

Tuesday 09th October 2012 – One resident attended the Parish Council Meeting. The issue of speeding through the village was again raised, with particular concern regarding the area along Pershore Road, where due to road narrowing, it is potentially hazardous to pedestrians, particularly those with small children.

The Parish Council explained that this issue had already been raised with Highways, but no possible solution had been found, this being due primarily to cost and suitability of this stretch of road for possible alterations. The PC, however, agreed to discuss the matter further during the Meeting to ascertain whether anything can be done to alleviate the problem.

The issue of contractors leaving large road signs on pavements whilst work is being carried out, was also raised. It was agreed that the Clerk would speak to Highways regarding this, as, due to the fact that there are no street lights in the village, the equipment on the pavements could cause obstruction to pedestrians, particularly during the evening.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 09th October 2012

144/12 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Glaze, Ransted, Wood, Cameron, Forrest, Bainbridge and Wilkes.

145/12 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Smith. They were duly accepted by the Meeting.

146/12 Declarations of Interest – Cllr Forrest declared an interest in Item 9 of the Agenda (Section 106 Monies – Recreation Centre).

147/12 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2012 – Following one minor amendment, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th September were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Glaze, this was seconded by Cllr Wilkes. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

148/12 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis reported the following:

- There will be no increase on Council Tax in Wychavon for the third year;
- In the region of 25% of monies has been returned from the losses incurred from Icelandic Bank. It is hoped all the outstanding money will be returned within a 5 year period;
- The Police Office in Pershore has now been moved to the Civic Centre;
- Cllr Davis wished to thank Worcestershire Highways for the painting of the river bridge at Eckington, carried out during the recent maintenance works.

149/12 Progress Reports – Clerk:

The Clerk read letters from:

- Pershore Town Council – to thank Eckington PC for their support of the Sunday bus service;
- Wychavon District Council –to inform the PC of the revised proposals for new parliamentary constituency boundaries;
- Wychavon District Council – copy letters serving formal notice upon two land owners in Nafford Road regarding maintenance of watercourse at their properties.

A reminder regarding the forthcoming Remembrance Day Parade was issued to the Councillors.

Village Hall – Cllr Bainbridge reported the following:

- Further funding relating to the proposed building works has now been secured;
- A new stackable stage has now been purchased;
- The recent jumble sale raised £1100;
- Notebooks dating back to the origin of the Village Hall have now been handed to Worcestershire County Council.

Footpaths – The Meeting was informed that the field at Oatsley Lane had been ploughed recently, but that the path through it had not been reinstated. The matter had been reported.

CALC – The next meeting is scheduled for December.

PMTP – The next meeting is scheduled for December.

150/12 – 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 11th September 2012:

Planning Approvals

W/12/01723/LB White House, Church Street – Re-roofing of main pitches re-pointing of northern elevation brickwork.

W/12/01673/PN Anchor Inn, Cotheridge Lane – Building of two three bed semi detached houses on part of pub car park.

W/12/01282/PP 6 Russell Drive – Extensions to existing dwelling.

W/12/01814/PP Morningside, Church Street – Demolition of conservatory, 2 storey side extension, single storey rear extension, internal alterations.

Planning Applications to be discussed:

W/12/01812/PN & W/12/01813LB White House, Church Street – Change of use of stables to one dwelling, including 2 storey rear extension and resiting of garage to stables. Inclusion of additional land. Revision of previous applications. No objection.

W/12/01809/CU Oatsley Lane, Upper End – Change of use – garage to hobbies room (retrospective). No Objection.

W/12/01896/PP 2 Jasmine Cottage, Station Road – Single storey extension and new windows. No objection.

The Meeting discussed the offer received from the owner of Manor Farm, for the Parish Council to visit the Cookery School, in order to discuss a proposed planning application. The Meeting agreed that it would not be permitted for the PC to accept this offer, before the planning application had been submitted to the District Council.

151/12 – Highway Matters –

The Clerk gave a summary of outstanding drainage matters which have been ongoing for some time, but with little progress. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would arrange for a site meeting with Highways in order to walk through the village and inspect each issue raised, in an effort to resolve these matters.

It was agreed that Cllr Hardman should be contacted in order to progress the matter of grass verge cutting within the village.

The Meeting discussed the letter received from WCC relating to the application to add footpaths to the definitive map. The PC agreed that they would be in favour of opening the permissive

route, but that further comment could not be made until the formal process of modification has taken place.

152/12 – Recreation Centre – The Meeting discussed and agreed the proposal made by the Recreation Centre for the PC to pay for grass cutting at the Recreation Centre (this to be taken out of the yearly PC donation). A proposal was therefore made by Cllr Cameron and seconded by Cllr Glaze.

The Meeting noted Cllr Williamson’s resignation of the Recreation Committee (in order to comply with the new Code of Conduct). It was therefore agreed that Cllr Wood would replace Cllr Williamson on the Committee, with Cllr Ransted as a back-up, should the need arise.

153/12 – Cala Homes & Section 106 Funding - The Meeting noted Cllr Forrest’s declaration of interest in relation to this matter. However, due to the nature of the interest, it was agreed that a dispensation would be given to Cllr Forrest to remain on the Section 106 Committee and a full voting member on the PC in relation to the matter. The Meeting was unanimous in its agreement.

The Meeting then received the report from the Section 106 Committee relating to the proposal for use of funding received from the Recreation Committee. The Meeting was informed that following a site visit and further examination of the proposal, the Committee were in agreement that some of the funding be used to make the improvements (with some modifications), to the Recreation Centre. The Meeting therefore agreed that the Clerk would contact Wychavon District Council to request a site visit, to see whether the proposal would be acceptable to them and to discuss the next step forward.

154/12 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – The Meeting was informed that the funding requested by the PC had now been received. Cllr Glaze confirmed that the money would be distributed to the various groups during the coming months.

It was proposed that due to Cllr Smith being a member of the Village Hall Committee (one of the groups to benefit from funding), he would be replaced by Cllr Forrest on the New Homes Bonus Committee. The Meeting was in agreement to this proposal.

155/12 – Churchyard & Cemetery – The quotes regarding maintenance work at the Churchyard were discussed, and the lowest quote agreed upon. A proposal was made by Cllr Bainbridge and seconded by Cllr Cameron.

Further maintenance work requested by the PCC was discussed. A proposal was made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Forrest that the Parish Lengthsman should be asked to carry out the extra work 3 times per year. The work would be financed by the Parish Council.

The Meeting discussed the quote received in relation to works at the Cemetery. It was agreed, however, that the Clerk would wait for additional quotes to be received. A proposal was made by Cllr Cameron and seconded by Cllr Bainbridge that on receipt of the additional quotes the Clerk would instruct the contractor with the lowest price to undertake the work.

156/12 – Finance – Cllr Ransted proposed and was seconded by Cllr Glaze that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk’s salary	£318.46
Admin expenses & mileage	£29.80

Lengthsman salary	£186.19
Eckington Recreation Centre	£1250.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£359.64
Poppy wreath	£25.00
PAYE	£59.80
N. Wilkes (plants & turf)	£41.80

Payments Already Made:

Eckington Under Fives	£500.00
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157/12 – Correspondence for Information – The Meeting noted the file of correspondence available for inspection.

158/12 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

- Broken road safety mirror at Hacketts Lane – The Meeting agreed that the Clerk would look into costings;
- Village thefts reported – Cllr Ransted would raise the issue at the next PACT meeting;
- IOC letter discussed – no further action;
- Speeding issues (as raised by resident before the Meeting). A suggestion was made that money received from NHB could be used toward road safety measures, which are currently cost prohibitive. The matter will be discussed at the next Meeting;
- It was agreed that a request should be made in the Parish Magazine for overhanging branches within the village to be trimmed back.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th November 2012.

The meeting was closed at 09.50pm.