can begin within the next few months;
- New boiler to be installed in July;
- £473 raised at the recent jumble sale.

Footpaths –

- Piecing/Hammock Lane Modification Order – The Inspector visit has now taken place. A decision is expected within the next few weeks.

BHCG – Items discussed at the recent meeting:

- Additional housing application (Bredon) – refused by WDC;
- A46 consultation meeting due to take place shortly – to discuss possible changes/additions.

CALC – Cllr Glaze confirmed he would attend the next meeting.

90/15 – 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 14th April 2015:

Applications to be Discussed:

W/15/00918/PN Nafford Bank Farm, Nafford Road – Stables for 4 horses – No objection, however comments sent.

Approvals:

W/15/00538/LB Piecing Cottage, Boon Street – Removal of ground floor wall between kitchen & dining room within Victorian extension to original timber frame building.

W/14/01862/PN Church Cottages, Church Street – Alterations to annex to provide guest accommodation. Changes to front of property & changes to access and parking.

W/15/00404/PP & 15/00405/LB Anchor Cottage, Boon Street – Various renovation works.

W/15/00618/PP The Old Granary, Nafford Bank Farm – Erection of detached garage with first floor bedsit/office.

The Meeting discussed planning application 15/01013 (field ref.SO9239). It was agreed that following the forthcoming meeting between WDC and two parish Councillors, a letter of objection would be drafted.

The Meeting discussed the response received from WDC relating to the recent Parish Council letter (planning application 14/01617 & 01794). The Meeting agreed that although they were not entirely satisfied with the response, little would now be achieved by pursuing the matter any further.

Licence Application (Manor Farm, Manor Road) – Cllr Bainbridge gave a brief outline of the Hearing (for which he had been in attendance). The Parish Council was pleased to note that some of the conditions requested had been imposed. It was agreed that residents within the area now need to monitor the situation and ensure that any breach of conditions is reported to WRS as soon as possible. The Meeting thanked Cllr Bainbridge for time spent pursuing this matter.

91/15 – Finance – Cllr Wilkes proposed and was seconded by Cllr Ransted that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£397.30
Admin expenses & mileage	£43.27
Annual room allowance	£200.00
Lengthsman salary	£154.10
Village hall hire (Broadband Meeting)	£23.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£374.40
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec. cut)	£324.00
LCR (subs)	£17.00
Community First (insurance)	£430.11
Blue Gecko Plants	£80.00
Rural Rate Relief	£126.33

92/15 – Rural Rate Relief – The Meeting discussed the application for Rural Rate Relief, made by the Village Stores. It was agreed that the business is of benefit to the local community and it would be reasonable to grant the relief. A proposal was therefore made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Wilkes, for the Parish Council contribution to be made.

93/15 – Neighbourhood Plan – It was reported that:

- The consultation meeting will take place in the Village Hall on 16th May;
- The application process for the next tranche of funding has now begun;
- Cllr Glaze will prepare a breakdown of costs so far, in readiness for the next Meeting.

94/15 – Highways –

- Glenmoor – A request had been received from a resident to clear overgrown moss on the path. The Meeting agreed that this was a matter for Rooftop Housing Group to attend to and therefore requested that the Clerk contact Rooftop asking for the maintenance work to be undertaken.

95/15 – Section 106 Funding – It was reported that the remainder of funds will be used for further enhancements to the Recreation Ground (including a bench and car parking matting).

96/15 – New Homes Bonus – The Meeting was informed that, although the Elections were now over, as yet, no information had been received from Wychavon District Council regarding whether the Scheme would continue. It was anticipated that information regarding this would be available in readiness for the next Parish Council Meeting.

97/15 – Dog Waste Bin – The Meeting considered installing dog waste bins at The Wharf and Boon Street. It was agreed that a bin at The Wharf would be useful, although perhaps not suitable in Boon Street. The cost of installing and maintaining an extra dog bin was also considered. Due to the cost of maintenance being unclear, it was agreed that the Clerk would seek further clarification, with a view to making a decision regarding the matter at the next Meeting.

98/15 – Phone Box – The Meeting was given a breakdown of funds required in relation to undertaking maintenance works to the phone box. Following this, a proposal was made by Cllr Bainbridge and seconded by Cllr Wilkes for the materials to be purchased.

99/15 – Parish Council Website – The Meeting was informed that guidance regarding this matter had been received from CALC, and further work on the website would continue during the next few weeks.

100/15 – Lengthsman Appraisal - The Meeting was informed that the Appraisal had now been undertaken. Use of the Highways Works Gang had been discussed, following which the Clerk had requested their assistance in the clearance of grips throughout the village. The works had now begun and would continue for the next couple of days until the work has been completed.

101/15 - Cala Homes – It was reported that WDC had now granted a further time extension (3rd June) to Cala Homes, relating to a modified application. No further information was available at present.

102/15 – Correspondence for Information – Correspondence circulated.

103/15 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

- The Meeting was informed that the BBC programme DIY SOS would be filming at The Close during the next few weeks. During this period there will be additional vehicles parked in this area.
- Further complaints had been received regarding parking on Pershore Road during football matches at the Recreation Ground. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Glaze would raise the matter with a member of the Recreation Committee, to see whether there is any action which could be taken to help alleviate the problem.
- Cemetery inspection due – Clerk to discuss a suitable date with Cllr Wilkes. Water flow of tap to be checked.
- The Chair requested that a letter be sent to all retiring Councillors thanking them for their service and dedication to the Parish Council, over the past 4 years.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 09th June 2015 at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 10.15pm.