

Tuesday 13th December 2016 There was no attendance at the Open Public Forum.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 08th November 2016

201/16 Present – Cllrs. Bogaard, Glaze, Cameron, Brown, Bainbridge, Wilkes, Wood and Ransted.

202/16 Apologies – Apologies received from Palmer. These were unanimously accepted.

203/16 Declarations of Interest – No Declarations were received.

204/16 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 08th November 2016

Following one addition, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 08th November were a true and accurate record. Therefore a proposal to accept the Minutes was made by Cllr Bogaard and seconded by Cllr Bainbridge. All present were unanimous in their agreement and the Minutes were duly signed.

205/16 District & County Councillor Reports –

Cllr Davis gave the following report:

- Joint working advisory board continues (Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Council) have made a joint saving of £300,000 since the working partnership has been implemented.
- Council tax looks set to rise, although there are no figures for this at present.
- Planning Appeal (Field SO9239, Eckington Road, Bredon's Norton) – WDC will rigorously defend the Appeal. It is not expected that Cllr Davis will be called upon to speak at the Hearing.

206/16 Progress Reports – The following was reported:

Clerk's Report –

- VAS speed sign – activations for September – November reported.
- Dog waste bins have now been agreed with WDC – it is expected these will be in place before the new year. A map of all waste bins in the village received by the Clerk.
- Cllr Bogaard to purchase 10 bags of grit (for re-filling of green parish bins)
- Police Report – Two thefts reported (10/11 & 12/11).

Village Hall – Request to be put to the Committee, for a description of the works to be carried out to the Hall and a date for commencement (2 years have lapsed since the £30,000 NHS funding for the project was agreed).

CALC – Topics covered at the recent meeting:

- Talk from Chief Crime Commissioner regarding technological improvement.
- Report from R. Levett (CALC) regarding tax re-form principles.

Partnership – The two topics covered at the latest meeting were health & wellbeing, focusing on healthier lifestyles for all.

207/16 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 08th November 2016:

Approvals:

W/16/0233/PP 7 Russell Drive – Single storey rear extension and render finish to exterior – Comments sent.

W/16/02241/PP Court Gate Nursery, Station Road – Construction of new two storey extension.

Applications Discussed:

APP/H1840/W/16/3157521 Field SO9239, Eckington Road, Bredon's Norton - Change of use of land from waste ground to mixed use for stable and keeping of horses and caravan site for single gypsy family with associated development (improvements to vehicular access, internal access track, hard standing, stable block/utility block, septic tank and retain electricity junction box).

An update was given to the Meeting regarding the recent meeting of the planning committee, where discussions had taken place to agree upon comments to be made by the PC in relation to the forthcoming Hearing. Upon further discussion, it was agreed that concerns raised should include:

- planning application contravenes some of the SWDP;
- lack of suitability of the site;
- vacancies on alternative sites within the district should be considered by the applicant.

It was also agreed that comments made on the planning website (which have proved to be from fictitious names/addresses), should be highlighted to the Hearing.

The Meeting agreed the points raised. Cllrs Glaze and Bainbridge agreed to finalise the draft comments.

208/16 Finance – Cllr Ransted proposed and was seconded by Cllr Cameron that the following payments should be approved:

Payments made between Meetings:

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|---------------------------------|----------|
| Bingham Ground Services | £6000.00 |
| Eckington WI (village planters) | £100.00 |

Payments to be made:

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| Clerk's salary | £414.37 |
| L. Gerber Admin expenses & mileage | £37.26 |
| L. Gerber (BT reimbursement) | £72.95 |
| Foxley Tagg Planning Ltd (NP legal costs) | £2229.54 |
| P. Higgins (Lengthsman salary) | £179.40 |
| Worcestershire CALC (training) | £10.00 |
| Eckington Village Hall (hire) | £24.00 |
| G. Glaze (purchases made under chairman's allowance) | £25.85 |

The Meeting considered the draft budget and precept figure of £23,000 (prepared by the finance committee). A proposal was made by Cllr Wilkes and seconded by Cllr Ransted that the budget/precept should be accepted and finalised (once the tax base has been received in January 2017).

209/16 Neighbourhood Plan –

The following was reported:

- Document writing is ongoing.
- It is anticipated that the draft will be completed by the new year, it is hoped that this will have been adopted by the end of 2017.
- VDS – All comments received following the consultation have been considered, following which some amendments have been made.

It was agreed that a copy of the VDS (with the amendments) would be sent out to any councillors wishing to see a hard copy of the amendments, following which the document will be discussed/agreed at the next meeting.

210/16 Highway Matters –

Nothing to report.

211/16 New Homes Bonus –

The following was reported:

- Recreation Centre (under 4's play equipment) – Enquiries have been made regarding equipment, although no decision has yet been made regarding whether an application will be made.
- Eckington Under Fives – Request for £20,000 to build the foundations of a new build at the First School. Further investigations have been made to WDC regarding whether there would be any possibility that funding could be used towards an education facility. The PC await to hear further from WDC regarding the matter.

212/16 SWDP – Planning Support Document Consultation

The Meeting agreed that no response from the PC would be made.

213/16 Flooding Issues

It was reported that a site meeting had taken place between the depth gauge company, WCC and the Parish Council. The following was discussed:

- Raising the road level – WCC have agreed to make initial investigations, some modelling has already been carried out.
- Eckington is not currently on WCC's flood action plan – this has been requested and the PC will continue to pursue the matter.
- Water activated road signs – WCC did not wish to investigate this further, as they would not wish motorists to be taking the decision on whether or not to drive through flood water.

WCC will keep the PC updated on any future decisions/developments.

214/16 Burial Fees

The Meeting considered the proposed 5% increase relating to burial fees. A proposal was made by Cllr Bainbridge to accept the figures, this was seconded by Cllr Bogaard.

215/16 Correspondence for Information –

Correspondence circulated.

216/16 Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

- Speedwatch - two sessions have recently taken place;
- two further volunteers have agreed to assist with the Scheme.
- Village street name plates – Cllr Wilkes agreed to prepare a report regarding any repairs/replacements which may be required.
- Parish Website – Over one month 354 hits have taken place

Eckington Bus Service – The following was reported from the recent Forum:

- Current routes are running at a loss – proposals for amended routes will be considered.
- The PC needs to be proactive, in order to preserve a service for the parish.
- Community transport also needs to be considered.

It was agreed that the PC will speak to WDC, Pershore community bus and local residents before the next meeting with First Bus Company (January 2017).

217/16 Date of next meeting –

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 10th January.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm