

# ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
At Eckington Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors George Glaze (Chairman), David Bainbridge (Vice Chairman), Geoff Ransted, Nils Wilkes, Mary Hughes, Cilla Cameron, Chris Yarnold and Chris Auty.

**Also present:** District Cllr R. Davis

**Apologies:** Councillor M. Wood & County Councillor A. Hardman

**Public Participation:** 1 member of the public attended.

Matters discussed –

- New dog waste bin requested in Mill Lane. Very often the existing bin is overflowing.

**Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Bainbridge declared an interest in the Court Gate planning application.

ITEM:	MINUTE RECORDED:	ACTION AGREED:
52	<p><b>The Minutes of the Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b> were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Wilkes, seconded Cllr Ransted. All agreed to an amendment to show item 48 as reading Hanford Drive instead of Tewkesbury Rd Management Committee.</p> <p><b>The Minutes of an Extra Ordinary Meeting held 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018</b> were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Hughes. All agreed.</p>	
53	<p><b>District &amp; County Councillor Reports</b></p> <p>The email from County Cllr Hardman was noted and circulated re the budget overspend.</p> <p>District Cllr Davis updated the meeting regarding Wychavon DC including the New Homes Bonus balances remaining plus current criteria. Also regarding the Village Design Statement query raised, noting the response from Wychavon Planners.</p>	
54	<p><b>Progress Reports</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b> – all matters included within this agenda.</p> <p><b>Village Hall</b> – Cllrs Bainbridge &amp; Auty reported. Matters included quotes awaited, for the new notice board and a funding request to be sent to the PC; outstanding payment for the oak doors which the Clerk is dealing with; maintenance updates, planned events and options for raising the profile of the facility; memorial centenary weekend; a donation received of drawings and sketches by the late Anthony Dawson.</p> <p><b>Recreation Centre</b> – no report.</p>	<p>Clerk to forward details of notice board companies to Cllrs Bainbridge &amp; Auty.</p>

	<p><b>Footpaths</b> – Cllr Wilkes reported on watercourse clearance at Hammock Brook – 3 landowners share responsibility and it was agreed that they should be approached regarding the matter. The gate post on the footpath towards the bridge is broken and needs replacing, and it was agreed that the Clerk should ask a known contractor to quote for the work.</p> <p><b>Tree Warden</b> – no report.</p> <p><b>Bredon Hill Conservation Group</b> – Cllr Ransted reported that the caravan site planning application won the appeal. Next meeting to be held in October.</p> <p><b>Church &amp; Bridge Trusts</b> – no report.</p> <p><b>Wychavon CALC</b> – Cllrs Ransted &amp; Glaze reported on the CALC meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> September and a presentation given by Snr Planning Officer A. Ford on the SWDP and newly published national Planning Policy Framework 2 relative to Neighbourhood Planning.</p> <p>Richard Levett from CALC reported on 2019 elections and ‘Wychavon Partners Together’.</p> <p><b>Partnership</b> – no report.</p> <p><b>Churchyard &amp; Cemetery</b> – Cllr Wilkes reported that there is overhanging ivy and hedging that needs cutting back. It was agreed that the Clerk should source a contractor for the work.</p> <p><b>Allotments</b> – Cllr Wilkes reported that 10 fence posts need replacing as the fence is now unstable. It was agreed that the Clerk should look in to repairs.</p> <p>An allotment holder had their vehicle blocked in by car booters recently which has been reported to the Recreation Committee.</p>	<p>Cllrs Wilkes &amp; Glaze to approach landowners.</p> <p>Clerk to contact PS Fencing re gatepost.</p> <p>Clerk to contact a contractor re cutting back hedges and ivy work.</p> <p>Clerk to contact a contractor re fencing repairs.</p>
55	<p><b>Planning Matters</b> Cllr Bainbridge led discussions on the following matters –</p> <p><b>Applications considered prior to the meeting:</b>  <b>18/01185/HP</b> – Lantern House, Boon Street, Eckington WR10 3BL –no objection in principle but would prefer a condition attached to any approval, that during construction work, all vehicles, including the contractors and sub-contractors vehicles, be parked on the drive to the side and rear of Lantern House and not along Boon Street which is quite narrow and restricted on the vicinity of Lantern House.  <b>18/01550/HP</b> – 5 Russell Drive, Eckington WR10 3BP – no objection.  <b>18/01518/HP</b> – Whippendell, Upper End, Eckington WR10 3DQ – some concerns raised about the render and paint finish to the walls. However, as some neighbouring properties also had a similar finish, and taking in to account the Conservation Officer’s comments, EPC has no objection.</p>	

	<p><b>18/01311/HP</b> – Avonlea, Tewkesbury Rd, Eckington WR10 3AW – no objection.</p> <p><b>Applications for consideration:</b>  <b>18/01569/FUL</b> – Eckington C of E Primary School, School Lane, Eckington WR10 3AU – single storey extension to increase size of small classroom. Agreed to request a deferral until drawings were available to consider.  <b>18/01686/HP</b> - Court Gate Nursery, Station Rd, Eckington, WR10 3BB – construction of a timber framed car port. As Cllr Bainbridge had declared an interest in this matter, it was agreed that Cllr Wilkes should lead on this application.  <b>18/01814/HP</b> – The Cottage, Upper End, Eckington WR10 3DQ – construction of a timber framed garage. All agreed no objection.  <b>18/01512/HP</b> – Rectory House, Church Road, Strensham WR8 9LW - to extend and crenellate Rectory House. It was agreed that the PC should respond to this application as it impacts on the parish, for example from the riverside walk. It was further agreed that Cllr Bainbridge should circulate further information to the Council for comment.</p> <p><b>It was noted –</b>  That the Mitton Bank application has now been extended to 25<sup>th</sup> October for comment.  North House application extension was to the end of August which has now passed. The Agent was to contact Historic England but no further update currently. The Council feels that comments made are appropriate and agreed to investigate listing North House. Cllr Bainbridge to circulate information. Next agenda item if required.</p> <p><b>Notifications:</b>  <b>17/02313/GPDQ</b> - Blue Gecko Plants, Tewkesbury Rd, Eckington WR10 3DE – planning appeal lodged re proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (class C3) and assoc. development.  <b>18/00976/COU</b> – The Old Telephone Exchange, Pershore Rd, Eckington Wr10 3AP – approval for change of use of a light engineering workshop to a photographic studio.  <b>18/01550/HP</b> - 5 Russell Drive, Eckington WR10 3BP – approval for ensuite extension at side. Kitchen dining room extension at rear. Conversion of rear garage in to study. Extend garage at front and replace porch.</p>	<p>Clerk to submit responses as agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes to lead on the application.</p> <p>Cllr Bainbridge to circ. further information.</p> <p>Cllr Bainbridge to circ. further information.  Clerk to place on next agenda if required.</p>
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56	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p>Payments proposed by Cllr Cameron, seconded Cllr Auty. All agreed.</p> <p>£341.67 Clerks salary (net)</p> <p>£141.67 Clerks expenses – Travel / phone &amp; internet / CiLCA registration</p> <p>£570.00 Eckington Village Memorial Hall (oak doors)</p> <p>£60.00 Eckington Village Memorial Hall (hire June &amp; July)</p> <p>£132.01 Wychavon DC non-domestic rates</p> <p>£60.00 Worcs CALC training fee</p> <p>£45.00 Eckington Recreation Centre hire</p> <p>£178.20 Wychavon DC annual charge (dog bins near Eck. Bridge &amp; Station Rd)</p> <p>£1197.42 New Farm Grounds Maintenance grass cuts July &amp; Aug (church, cemetery &amp; Recreation Centre)</p> <p>£526.80 Cardiac Science (defibs batteries)</p> <p>£888.75 + vat LEPUS strategic env. assessment (Neighbourhood Planning)</p> <p>£1579.50 + vat LEPUS (as above)</p> <p>War memorial quote received – a quote had been obtained for cleaning and minor restoration works, however it was agreed not to pursue this, and that Cllr Wilkes will carry out the work required. It was further agreed that Cllr Wilkes should look at options for a permanent plaque to be sited.</p>	<p>Clerk to pay as agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes to progress war memorial works and plaque options.</p>
57	<p><b>Staffing Matters</b></p> <p>The Clerk updated the Council regarding Highways delays with progressing the newly appointed Lengthsman for the Parish due to training updates being implemented. County Cllr Hardman has been asked to speak with Highways on our behalf. It was agreed that once the Lengthsman can commence work, additional hours should be agreed to enable him to catch up with outstanding works from July &amp; August.</p>	<p>Clerk to progress recruitment.</p>
58	<p><b>Governance Matters</b></p> <p>Financial Regulations – the draft as circulated was proposed for adoption by Cllr Bainbridge, seconded Cllr Ransted. All agreed. Document to be added to the PC website.</p> <p>Transparency Code – no updates.</p> <p>GDPR – no updates.</p>	<p>Clerk to add to website.</p>

59	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Cllr Glaze reported that a Steering Group meeting had been held to review suggestion to the plan re Reg. 14. Now sent for proof reading and final amendments. The Strategic Env. Assessment is also moving forward. Reg. 14 and the S.E.A six weeks consultation period hopefully starts 25<sup>th</sup> Oct. Also time to consider comments before Christmas and submit to WDC early 2019. The target is to try and coincide the referendum with local elections.</p> <p>Following the Extra Ordinary meeting of the PC in August, actions were followed up re the independent report and concerns raised. A response has been received from Andrew Grant as circulated and comments noted. AG believes that the document is fit for purpose but raised a few suggestions which Cllr Glaze has followed up with the Solicitor re Pershore Rd money and Jarvis St obligations.</p> <p>Further discussion took place regarding ongoing concerns by Cllr Hughes regarding the sum of money offered and professional independent advice sought. It was noted that there had been professional legal involvement via the Steering Group. All processed to date have a proper audit trail and due diligence can be demonstrated. All records have been archived.</p> <p>It was further noted that the NP will go ahead if this agreement is not signed but there would be no financial benefit for the community. Further discussion then took place regarding the amount of money offered and how further verification of it being a 'good deal' could be made.</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that the Council needed to consider all information received to date and then decide whether the agreement should be signed based on it being in the best interests of the community.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Ransted, seconded by Cllr Cameron that the PC sign the agreement based on all information received. A vote was carried 6 votes in favour with 1 abstention.</p>	Cllr Glaze to inform the NPSG of the decision and to arrange the document for signature.
60	<p><b>Highways Matters</b></p> <p>Some submissions have been made to Highways recently for Lengthsman tasks.</p> <p>Clerk to report any further matters as received.</p>	
61	<p><b>New Homes Bonus</b></p> <p>Balances noted.</p>	
62	<p><b>Parish Matters</b></p> <p><b>Bus services</b> - Cllr Ransted reported on future options re the Hopper Service. There are still fundamental issues re usage figs however. Next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September.</p>	

	<p><b>Rural Communities Programme</b> – Cllr Hughes reported four new Friends have joined. Next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> September. It was suggested that a presentation could be made to the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting for the PC to all become Dementia Friends.</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Watch / Community Speed Watch</b> – Cllr Ransted reported on both schemes going well. Options for speed reduction being considered included white gates. The Council would need to gather evidence from other parishes re the success of this option.</p> <p><b>Speeding concerns</b> - The matter of speeding along Tewkesbury Rd was discussed and it was agreed that a speed survey is needed along this stretch – Clerk has already requested this from Highways but will chase it up.</p> <p><b>Community Engagement</b> – Cllrs Auty &amp; Yarnold had made some suggestions re future options for engagement. It was agreed that these ideas should be progressed further, and that Social Media Policy would also be required.</p> <p><b>Wychavon Village of Culture 2019</b> – expressions of interest needed by 21<sup>st</sup> September. It was agreed that Cllrs Auty &amp; Yarnold should email a summary of the process and benefits asap. Also to find out how much work is required and the outcomes to be achieved.</p> <p><b>Dog waste bin at Mill Lane</b> – Cllr Wilkes agreed to check the current bin emptying schedule across the parish. It was agreed to monitor the situation in Mill Lane.</p> <p><b>Seat purchased by Warren Smith Charity</b> – Cllr Wilkes explained the history to the seat and it was agreed that the Recreation Centre would be a suitable location for it to be sited.</p>	<p>Cllr Auty to circ. Info gathered from other areas. Clerk to share info. From Warndon PC and chase Highways re survey request. Cllrs Auty &amp; Yarnold to progress suggestions.</p> <p>Cllrs Auty &amp; Yarnold to email further information as agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes to check WDC.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes to notify the Rec. Committee.</p>
63	<p><b>Flooding Issues</b> Cllr Glaze reported from the meeting held with County as per the circulated report. It was confirmed that the flood alleviation scheme will not be progressed and that no further action is required. Matter to be removed from future agendas.</p>	<p>Clerk to remove from future agendas. Cllr Glaze to update County Cllr Hardman.</p>
64	<p><b>Correspondence for Information</b> The Clerk circulated Clerk &amp; Councils Direct and Cotswold Line newsletter.</p>	
65	<p><b>Councillor Reports &amp; Items for Future Agendas</b> Cllr Bainbridge reported that generic emails are being progressed for Councillors. A list will be sent to the Clerk when ready to use. Cllr Hughes checked the number of units on NP land.</p>	<p>Cllr Bainbridge to progress generic emails.</p>

	<p>Also a number of bonfire complaints received recently – it was agreed that the Clerk should place a reminder in the parish magazine re consideration of neighbours and that this should also be posted to Facebook by Cllr Bainbridge.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes requested a refresher course for defibrillator usage and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact P. Binney to see if that could be arranged.</p>	<p>Clerk to include bonfires in parish magazine report and pass to Cllr Bainbridge for Facebook.</p> <p>Clerk to contact P. Binney re defib. refresher.</p>
	<p><b>There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 pm</b></p>	