

Tuesday 10th November 2015 – Julie Pardoe (Community Police Officer) and one resident attended the Open Public Forum.

Issue raised:

Village Design Statement – Concern was again raised regarding the inclusion of references to “settlement boundaries” within the Village Design Statement, which, it was felt, would cause confusion, particularly with regard to planning laws. The PC was asked to reconsider this issue. The Parish Council requested that the resident re-read the document, highlighting all references which cause concern, following which, the Committee will re-consider whether the references require removal from the VDS.

Officer Pardoe reported the following:

- Theft of vehicle (27/10) – an arrest has now been made;
- Following the recent bonfire, it was reported that youths had attempted to re-start the fire – there were no leads regarding this matter;
- Smartwater – Parish Councils are being encouraged by the District Council to become more involved in this initiative. Officer Pardoe will request that WDC e-mail the Clerk with details.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th November 2015

176/15 Present – Cllrs. Glaze, Cameron, Wilkes, Wood, Brown, Bogaard, Palmer and Ransted.

177/15 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Bainbridge. These were unanimously accepted.

178/15 Declarations of Interest – No declarations were received.

179/15 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13th October 2015 – Following two minor amendments, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th October were a true and accurate record and a proposal to accept the Minutes was made by Cllr Wilkes, this was seconded by Cllr Bogaard. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

180/15 District & County Councillor Reports –

Cllr Davis reported that more cuts to the WDC Budget were expected.

An update relating to NHB funding was requested. Cllr Davis was informed that three applications are currently ongoing, with a further two in the pipeline. The PC is actively pursuing this matter.

The Parish Council’s objection to planning application 15/01723 (Woollas Farm, Woollas Hill – conversion & extension to former MOD Radar Station) was discussed. Cllr Davis informed the meeting that he would consider the PC objections (recorded on WDC website), following which a request to take the application to planning committee may be made.

181/15 Progress Reports – The Following was reported:

Clerk: - Nothing to report.

Village Hall – The following was reported:

- Treasurer reported a balance of £43,000.
- The anticipated cost of phase I of the building works is £120,000. Tender documents will shortly be sent out to three/four building contractors.
- £1,039 was raised at a recent jumble sale.

- A formal request will be prepared in due course regarding the PC becoming a trustee of the Village Hall.
- A new heavy duty curtain rail has now been ordered for the stage.
- The Performing Right Society has agreed to accept the treasurer's offer of £210 for a PRS licence for three years.

BHCG – It was reported that BHCG had been informed that both Natural England and the Cotswold Conservation Group are opposed to planning app 15/01723 (Woollas Hall).

PACT – It was reported that:

- As requested, the Police have now spoken to the Football Club, regarding parking on practice and match days.
- All issues raised with the PC, should now be passed to Cllr Bogaard, who will then report them via the website.

182/15 – **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 13th October 2015:

W/15/01723/CU Woollas Farm, Woollas Hill – Conversion and extension of former MOD Radar Station to provide overnight accommodation to Deer park Hall Weddings and Business Centre, and for use as a classroom/meeting room for wildlife and photography workshops – Objections sent.

Approvals:

W/15/02408/PP Belmont, Boon Street – The bricking in of an existing car port to provide a dining area, continuation of existing render across the entire exterior of the property and the retrospective installation of a first floor window serving an en-suite.

To Discuss:

W/15/02573/PP 2 Forge Cottages, Cotheridge Lane – Erection of a second storey extension over existing flat roofed single storey extension, to create a new bedroom with ensuite bathroom. Additional window to lounge. Timber porch canopy roof to front door. New Bi-fold doors to kitchen – No objection.

W/15/02605/PN Malham House, New Road – Erection of bungalow – It was agreed that a site meeting would be arranged.

Enforcement Issue (Nafford Bank Farm 15/00918) – It was reported that following a further conversation with WDC, building work at the above site had now ceased, and the applicant had been informed that a further planning application will need to be made (incorporating the change in stable block location).

183/15 – **Finance** – Cllr Cameron proposed and was seconded by Cllr Palmer that the following payments should be approved:

Payments to be made:

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| Clerk's salary | £397.30 |
| L. Gerber Admin expenses & mileage | £24.53 |
| Lengthsman salary | £181.60 |
| Village hall hire | £27.00 |
| WDC – annual bin maintenance | £89.17 |
| New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec. cut) | £324.00 |

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| PAYE | £59.80 |
| George Glaze (reimbursement – gift, internal accountant) | £15.00 |
| RBL Poppy Appeal (village wreath) | £30.00 |
| R. Hartland (hedge trimming) | £144.00 |

184/15 – County Councillor’s Report – Cllr Hardman reported the following:

- Waste & Minerals Plan – The final consultation is anticipated in Spring 2016. There are currently no sites within Eckington, however, this should be checked once the final consultation is available.
- Re-siting of 30mph sign (Nafford Road) – Following the results of the recent speed survey, Cllr Hardman informed the Meeting that he felt that the correct decision had been made by WCC (in leaving the sign at its current location):
- Footpaths, Hammock Lane/Piecing – It was reported that there remained some confusion over the existence of the original track. It was therefore requested that a site meeting take place between the footpath officer, Cllr Hardman and Cllr Wilkes. Cllr Hardman agreed to pursue the matter.
- Resurfacing of footpaths on New Road – Cllr Hardman agreed to look into the matter.
- Reduction of local bus services - The PC voiced confusion over the lack of response from WCC in relation to concerns raised following the last PC meeting. It was agreed that correspondence sent to WCC would be forwarded to Cllr Hardman, in order that he can pursue the matter and obtain answers to the queries raised by local residents.

The Meeting passed on their thanks for the re-painting of white lines at Lower End.

185/15 – Neighbourhood Plan –

It was reported that the Steering Group are currently meeting for discussions with land owners. A full village consultation is planned for January 2016.

One parish councillor raised concern relating to:

- The Group’s decision to call for sites - The concern was noted, however this had been the professional advice given to the Steering Group from both WDC and Foxley Tagg (planning consultant), which the Group were in agreement should be followed.
- It was also felt that the Parish Council were not being kept fully informed of all the latest Neighbourhood Plan developments. It was explained that during the process it is necessary for some confidentiality.. It was explained that all the information will be available at the Public Consultation Event, by which time the information will have been collated and prepared in readiness to share with the whole village. It was suggested that on the evening before the public consultation, the PC should have an opportunity to look at all the material before the village event – Cllr Glaze agreed to put this suggestion to the Steering Group.
- The issue of density within the document was again raised as a cause for concern.

186/15 – Highways –

Maintenance requests made to Highways:

- Station Road (footpaths at both Southern and Western end);
- New Road (footpaths) ;
- Damage to setts at War Memorial.

Currently awaiting response from WCC on all of the above.

187/15 – Burial Fees – The Meeting considered the proposed increases. A proposal to accept the increase in fees was made by Cllr Cameron, this was seconded by Cllr Wilkes.

188/15 – Eckington Bus Service – The Meeting discussed various options regarding a community bus service; options are currently being explored with a small local firm and Pershore Volunteer Service. An update will be given at the next meeting. (See also Item 184/15 of the Minutes).

189/15 – Section 106 Funding – Nothing to report.

190/15 – New Homes Bonus – The following was reported:

- An application for the sum of £1100 has now been made in respect of Babes & Toddlers.
- Funding requests from the Cricket Club, Village Hall & Scouts have also been received and will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

191/15 – Correspondence for Information – Correspondence circulated.

192/15 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

- Dog bin at Manor Road.

Cleaning of war memorial was discussed – this may be carried out at a later date.

It was reported that a meeting had taken place with Mr Bolsover's representative and representatives of the PC, in relation to purchase of the land to the rear of Roman Meadow, (during which outline plans were discussed).

The Meeting agreed to the request from LoneStar Land for the PC to advertise their forthcoming Public Consultation Event

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 08th December 2015 at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 9.45pm.