

Tuesday 10th June 2014 – Three representatives from Newland Homes and three residents attended the Open Public Forum.

Due to time constraints, District Councillor Davis gave the following report:

- Current WDC funds - £37.4 million;
- Cllr Davis urged the PC to ensure full consideration is given to NHB funding currently available.

The Meeting noted concerns raised by Mr Charles Frampton, in relation to the proposed planning application by CALA Homes.

Mr Bolsover introduced the representatives from Newland Homes and explained that he was currently considering developing his land at New Road/Pershore Road. He explained that if he were to proceed with this, he would want the village to seriously benefit from the development and had therefore requested that plans be drawn up to incorporate approximately 4 acres of land to be used in some way for recreation within the village.

Newland Homes made the following points:

- Newland Homes' focus on good design and quality craftsmanship;
- The first draft plan will be presented to the village in the form of a public presentation, following which there will be a questionnaire. The responses to this will then be available for viewing by the PC;
- The initial plan is for 77 units (made up of 20 detached, 24 semi detached, 20 terraced and 13 apartments). It is intended that some of these properties will be bungalows;
- 40% will be affordable homes.

Initial comments by the PC were:

- A great deal of consideration would need to be made in relation to local resources, particularly the local school;
- The PC stressed the importance that the design of the housing and the general feel of the site, should be of a non-urban nature.

The Meeting thanked Mr Bolsover and Newland Homes for attending the Meeting and informed them that they would need to discuss and consider the matter further, following which a response would be made to Mr Bolsover.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th June 2014

89/14 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Smith, Glaze, Forrest, Wood, Bainbridge, Ransted and Wilkes.

90/14 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Cameron. The Meeting unanimously accepted the apologies.

91/14 Declarations of Interest – No Declarations were received.

92/14 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2014 – Following one minor amendment, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th May were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Williamson, this was seconded by Cllr Wilkes. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

93/14 District & County Councillor Reports – (See Cllr Davis' earlier report).

94/14 Progress Reports – The Clerk reported the following:

- It was reported that due to concerns raised by a resident relating to visibility at the entrance/exit of the Wharf car park, Countryside Services had trimmed back overhanging vegetation and confirmed that further tree works will be undertaken on the site during the winter months;
- Concern had been raised by a resident regarding the lack of drop kerbs at Glenmoor, and the difficulty this causes to residents who are disabled or elderly. It was confirmed this matter would be reported to Highways.

Footpaths – It was reported that the long grass along the Circular River Walk has now been cut. A request to Countryside Services to cut grass at the Wharf picnic site, has also been made.

CALC – Issues discussed at the recent meeting included; Community Champion projects, parish precepts and SWDP. A short talk was also given by the CAB.

PMTP – Issues discussed at the recent meeting included; the success of local festivals, health & wellbeing within the County and the ongoing Pershore Train Station project.

95/14 – 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 13th May 2014:

Approvals:

W/14/00602/ St Catherines Farm, Woollas Hill – 3 car garage (stone/tiled roof & single storey) on site of old barn.

The Meeting noted the positive response received from WDC relating to Planning Officer Reports and the need to include (where necessary) “No comment from PC received to date”.

The Meeting discussed the static caravan situated off Manor Road (reported by a resident). It was agreed that Cllr Glaze would visit the owners to request that they investigate whether planning permission should be sought in relation to this matter.

The Meeting agreed that a date should be set to discuss the new housing proposal at New Road/Pershore Road. (To be agreed at the end of the Meeting).

96/14 – Highway Matters – The following update on outstanding matters was given:

- Flooding in Jarvis Street – Some maintenance work has now been carried out;
- Completion of drainage works on Nafford Road – A headwall has been constructed and the grip dug out, however the road is still so flat that water will still pond;
- Over-running of verges on flood diversion route – The worst sections have been filled;
- Overhanging vegetation in Boon Street – No action yet;
- Marker posts in Mill Lane – Now reinstated;
- Station Road footway resurfacing – No action yet;
- Drainage in Hacketts Lane – No action yet
- Flooding on B4080 (Clattsmore Farm) – Grips have been cut and headwalls cleared.

It was also reported that there is a small section of grass along New Road which is not currently included in the WCC grass cutting plan. Cllr Ransted agreed to e-mail the relevant information to the Clerk, in order that the matter can be reported.

97/14 – Section 106 Funding – It was reported that the project is now nearing completion, following which the playground inspection will take place (in order that the license can be awarded).

98/14 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – It was reported that the defibrillator cabinets have now been purchased and will be installed later this week. A demonstration and training on how to use the equipment will be offered to residents.

It was noted that there may also be the opportunity to appoint two First Responders within the locality.

99/14 – Cemetery & Churchyard – The Meeting discussed and agreed that an updated cemetery plan/layout should be drawn up. It was agreed that:

- Cllr Wilkes would investigate suitable contractors/surveyors who would be able to carry out this work;
- Cllr Glaze would speak to WDC regarding TPO's and any relevant surveys which should be undertaken before the commencement of any maintenance work;
- The Clerk would update the current Cemetery database.

The Meeting considered the tree safety check recently carried out within the Churchyard and Cemetery. It was agreed that 3 quotes should be sought for:

- (i) Urgent work;
- (ii) Non urgent work.

A decision on how to proceed will then be made at the next meeting.

Cllr Williamson proposed that the quote received in relation to essential maintenance work required to a headstone, be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Forrest.

Cllr Wilkes informed the Meeting that the re-seeding required in the Cemetery has now been completed, although further seed may need to be re-applied within the next few weeks.

100/14 – Standing Orders – The Meeting was informed that the SO's currently in use by the PC have now been superseded by an updated version and therefore further changes/additions would need to be made. It was agreed that Cllr Glaze and The Clerk would make the necessary alterations in readiness for the July Meeting.

101/14 – Telephone Box – The Meeting discussed the “Adopt a Kiosk” Scheme and agreed that the telephone box in Eckington should be purchased by the Parish Council. Cllr Wilkes agreed to further investigate the matter.

102/14 – Cala Homes – Disappointment was expressed by the councillors, that Cala Homes had not attended the Meeting (as previously arranged). It was agreed that the Clerk would speak to Cala in order to discuss whether an alternative arrangement could be made, in order that the planning application could be discussed/viewed by the Parish Council.

103/14 – Finance – Cllr Williamson proposed and was seconded by Cllr Ransted that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk's salary	£376.81
Admin expenses & mileage	£42.55
Lengthsman salary	£232.25

N. Wilkes (grass seed etc)	£64.49
Bellinger Design	£3462.43
Adrian Ball (reimbursement for cricket equipment)	£151.82
BJ Unwin Forestry Consultancy	£300.00
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£359.64
New Farm Grounds Maintenance	£190.80
L. Gerber (BT reimbursement)	£63.48
George Glaze	£870.44

The Meeting inspected and approved the accounts for year end 31st March 2014.

104/14 – Correspondence for Information – Noted.

105/14 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

- Overhanging vegetation throughout the village (particularly in Boon Street). It was agreed that a request for residents to cut back overgrown vegetation, would be made in the Parish Magazine.
- The Meeting agreed a suitable date to meet at the Recreation Ground, in order to discuss the proposed new housing at Pershore Road/New Road.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 08th July 2014, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 9.50pm.