

Tuesday 14th February 2017 There was no attendance at the Open Public Forum.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th February 2017

18/17 Present – Cllrs. Bogaard, Palmer, Glaze, Cameron, Brown, Bainbridge, Wilkes, Wood and Ransted.

19/17 Apologies – None received.

20/17 Declarations of Interest – No Declarations were received.

21/17 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 2017

Following one minor adjustment, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 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.

22/17 District & County Councillor Reports –

Cllr Davis reported the following:

- WDC Council Tax revenues set to increase by 2%.
- WDC have now agreed an alternative waste recycling contract (this will reduce current costs).
- NHB funding has been cut back.
- Result of Planning Appeal APP/H1840/W/16/3157521 (Field SO 9239, Eckington Road, Bredons Norton) (held on 01/02/17), queried by PC – No news as yet.
- New Waitrose at Evesham queried – It is proposed that the store will open in 2018.

Cllr Hardman reported the following:

- Council Tax set to increase by 2.94%
- WCC require more funding relating to child and adult social care.
- Cllr Hardman confirmed that the request for funding from the PC (regarding the proposed community bus) would be granted.

23/17 Progress Reports – The following was reported:

Clerk's Report –

1. St Richards Hospice – The Meeting discussed the e-mail received from the Engagement Officer and agreed that a notice would be placed in the Parish Magazine, to increase awareness of the free care and support for adult patients in Worcestershire.
2. Rural Communities Programme – A communities folder has been received from WDC (containing information and contact details for various local charities and organisations – now available in the church at the weekly coffee morning). The door knock has been arranged for 30/03, suitable addresses are currently being considered.
3. A replacement VAS battery has now been ordered (as previously agreed). This should be delivered within the next few days.
4. SWDP e-mails (Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule & Supplementary Planning Document Consultations – these will be considered by all councillors and comments will be collated at the next meeting.

Village Hall – It was reported that further plans have now been drawn up, which would incorporate the original extension proposed. The Meeting examined a copy of the plans. It was agreed that the PC would await further information before speaking to WDC regarding the NHB funding request.

Footpaths –

- Broken gate off Nafford Road – Cllr Wilkes will report to WCC.
- Footway at Glenmoor (garages) – Clerk will report to Rooftop Housing Association.

24/17 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 10th January 2017:

DB/16/02991/DB Eckington Relay Room, Avon Drive – Application for prior notification of proposed demolition of Eckington Relay Room – Confirmation received from WDC that approval for demolition is not required.

Planning Appeal:

APP/H1840/W/16/3157521 Field SO 9239, Eckington Road, Bredons 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) – Hearing date 01/02/2017 (attended by Cllrs Wilkes, Ransted and Glaze – result awaited).

25/17 Finance – Cllr Ransted proposed and was seconded by Cllr Bogaard that the following payments should be approved:

Payments to be made:

Clerk's salary	£414.37
L. Gerber Admin expenses & mileage	£49.74
P. Higgins (Lengthsman salary)	£179.40
Worcestershire CALC (Training)	£60.00
WDC (x2 bin installation)	£1228.39
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	£84.60

26/17 Neighbourhood Plan –
The following was reported:

- Policy writing is now well underway, and good progress is being made.
- Discussion with local landowners continues.
- The PC may be 'gifted' land within the village, for which they will become responsible.
- It is hoped that the draft plan will be completed within the next couple of months.

27/17 Highway Matters –

Highways have confirmed that (due to unforeseen circumstances), that the planned footway works at New Road have now been postponed to late spring/early summer.

A request for footpath maintenance outside the shop was made – Clerk to report to Highways. (8.20 – Cllr Hardman arrived, see Minute ref. 22/17).

28/17 New Homes Bonus –

The following was reported:

- WDC have now confirmed that funding allocated to Eckington now stands at £55,000
- It was agreed that further information would be awaited from the Village Hall Committee, before re-confirming NHB bid with WDC.
- Cllr Glaze agreed to prepare a notice regarding funding applications (to be placed in the Parish Magazine).

29/17 Eckington Bus Service

The following was reported:

- It is anticipated that a new community bus service will run in the middle of the day, which will enable onward connections to Evesham and Worcester. This will also allow for people to spend just over an hour in Pershore.
- Bus users will be required to pay a fare, however there will be some concession.
- It is hoped the service will start in April and will initially run for 6/7 months, following which usage will be considered to see whether the service should continue.
- A meeting for all those who have expressed an interest, has been arranged for 23/02.

Cllr Cameron informed the Meeting that she had attended Worcestershire's Local Transport Plan Consultation. It was reported that this had not been a particularly useful or informative consultation.

30/17 Flooding Issues

Nothing to report.

31/17 Asset of Community Value

The Meeting discussed whether the PC should consider nominating the village shop as an Asset of Community Value (Community right to bid would give eligible groups the opportunity to make a bid to buy assets of value to the local community, eg village shop, pub etc).

The Meeting was in agreement that the shop is a local asset, and a nomination to WDC should be considered by the PC. It was, however, agreed that the proprietors should be spoken to and further investigations made before considering the matter further at the next PC meeting.

32/17 Correspondence for Information –

No correspondence.

33/17 Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

No items raised.

34/17 Date of next meeting –

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 14th March

Meeting closed at 9.15pm