

Tuesday 12th July 2016 Four residents attended the Open Public Forum. The following concerns were raised:

- Possible further changes to the 382 Bus service – The Parish Council confirmed they have been communicating with Pershore Transport Group regarding the service, and, to date, no further information regarding changes to the timetable has been received.
- Removal of poplars at the recreation ground – It was explained that the PC had decided to remove the poplars, rather than cut back, as it was agreed that this was the most preferable option. The request had been made by Western Power (due to safety reasons).
- Lack of progress regarding opening of the footpaths at Hammock Lane and Piecing – It was explained that the PC is aware of the issues, and has been consistently pursuing the matter with WCC. However, the Meeting agreed to raise the matter again with County Councillor Hardman.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th July 2016

124/16 Present – Cllrs. Glaze, Brown, Cameron, Bainbridge, Wilkes, Wood, Ransted and Bogaard

125/16 Apologies – Apologies received from Cllr Palmer. These were unanimously accepted.

126/16 Declarations of Interest – None received.

127/16 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14th June 2016

The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14th June were a true and accurate record. Therefore a proposal to accept the Minutes was made by Cllr Bogaard and seconded by Cllr Cameron. All present were unanimous in their agreement and the Minutes were duly signed.

128/16 District & County Councillor Reports

District Cllr Davis reported the following:

- WDC have now agreed that future funding could be used to purchase Smartwater kits for Parish use (although only to cover 50% of the cost).
- WDC have agreed that the Asda car park (Pershore) will be resurfaced. There is no date as yet.
- WDC and Malvern are currently considering joint waste recycling without Worcester City Council, as they have pulled out of the proposed agreement.
- Planning application 15/01013 (Field SO9239, Eckington Road): PC representation at a recent planning meeting was strong; this assisted in the decision to refuse the application.

129/16 Progress Reports –

Clerk – The following was reported:

- VAS speed sign – As the current battery has worked well since the return of the sign, it has been agreed that both batteries would continue to be monitored, for the time being, before any replacement batteries are ordered.
- Highway Sign Clearance Programme – The WCC programme has been reported to the lengthsman, so that any issues can be raised. Councillors requested to report any issues regarding overgrowth relating to signage or visibility splays.
- Rooftop Housing Association – The Clerk confirmed that a request had been made for Cllrs Cameron and Brown to attend the annual walkabout (Clerk to forward further details when received).

Village Hall – The following was reported:

- Fundraising is ongoing.
- A request has been made via the Parish Magazine for further committee members.
- Three additional builders have now been added to the list of contractors to be invited to tender for the proposed hall improvements.

Footpaths – Modification Orders – Hammock Lane and Piecing: (Please see note in the Open Public Forum section).

Church & Bridge Trusts – It was noted that the application to register the land with the Land Registry is ongoing.

PACT – Cllr Bogaard informed the Meeting that he was still awaiting an answer to his request for more detailed information regarding crimes in the Parish. It was agreed he would continue to pursue the matter.

130/16 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 June 2016:

Approvals:

W/16/01162/PP 14 Hacketts Lane – Side & front two storey extension, infill of small rear hall, creating new rear access.

W/16/01305/PN Malham House, New Road – Erection of dormer bungalow and detached garage as approved under permission reference number 15/02605 but without compliance with condition number 11 (to allow change to approved plans).

Refusals:

W/15/01013 Field SO9239 Eckington Road – Change of use for use by travelling family.

Concern raised regarding addition of aluminium windows at Barns, Nafford Road – Clerk to investigate matter with WDC.

Although WRS have made an initial investigation relating to the smell of foul sewerage on Nafford Road, it was agreed that there still seems to be an issue in this area of the village. It was therefore agreed that Cllr Wilkes would further pursue the matter with WRS.

131/16 Finance – Cllr Ransted proposed and was seconded by Cllr Bogaard that the following payments should be approved:

Payments made:

Clerk's salary	£414.37
L. Gerber Admin expenses & mileage	£31.94
Knowhow Cloud – backup (account renewal)	£29.95
Lengthsman salary	£184.00
Village hall hire	£15.00
Community First Trading Ltd (additional insurance cover)	£11.83
New Farm Grounds Maintenance – Rec. cut	£441.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance - PC	£374.40

132/16 Neighbourhood Plan –

It was reported that:

- Policy writing is ongoing.
- A proposal for more involvement from the planning consultant has been made. As this would be costly, further funding from the PC may be required.

133/16 Highway Matters –

It was reported that the meeting with Highways to discuss drainage issues at Pass Street has now been re-arranged for the end of July.

134/16 Village Hall –

It was noted that all Councillors had received a copy of the report from the recent meeting between the Village Hall Committee and three members of the Parish Council.

It was agreed, therefore, that Councillors should decide whether the PC should pursue the request to take over ownership of the Village Hall. The following was discussed/agreed:

- More information and supporting documentation should have been provided.
- The Committee have a strong cashflow, but are currently struggling to bring the planned modifications to fruition.
- A £60,000 loan may be required from the PC – this is neither an easy nor a straightforward matter.
- Concern was raised regarding the onus which would be placed on councillors, if ownership of the hall was transferred to the Parish Council.

There was a strong feeling in the Meeting that, at this point, perhaps only necessary modifications should be carried out rather than the large scale ones proposed.

It was therefore agreed that the Clerk should inform the Village Hall Committee, that the Parish Council felt unable to pursue this matter at the present time.

135/16 Bredon Neighbourhood Plan Consultation –

It was noted that all Councillors had had the opportunity to view the Bredon NP consultation document on-line.

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should comment that Eckington PC's only major concern would be regarding any potential development of the field to the east of Moreton Lane (this area has no protection in the proposed plan).

136/16 New Homes Bonus –

The following was reported:

- The Cricket Club's application has now been prepared, and, on receipt, will be forwarded to WDC.
- Village Hall (stage curtains) – Pricing has now been received, however further information regarding benefit to community will be required before the application can proceed any further. The NHB Committee will request this information from the Village Hall Committee.

137/16 Raising the On-line Profile of the Parish Council

Cllr Bainbridge explained the structure and contents of the proposed website and confirmed that Councillor access would be made available shortly.

The Meeting agreed that Cllr Bainbridge should continue with the work relating to this matter.

138/16 Flooding Issues

It was noted that:

- Further information regarding a flood monitoring system at the bridge, has now been forwarded to WCC.
- A meeting with the company who provide the system has been requested by the PC.

139/16 Parish Defibrillators

Cllr Bogaard proposed that three sets of replacement defibrillator pads should be purchased, this was seconded by Cllr Cameron. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would place the order with the relevant company.

140/16 Cemetery Policy

Cllr Wilkes confirmed that the proposed item regarding cemetery benches had now been included in the policy and would shortly be forwarded to all Councillors (in readiness for adoption at the next Meeting).

141/16 Correspondence for Information –

Noted.

142/16 Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

- Loose manhole covers (Tewkesbury Road) – Cllr Bogaard will look at and report to WDC.
- Clerk to pick up copy of SWDP from WDC.

143/16 Date of next meeting –

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 13th September.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

DRAFT