

Tuesday 3rd May 2016 There was no attendance at the Open Public Forum.

Minutes of the Eckington Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd May 2016

72/16 Present – Cllrs. Glaze, Brown, Bainbridge, Wilkes, Wood, Ransted, Palmer and Bogaard

73/16 Election of Parish Council Chairman – A proposal was made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Wilkes, that Cllr Glaze should take the Chair. There being no further proposals, Cllr Glaze agreed to the proposal and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

74/16 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Cameron. These were unanimously accepted by the Meeting.

75/16 Election of Vice Chairman – A proposal was made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Bogaard, that Cllr Bainbridge should take the position of Vice Chair. There being no further proposals, Cllr Bainbridge agreed to the proposal and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

76/16 Declarations of Interest – No declarations were received.

77/16 Standing Orders – The Meeting noted and agreed the current Standing Orders. Therefore a proposal to continue with them was made by Cllr Bogaard, this was seconded by Cllr Wilkes.

78/16 To Appoint Members of Staff to various committees:

The following was agreed:

Staffing Committee – Cllrs Glaze & Bogaard

Planning Committee – Cllrs Bainbridge, Wilkes, Glaze, Ransted & Bogaard

Finance & Budget Committee – Cllrs Glaze & Cameron

NHB Committee – Cllrs Glaze, Palmer & Brown

CIL & Section 106 Committee – Cllrs Bainbridge, Wilkes, Palmer & Wood

79/16 Annual Subscriptions:

CLPG, ANT, LCR & CALC

A proposal to subscribe to the above organisations was made by Cllr Wilkes, this was seconded by Cllr Bogaard.

80/16 Annual Risk Assessment

The Meeting reviewed the Annual Risk Assessment and agreed the necessary changes.

81/16 To Appoint Individual Councillors to the following Roles:

Footpath Officer – Cllr Wilkes

Tree Warden – Cllrs Wood & Bogaard

Eckington Memorial Hall – Cllr Bainbridge

Bredon Hill Conservation Group – Cllr Ransted

Eckington Recreation Centre – Cllrs Wood & Palmer

Church & Bridge Trust – Cllrs Wilkes & Cameron

CALC – Cllrs Ransted & Glaze

PACT – Cllr Bogaard

Partnership – Cllr Ransted

82/16 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12th April 2016

The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12th April were a true and accurate record. Therefore a proposal to accept the Minutes was made by Cllr Ransted and seconded by Cllr Palmer. All present were unanimous in their agreement and the Minutes were duly signed.

83/16 District & County Councillor Reports

No reports received.

84/16 Progress Reports –

Clerk – The Meeting noted the Annual Police Report. The following breakdown of offences was received:

	2015/16	2014/15
Burglary dwellings	0	3
Burglary other	3	3
Theft of vehicle	2	1
Theft from vehicle	2	1
Theft other	3	4
Criminal damage	5	3
Other offences	13	4

(includes mostly domestic related incidents)

The Report noted an increase in ‘other’ offences and informed the Parish Council that security advice has been issued to a number of residents and therefore regular patrols in the Parish continue.

The Report concluded that Eckington remains a safe place to live and work, however there is a responsibility for both the local Police Team and residents to maintain this.

The Meeting agreed that a request should be made to the Police for the inclusion of more details in the monthly report, regarding the crimes carried out in the village. Cllr Bogaard and The Clerk agreed to make the request.

Village Hall – The Meeting was reminded of the forthcoming meeting with the Village Hall Committee (to discuss outstanding issues), which has been arranged for 16/06.

Recreation Centre – It was reported that the majority of the Section 106 funding has now been spent.

BHCG – It was reported that:

- It is expected that a formal request may be made to Parishes requesting a small annual sum towards secretarial/administration services.
- It was confirmed that Ashton Under Hill Parish Council will undertake a Neighbourhood Plan. A combined NP for the Combertons and Elmley Castle is yet to be agreed.

Church & Bridge Trusts – It was reported that progress regarding land registration is ongoing.

Speedwatch – It was reported that during a recent Speedwatch session, three drivers had been recorded exceeding the speed limit.

Cllr Ransted informed the Meeting that since taking on organisation of the Scheme, he has now agreed to stand in occasionally, when other members of the team are unable to attend a session.

It was agreed that the Clerk would make a request in the Parish Magazine for further volunteers to take part in the Scheme.

85/16 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 12th April 2016:

DB/16/00553/DB 6 Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Application for prior notification of proposed demolition – demolition of existing stable block – No objection.

Approvals:

W/16/00586/LB The Cottage, Church Street – Internal alterations to create inter-connecting doorway.

To Discuss:

W/16/00855/PP & 00856/LB Betty Panters Cottage, Jarvis Street – Demolition of rear conservatory and replacement with new living room and revised utility/wc space. Minor internal alterations to lobby and circulation. Rebuilding of garage on existing foot print – No objection.

W/16/00846/PN Hill Barn, Nafford Bank Farm, Nafford Road – Conversion of 2 barns to 2 dwelling houses – No objection.

86/16 Finance – Cllr Wilkes proposed and was seconded by Cllr Bainbridge that the following payments should be approved:

Payments made:

Clerk's salary	£397.30
L. Gerber Admin expenses & mileage	£30.51
L. Gerber – reimbursement computer service & repair	£64.99
L. Gerber – annual room allowance	£200.00
CALC (subs)	£654.36
WDC (Rural Rate Relief)	£127.36

87/16 Neighbourhood Plan –

It was reported that since the last PC meeting, various NP meetings have taken place and policy writing is ongoing.

88/16 Highway Matters –

- The Clerk reported that Highways have now agreed to meet with the PC to discuss the drainage issue in Pass Street. Cllr Palmer agreed to meet with the representative.
- The Meeting noted maintenance work to the pot hole in Boon Street.
- Sewerage issue in Nafford Road – the issue is currently under investigation by WRS.

89/16 382 Bus Service –

The Meeting was informed that during a recent meeting between Cllr Ransted, First and Pershore Transport Group, the following issues were discussed: reduction of bus service from one hourly to two, larger First buses reversing in The Close (safety risk and damage being caused to kerbstones) and change of route.

First explained that re-routing of the service had been agreed in order that buses would no longer have to use The Close as a turning area and an alternative flood timetable would now not be required. First explained that the new route also resulted in a shortened time for the shoppers in Pershore.

Upon further discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Ransted would report back to Pershore Transport Group that there were still issues with buses commonly waiting (with the engine running) on Tewkesbury Road, as it appeared the drivers need to fill time before their next stop, buses not arriving on time and, on one occasion, the bus not turning up at all. Cllr Ransted agreed to report back to the next PC Meeting.

90/16 Section 106 Funding –

It was reported that the majority of the Section 106 funding has now been spent.

91/16 New Homes Bonus –

The following was reported:

- WDC have now agreed to pay PC's year 4 funding.
- The new protocol requires applications for major investments only.
- Cllr Palmer agreed to finalise the application for the Cricket Club before the next PC meeting.

92/16 Parish Council Insurance

As the Clerk was awaiting an additional insurance quote, it was agreed that once obtained the Clerk would accept the most competitive rate, following which a cheque would be raised.

93/16 Tree Planting

As a formal request for tree planting had not yet been received by the PC, it was agreed the matter would be further discussed at the next meeting.

94/16 Rural Rate Relief

The Meeting discussed the application received from the village shop. It was agreed that the business is of benefit to the local community and it would be reasonable to grant the relief in view of the fact that this will be funded in part by the Council Tax payers of the parish. A proposal to grant the relief was therefore made by Cllr Wilkes and seconded by Cllr Bogaard.

95/16 Raising the On-line Profile of the Parish Council –

Cllr Bainbridge explained that the PC website and Facebook page was now operational. The Meeting agreed that as the PC were currently unaware of any specific legal requirements concerning these matters, Cllr Bainbridge would prepare an example of what could be made available via the website and Facebook page, following which the Clerk would seek further advice from CALC.

96/16 Flooding Issues –

It was reported that:

- WCC have now completed the preliminary designs required for the modelling exercise at the bridge.
- WCC anticipate appointing consultants shortly, results should be available four weeks after the appointment.
- The Environment will then need to be consulted in order to assess a projected impact on the flood plain and to identify any mitigation measures. This will determine whether consent will be received from Land Drainage.
- If the relevant parties agree that there is a viable scheme, funding will need to be sought.

It was also reported that the issue of a flood monitoring system has been raised with WCC, who have agreed to look into the matter.

97/16 Clerk's Appraisal

The Clerk left the Meeting while the recent appraisal was discussed.

The Meeting accepted the appraisal and a proposal was made by Cllr Bainbridge that the Clerk's salary should raise by one scale, this was seconded by Cllr Ransted.

98/16 Correspondence for Information –
Noted.

99/16 Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda –

- Clerk to request update on VAS machine repairs.
- Clerk to request village grass cut before annual flower festival.

Cllr Glaze gave a short report on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) event recently attended. Following a brief discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would formally respond as follows: The Parish Council wish to see more freedom on how the CIL revenue may be spent, provided any investments are shared with and supported by the community. The PC would like more of a presumption towards autonomy allowing PC's, who are elected, audited and accountable bodies to invest funds as they see fit.

100/16 Date of next meeting –

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 14th June.

Meeting closed at 10.20