

Tuesday 12th April 2016 One resident attended the Open Public Forum.

Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th April 2016

53/16 Present – Cllrs. Glaze, Cameron, Wilkes, Wood, Ransted, Palmer and Bogaard

54/16 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllrs. Bainbridge and Brown. These were unanimously accepted by the Meeting.

55/16 Declarations of Interest – Cllr Bogaard declared an interest in Item 6 of the Agenda (Planning App. 16/00768).

56/16 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 08th March 2016

The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 08th March were a true and accurate record. Therefore a proposal to accept the Minutes was made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Wilkes. All present were unanimous in their agreement and the Minutes were duly signed.

57/16 District & County Councillor Reports

District Cllr Ron Davis:

- SWDP – Time for challenge has now elapsed.
- Planning App 16/00383 (landscaping & earth re-modelling) – Consultation will re-start as the application will now be considered by Worcestershire County Council.
- WDC – Reserve funds of 39 million.

County Cllr Adrian Hardman:

The Meeting requested an update relating to a prospective planning application at Mitton Bank. (Cllr Davis declared an interest in this matter and left the meeting (7.50pm)).

Cllr Hardman confirmed that, as yet, no planning application had been received. A request regarding environmental issues had been received, however it had been agreed that this will not be required.

Other issues:

- Footway repairs on Station Road were noted.
- Changes to 382 bus service – Cllr Hardman agreed that the changes made to the timetable were not favourable. However, as the route has been agreed by the Traffic Commissioner, Highways are prevented from intervening with regards to the issue.
- Eckington bridge (flooding issues) – Following letters to WCC and the local MP, it was confirmed that the issue is being considered by WCC. The PC will be informed of any planned modifications or improvements.
- Surface dressing and digging/clearing of grips on the Bredon Road is planned for June 2016.
- Modification Order (Piecing Lane) – Progress is slow. Consent for gates to be erected and pipes to be installed, is currently awaited.
- Planning application relating to a gypsy family on land off of Bredon Road – currently ongoing.

Cllr Hardman noted Item 9 of the Agenda (to discuss the installation of white gates at village entrances). The Meeting noted that Highways were unable to confirm whether erecting gates does actually have any impact on traffic calming through villages.

58/16 Progress Reports –

Clerk – The following report was given:

- Nafford Road (smell of foul sewerage) – The matter has been investigated by Severn Trent, however no issue was found. It may be a private matter ie. from a cesspit in the area. It was agreed that the Clerk should report the matter to Worcester Regulatory Services.

- Allotments (issue with rabbits) – It was reported that Network Rail had now visited the site and discussed the issue with Cllr Wilkes. Gassing will not take place, as the embankment would need to be cleared and Network Rail do not have the funding to undertake this. Installing rabbit traps was discussed, however this has yet to be agreed by Network Rail. The PC will be contacted once a decision regarding this matter has been taken.
- Mill Lane – Highways have raised a 4 week works order to repair broken warning posts along this stretch.
- Issues raised with dog waste bags being deposited in various areas of the village – Clerk to raise the matter in the Parish Magazine.
- Police report – 16/03, tools stolen from works van in Jarvis Street.

Village Hall – Meeting with the PC to discuss outstanding issues has been arranged for 16/06.

Footpaths – Public Rights of Way have inspected the Churchyard footpath, however as the responsibility for the path is due to pass to Highways, no action will be taken at present. Cllr Wilkes confirmed that he had also looked at the path and did not feel that any immediate action was warranted.

BHCG – It was reported that:

- A new secretary has now been appointed.
- Following attendance at the recent meeting between the hill parishes, it was noted that Eckington and Bredon will be covering a fair proportion of the hill under their own Neighbourhood Plans, Ashton Under Hill now intend to embark on their own Plan and three other hill parishes may join together to form a joint NP. Cllr Ransted agreed to keep the PC updated of further progress in this matter.

59/16 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 08th March 2016:

W/16/00556 6 Crumps Cottage, Upper End – Construct new single storey garden room to north side of building. Construct new extension to existing WC and utility and form a balcony to the flat roof – No objection.

W/16 00586/LB The Cottage, Church Street – Internal alterations to create inter-connecting doorway – No objection.

Approvals:

W/16/00338/PP & 00339/LB Love Lace, Manor Road – Single storey rear extension (retrospective).

W/16/00207/LB 1 Jarvis Street – Repairs to timber framing and infill panels.

W/16/00244/LB Whitehouse, Church Street – Internal alterations, removal of wall and redundant staircase. Creation of shared en-suite and new doors to bedrooms. Replacement of wall with open balustrade.

W/16/00414/PP 6 Russell Drive – Erection of garden shed, fence and new drop kerb.

W/16/00556 6 Crumps Cottage, Upper End – Construct new single storey garden room to north side of building. Construct new extension to existing WC and utility and form a balcony to the flat roof.

To Discuss:

W/16/00768/PP 3 Upper End – First floor side extension above existing garage – No objection.

60/16 Finance – Cllr Bogaard proposed and was seconded by Cllr Palmer that the following payments should be approved:

Payments to be made:

Clerks salary	£397.30
L. Gerber (admin, expenses & mileage)	£33.43

Lengthsman salary	£149.55
Village Hall (hire, incl. NP event)	£150.00
NALC (subs)	£17.00
WDC (rating demand)	£111.32
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec cut)	£170.40
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (PC)	£187.20
Ana Brady (reimbursement NHB funding)	£627.29
L. Gerber (reimbursement ink cartridges & paper)	£41.13
Ian Pickford (NP reimbursement)	£121.20
Cilla Cameron (NP reimbursement)	£35.36

61/16 Neighbourhood Plan – It was reported that:

- The steering group is now preparing to write NP policies.
- £13,742 in grant money already received.
- PC may have to dip into reserves in order to complete.

62/16 Highway Matters –

The Meeting was informed that the drainage issue at Pass Street has now been investigated by Highways. The response received was that no action is required. Clerk to speak to Highways again to request that the matter be re-considered.

The Meeting considered the information and pricing received regarding the installation of white gates at the village entrances. After due consideration, the Meeting voted upon the matter. Five Councillors voted against the installation of gates and one councillor was in favour. It was therefore decided that the matter would not be pursued.

63/16 382 Bus Service –

Following a brief discussion of the new timetable, it was agreed that the situation should be monitored over the next few weeks, with a view to the PC then raising the matter with the Traffic Commissioner and requesting that the route be re-considered.

Cllr Glaze confirmed his intended attendance at the forthcoming Pershore Public Transport Group meeting. Cllr Glaze agreed to seek information regarding the Pershore Hoppa (community bus), to see whether there would be any opportunity for Eckington to be included on it's route.

64/16 Section 106 Funding –

It was reported that the remaining funds have still not been used; car park matting is yet to be purchased.

65/16 New Homes Bonus –

It was reported that a further application had now been put together by the Cricket Club. Cllr Palmer agreed to liaise with the NHB Committee before finalising the application.

66/16 SWDP

The Meeting noted the recent update received from SWDP. Cllrs Glaze and Ransted agreed to attend the forthcoming CIL event.

67/16 Raising the On-line Profile of the Parish Council –

In the absence of Cllr Bainbridge, the Meeting agreed to further discuss the issue at the next meeting.

68/16 Flooding Issues –

The Meeting noted the responses received from WCC and Harriett Baldwin (MP) regarding the proposed modelling to take place at the bridge (in order to assess the potential impacts on the floodplain of raising the road). It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to WCC requesting to be kept fully updated on a time schedule for the works.

The use of flood level monitors at the bridge was raised. It was agreed that Cllr Wood would further investigate the matter and report back to the next meeting.

69/16 Correspondence for Information –

Noted.

70/16 Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

- Request received from a resident seeking permission for a neighbouring scout group to plant trees in agreed locations at the recreation ground. It was agreed that a member of both the Parish Council and Recreation Committee would meet with the resident in order to discuss the way forward.
- Clerk to speak to an allotment holder regarding clearance of his plot.

71/16 Date of next meeting –

Due to several absences of parish councillors, it was agreed that the Annual Parish Council Meeting would be brought forward by one week, thus meeting on 03 May 2016. Clerk to check availability of the hall.

Meeting closed at 9.35.