

Tuesday 08th May 2012 – Two residents attended the open public forum.

Mr Donnelly raised the issue of blocked ditches on Nafford Road, which is causing flooding during heavy rainfall. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Drainage Officer at Wychavon District Council.

Mr Tebbatt gave a short presentation to the Parish Council regarding the 2012 Eckington Music Festival (held in support of The Friends of Eckington School). The Parish Council were in agreement that the preparations for the event had been extremely thorough and hoped that the evening would be a success.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 08th May 2012

71/12 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Glaze, Ransted, Smith, Cameron, Forrest, Wilkes and Wood.

72/12 Election of Chair and to receive the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office – A proposal was made by Cllr Smith that Cllr Williamson take the position of Chair for a second year, this was seconded by Cllr Ransted. Cllr Williamson agreed and there being no objections or further proposals, Cllr Williamson accepted the nomination and duly signed the Declaration of Office.

73/12 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Bainbridge and were accepted by the Meeting.

74/12 Election of Vice Chair – A proposal was made by Cllr Cameron and seconded by Cllr Smith that Cllr Glaze take the position of Vice Chair. Cllr Glaze agreed and there being no objections or further proposals, accepted the position.

75/12 Declarations of Interest – No declarations were made.

76/12 Standing Orders – The Meeting agreed to re-examine the Standing Orders in readiness for the next Meeting.

77/12 To Appoint Members to the Following:

The Meeting agreed the following:

Staffing Committee – Cllrs Forrest, Glaze & Smith

Planning Committee – Cllrs Bainbridge, Wood, Williamson & Ransted

Finance & Budget Committee – Cllrs Cameron, Williamson & Glaze

78/12 Annual Subscriptions:

The following were approved:

CPRE	£29.00
CLPG	£10.00
ANT	£10.00
Community First	£20.00
LCR	£15.50
CALC	£517.32

The Meeting agreed that subscriptions to CPRE and LCR would be reviewed at next year's Annual Parish Meeting.

79/12 Annual Risk Assessment – The Meeting considered the updated Risk Assessment. It was agreed that the Clerk would request the following changes:

Increase of public liability and Lychgate cover;
Cover for parish notice board.

Following the amendments, it was agreed that the Risk Assessment would be considered at the next Meeting.

80/12 To Appoint Individual Councillors to the following roles:

Footpath Officer – Cllr Wilkes

Tree Warden – Cllr Wood

Eckington Memorial Hall – Cllr Bainbridge

Bredon Hill Conservation Group – Cllr Ransted

Eckington Recreation Centre – Cllr Williamson

Church & Bridge Trust – Cllrs Wilkes & Forrest

CALC – Cllrs Cameron & Glaze

The Meeting was unanimous in agreement for the appointment of each councillor to these roles.

81/12 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 17th April 2012 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th April were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Smith, this was seconded by Cllr Glaze. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

82/12 District & County Councillor Reports – There was no attendance.

83/12 Progress Reports – Clerk:

The following correspondence was read to the Meeting:

Youth Cancer Charity – fund raising ideas. Noted.

Village Hall – The following matters were reported to the Meeting:

- AGM recently taken place – new trustees have been elected along with some new members;
- Meeting with architect arranged, in order to give update regarding building works funding.

Footpaths – Cllr Wilkes informed the Meeting that he would endeavour to give an update to the next Meeting regarding Hammock Road and Piecing (rights of way).

BHCG – An update was given regarding the proposed development at Ashchurch (Army Camp) – those opposing the proposed new housing are attempting to downsize the amount of housing currently planned.

Wind Turbines proposed for Bredon Hill vicinity – issue still on-going, although no planning application submitted as yet.

PACT – It was reported that the local Police have been informed of the recent vandalism which has taken place at the Allotment Site and will monitor the situation.

PMTP – The Meeting was informed that Cllr Ransted is still pursuing the matter.

84/12 – 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 17th April 2012:

Planning Approvals

W/12/00557/PP Hendref, Boon Street – First floor extension.

W/12/00553/PP Robinia House, Jarvis Street – Build over existing porch to create ensuite and rear extension to create kitchen/dining/family room.

Planning Applications to be discussed:

W/12/00842 11 The Close – To extend implementation of planning permission W/09/00638 to erect a two storey dwelling – no objection.

W/12/00833 Land adjacent Sandrene – One detached bungalow, parking and access – no objection.

The Meeting discussed the response received from Wychavon District Council Planning Department (regarding planning issues within the village). It was agreed that although the points raised in the letter from the PC had been addressed, there were still issues which the Parish Council wanted further clarification on. It was therefore agreed that Cllrs Bainbridge and Glaze would prepare a further draft letter to WDC in readiness for approval at the next Meeting.

85/12 – Highway Matters – Items to be reported to Worcestershire Highways:

- Nafford Road & New Road/Jarvis Street – issues with drainage;
- Church Street – broken manhole cover.

The Clerk agreed to request maintenance regarding the above.

The Clerk confirmed that a request for road alteration/widening at Pike House to be scheduled for a future maintenance budget had now been made to Highways.

86/12 – Cala Homes & Section 106 Funding - The sub-committee made a recommendation to the Meeting to no longer pursue the proposed purchase of land at Stoney Furlong, primarily due to:

- Local resident opposition;
- Increase in price for land;
- Anticipated on-site parking issues.

A brief discussion took place regarding the recommendation, followed by a vote on the matter. The outcome of the vote was 3 in favour to pursue the matter, 4 to end proceedings. The Meeting therefore agreed to end proceedings regarding the proposed purchase.

The Meeting were in agreement that the next step in the process would be to write to landowners highlighted by the sub-committee enquiring whether there would be any interest in selling a small portion of land to the Parish Council for the purposes of recreation use.

The Meeting also agreed that a request would be placed in the Parish Magazine for any constructive suggestions regarding the use of the funding.

87/12 – Rural Rate Relief – The Meeting discussed the application for rural rate relief received from Eckington General Store. A proposal was made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Smith that it would be reasonable to grant the relief, in view of the fact that the business serves the local community. The Meeting was unanimous in its agreement.

88/12 – Vehicle Activated Speed Sign – The Clerk informed the Meeting that the poles required in order to erect the vehicle activated speed sign had now been obtained by Worcestershire Highways and would be delivered within the next couple of days. It was therefore agreed that on receipt of the poles, the parish lengthsman and several of the councillors would meet in order to install the sign at one of the appointed sites.

89/12 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – The sub-committee informed the Meeting that all requests from the local groups relating to use of the money had now been considered and that it was anticipated all requests would be met. The Meeting were in agreement with this and the sub-committee agreed to continue the process of applying for the grant monies.

90/12 – Community Bus Service Scheme – Cllr Glaze informed the Meeting that a publicity meeting regarding the new service would take place shortly, following which posters would be erected in the locality. The service will commence on 27th May.

91/12 – Allotments – The Meeting discussed the recent spate of vandalism which had taken place at the allotment site. It was agreed that the stile at the site would be removed and that the current fencing would be replaced with higher fencing, in an effort to deter further vandalism taking place. The Meeting was in agreement that a local contractor should be instructed to carry out the works. It was also confirmed that PACT have been informed of the vandalism attack.

92/12 – Eckington Music Festival – Following on from the presentation to the Parish Council from Mr Tebbatt, the Meeting had no issues they wished to raise.

93/12 – Finance – Cllr Forrest proposed and was seconded by Cllr Wilkes that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£309.34
Admin expenses & mileage	£14.00
Lengthsman salary	£148.00
CPRE	£29.00
Blue Gecko Plants (village planters)	£80.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£539.46
Eckington Rec. Centre	£1250.00
Clerk's annual room allowance	£200.00
Recreation centre hire	£18.00
CALC training session	£10.00
CALC subs	£517.32
LCR subs	£15.50
Pershore Town Council	£150.00

94/12 – Correspondence for Information – The Meeting noted the file of correspondence available for inspection.

95/12 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

The Meeting discussed whether there was any need to share information from Eckington Parish Council on the Wychavon District Council website. The Meeting agreed to consider the matter and further discuss at the next meeting.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 12th June 2012.

The meeting was closed at 9.50pm.