

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 – There was no attendance at the Open Public Forum.

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

125/15 Present – Cllrs. Glaze, Wilkes, Cameron, Wood, Palmer, Bogaard and Ransted.

126/15 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Bainbridge. These were unanimously accepted.

127/15 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 09<sup>th</sup> June 2015 – Following three minor amendments, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 09<sup>th</sup> June were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Wilkes, this was seconded by Cllr Ransted. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

128/15 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis reported the following:

- WDC anticipate minor cuts in the ongoing budget and strategy process;
- It is expected that further departments may integrate with Malvern Hills, with devolution also being a possibility (at some point in the future);
- SWDP – still ongoing. It is expected that this will be signed off early next year.

The 382 bus service was discussed. Cllr Davis informed the Meeting that he was unable to give any update regarding whether the service would continue, as this is a County Council matter. However, Cllr Davis agreed (wherever possible) to lend his support to the service.

The Meeting queried the current housing ‘right to buy’ scheme. Cllr Davis informed the Meeting that as this was controlled independently by Rooftop Housing Group, information would need to be sought directly from the company.

129/15 Co-Option – The Meeting considered the two applications received regarding co-option. Each applicant received one proposal and therefore the matter was put to vote. A majority vote in favour of Mrs Sally Brown was received. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would inform Mrs Brown of her successful application, and send her the relevant documents.

130/15 Progress Reports – The Following was reported:

Clerk: -

- Enforcement issues: Court Close Farm, Manor Road – It was reported that although WDC had previously advised that the caravan would be removed within 3 months, upon further consideration it had been decided that the siting of the caravan was not considered development and would therefore not need to be removed. The Meeting voiced their frustration with WDC’s change in their course of action and it was therefore agreed that Cllr Ransted would bring the matter up for discussion with WDC when liaising with them regarding the forthcoming Enforcement events arranged for local Parish Councils.
- Allotments – It was reported that Network Rail had now agreed to take action regarding the issue of rabbits entering the allotment site. Eradication of the rabbits by gas, will therefore take place at the end of the year.

Footpaths –

Piecing/Hammock Lane Modification Order – The Clerk agreed to chase up the letter sent from the Parish Council to WCC, regarding this matter.

BHCG – Items discussed at the recent meeting:

- Proposal of 98 new houses at Bredon – It was confirmed that this has now been rejected by WDC;
- Fabric damage on Bredon Hill (Battens Wood) was discussed. A full report on the damage has been sent to Natural England, requested their comments/assistance.

PACT – Cllr Bogaard reported that he has now made contact with the Group.

No matters to report at present.

Village Hall – The following was reported:

- Application grant for £10,000 submitted to ‘Welcome to Our Future’. Decision expected in September;
- Classic car rally raised £480;
- Architect to provide building regs and tender specifications;
- Builders to be contacted to provide ball park figures;
- School have confirmed they would be in favour of the proposed improvements to the Hall;
- The Post Office contract has now ceased;
- A Wychavon DC funded over 50’s fitness class to commence in September;

131/15 – 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 09<sup>th</sup> June 2015:

W/15/01438/PN Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Erection of 2 semi detached dwellings and erection of garage block – as approved under planning permission 13/02775, but without compliance with condition 10 – objections sent.

W/15/01364/RM The Cottage, Upper End – New timber frame dwelling – reserved matters application following outline planning permission ref no. 14/02130 – no objection.

It was also reported that WDC had granted a time extension on planning application 15/01013 (Field SO9239, Eckington Road, Bredons Norton – change of use to caravan site for single gypsy family).

Cllr Glaze reported that a resident had asked for Parish Council opinion regarding a possible planning application in Hammock Road. Cllr Glaze had informed the resident that the Parish Council would need to wait until a planning application had actually been received, before any response could be made.

Meeting at Manor Farm (relating to issues raised at the June Parish Council Meeting). Cllrs Glaze and Bogaard met with the owner (Judy Gardner) and manager. Cllr Bogaard reported the following:

- JG informed Cllrs Bogaard and Glaze that she was well aware of the complaints raised by some of the residents. It was pointed out that the complaints had been received from a small minority;
- JG stressed the fact that this was very much a local business employing local people;
- JG confirmed that noise monitoring and limiting instrumentation had been fitted within the buildings. All conditions and restrictions recently placed upon the business by the Regulatory Services had been complied with;
- It was agreed that there are elements which are out of the control of the Cookery School (such as the actions taken by Astons Coaches). Therefore any future advice to any coach company involved would be rigidly highlighted.

The Parish Council agreed that although it appeared that reasonable steps had been taken to alleviate noise, there was still an issue with the car parking provision which had been made. It was therefore agreed that the situation would continue to be monitored.

132/15 – Finance – Cllr Ransted proposed and was seconded by Cllr Cameron that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£397.30
L. Gerber Admin expenses & mileage	£35.53
L. Gerber (reimburse annual online computer backup)	£29.95
Peter Townley (NP - ink cartridges)	£31.97
Midshire Communications Ltd (NP - printing costs)	£516.00
Lengthsman salary	£149.55
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£374.40
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec. cut)	£486.00
Memory Lane Memorials Ltd	£120.00
WCC (purchase of grit)	£108.00
Foxley Tagg (NP)	£2311.20
Worcestershire CALC (Training)	£120.00
L. Gerber (BT reimbursement)	£65.46
PAYE contributions	£54.00
N. Wilkes (memorial plants)	£15.96

133/15 – Neighbourhood Plan – It was reported that:

- Information received from the public consultation is continuing to be considered, following which work on objectives/visions will commence;
- A call for potential development sites will be made by Foxley Tagg;
- £5971 has now been awarded from Locality;
- Funds from WDC still awaited;
- An updated Village Design Statement has now been made – the important difference being this will be a legal document, annexed to the Neighbourhood Plan and will need the approval of the village

A request was made for all Councillors to read the updated Village Design Statement and Community Land Trust information.

134/15 – Highways –

- Church Street kerb – now replaced;
- Stoney Furlong Lane – Maintenance to road surface requested, a request will also be made to Cllr Hardman to pursue this matter;
- The Close, damage to sett curbs – Cllr Wilkes agreed to investigate the matter;
- Copy letter from a resident to Cllr Hardman, regarding the re-siting of 30mph sign on Nafford Road – This matter was again discussed. It was agreed that, prior to the re-siting of the sign, a speed check should be made by WCC, in order to evaluate need. The Meeting agreed that it was responsibility of Cllr Hardman to respond to the resident with regard to this matter. The Meeting noted Cllr Ransted's strong opinion that the sign should be re-sited.

135/15 – Telephone Box – The Meeting discussed and agreed the use of the telephone box as a book exchange. Cllr Ransted agreed to co-ordinate the collection of books in readiness for the scheme.

136/15 – VAS Sign – The Meeting discussed the prepared draft risk assessment relating to members of the Speedwatch Group moving the VAS sign from the various locations. It was agreed that the Clerk would prepare a covering letter to be sent to Cllr Ransted, which would then be forwarded to the Speedwatch Group members, along with the risk assessment.

137/15 – Lengthsman – The Meeting discussed and agreed that some lengthsman duties would be carried out by a lengthsman from a neighbouring Parish (while the current lengthsman is on sickness leave). Cllr Wilkes agreed to meet with the temporary lengthsman, to discuss the work required.

138/15 – Eckington School – The Meeting discussed the letter received from the First School, requesting any assistance from the Parish Council relating to issues with car parking. Following a short discussion it was agreed that a car share for staff could be suggested. The Meeting proposed two sites within the village, where staff could leave cars, using one car to drive and park outside the school. The Clerk agreed to write to the school to put the proposal forward to them.

139/15 Churchyard – Cllr Wilkes agreed to inform the Clerk of the work required, following which quotes would be obtained from the contractors.

140/15 – 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). Cllr Wilkes agreed to ask the Recreation Committee to consider the suggestion of an outdoor table tennis, should there be any surplus funding.

141/15 – New Homes Bonus – No further information at present, an update from WDC is still awaited.

142/15 – Correspondence for Information – Correspondence circulated.

143/15 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –  
It was agreed that a further request for hedge cutting along Nafford Road should be made to WCC. The Clerk agreed to undertake this.

The Meeting was informed that it is intended that the 382 bus service should cease in September. Discussions are currently ongoing with WCC and First Bus Company. Cllr Glaze is currently seeking updates from Cllr Hardman regarding this matter.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 08<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 9.40pm.