

# ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
At Eckington Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors George Glaze (Chairman), D. Bainbridge (Vice Chairman), Geoff Ransted, Mary Hughes, Nils Wilkes, Chris Yarnold, Chris Auty, C. Cameron and Mike Wood.  
**Also present:** District Councillor Ron Davis and one member of the public.

**Apologies:** None

**Public Participation:** A resident attended to raise further concern regarding the use of the term 'built form' in the Neighbourhood Plan and to query if the boundary was to be changed. The Chairman confirmed that he had already clearly explained the use of the term 'built form' and that there is no proposal to change the boundary. The Parish Council also noted the concern raised regarding the availability of the new market homes.

**Declarations of Interest:** None.

ITEM:	MINUTE RECORDED:	ACTION AGREED:
128	<b>The Minutes of the Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019</b> were agreed and signed as a true record following amendments to items 123 & 124. Proposed Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Wilkes. All agreed.	
129	<b>District &amp; County Councillors Reports</b> District Cllr R. Davis reported on the following matters – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circulated Council Tax leaflets and the percentage increases shown.</li> <li>• WDC Revenue Support Grant / Spending Review / Fair Funding Review / Business Rates – all to be confirmed at a later date.</li> <li>• Parish / District Council Elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.</li> </ul>	
130	<b>Progress Reports</b>  <b>Clerk</b> – Police report as circulated. <b>Village Hall</b> – Cllr Bainbridge reported on the 5 <sup>th</sup> March meeting, Treasurer's report, fundraising events, hall maintenance and Committee membership. <b>Recreation Centre</b> – Cllr Wood reported that there is nowhere to site the all-weather surface. The drinking fountain continues to be progressed. Cllr Auty will speak with Network Rail about the tree concerns raised previously.	Cllr Auty to speak with Network Rail about trees.

	<p><b>Footpaths</b> – Cllr Wilkes reported on path EK524 and meeting held with a Council Officer to discuss public safety, and path EK522 which is awaiting a land drainage survey report.</p> <p><b>Tree Warden</b> – no report. Cllr Ransted raised concern about a tree in Nafford Rd which Cllr Wood agreed to look at.</p> <p><b>Bredon Hill Conservation Group</b> – next meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p><b>Church &amp; Bridge Trusts</b> – no report.</p> <p><b>Wychavon CALC</b> – Cllr Glaze updated the PC about the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March, specifically regarding WCC Adult Services and upcoming elections.</p> <p><b>Partnership</b> – no report.</p> <p><b>Cemetery &amp; churchyard</b> – Cllr Wilkes reported a water leak to the cemetery frontage - Clerk to report to STW. The churchyard has had the overhanging vegetation removed and a tree branch has been removed from the main road. It was also noted that the war memorial became a Grade II listed monument on 6<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p><b>Allotments</b> – no report.</p> <p><b>Community engagement</b> – Cllrs Auty &amp; Yarnold had circulated a report following the recent community engagement survey, which showed a summary of the results and indicated some of the themes coming through. It was agreed that further analysis should be done, and that positive and negative comments should be followed up. A response to the survey should be clearly demonstrated. A summary of the results to be posted to Facebook and in the parish magazine.</p> <p>All Councillors asked to send through articles for Facebook in the future please to ensure regular updates are shown.</p>	<p>Clerk to report water leak to STW.</p> <p>Cllrs Auty &amp; Yarnold to arrange a summary for the parish magazine and Facebook.</p>
131	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p><b>Applications For Consideration Before The Meeting:</b></p> <p><b>19/00217/S106</b> - Toad Hall Upper End Eckington Pershore WR10 3DQ - Application to discharge a section 106 planning obligation dated 22 August 1989 and Supplementary Agreement dated 10 June 2003. Response 27<sup>th</sup> February – <b>no objection.</b></p> <p><b>19/00288/AGR</b> - Eckington Fields Farm Hollands Road Eckington WR10 3DF - Notification for prior approval for the proposed construction of an agricultural building. Response 25 February 2019 – <b>no objection.</b></p> <p><b>Applications For Consideration At The Meeting:</b></p> <p><b>18/02678/HP</b> - The Moors, Tewkesbury Road, Eckington, Pershore, WR10 3DE - Mr Colin Andrews. Two storey rear extension. <b>Agreed no objection.</b></p>	<p>Clerk to submit planning response.</p>

	<p><b>Notifications:</b>  <b>19/00288/AGR</b> - Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road, Eckington, WR10 3DF - Notification for prior approval for the proposed construction of an agricultural building. <b>Approved.</b>  <b>19/00291/NMA</b> – Avonlea, Tewkesbury Road, Eckington WR10 3AW – application for a non-material amendment following granting of permission 18/01311/HP for change to utility rooflight design. <b>Approved.</b>  <b>19/00003/LB Associated Ref: 19/00002/HP</b> - Orchard Cottage, Church Street, Eckington, Pershore, WR10 3AN - Replacement of single glazed windows with new double-glazed units. Conversion of garage to bedroom with en-suite facilities. Erection of garden workshop and storage facility. <b>Listed Building Consent granted.</b></p>																			
132	<p><b>Financial &amp; Governance Matters</b>  Payments proposed by Cllr Auty, seconded Cllr Bainbridge. All agreed.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>£341.47</td> <td>Clerks salary (net)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£19.17</td> <td>Clerks expenses – phone &amp; internet £19.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£324.00</td> <td>Parish Lengthsman salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£419.40</td> <td>HMRC PAYE payment Q4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£2160.00</td> <td>Foxley Tagg NP professional fees</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£105.00</td> <td>Westcotec – VAS battery</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£360.00</td> <td>SBA-PFK Littlejohn – external auditor fee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£860.00</td> <td>S. Blunsom, Churchyard and tree works</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£27.00</td> <td>Eckington Village Hall hire</td> </tr> </table> <p>Account balances noted.</p> <p>New planter at village gateway – agreed to spend £60.00 on reflective paint as quoted.</p> <p>Village Hall prints funding request received for £78.55 – the Clerk clarified that the PC can only spend in accordance with the Local Govt Act. The PC raised concern about setting a precedent for future funding requests and it was therefore agreed that the PC could not agree to fund the Village Hall prints from public funds.</p> <p>Lengthsman – spray certificate courses. The Clerk provided costs for both courses which would be required for the Lengthsman to spray weeds in public areas. Highways no longer spray periodically, only as a reactive response. It was agreed that the Clerk should look at other options – neighbouring Lengthsman? Highways approved contractors?</p>	£341.47	Clerks salary (net)	£19.17	Clerks expenses – phone & internet £19.17	£324.00	Parish Lengthsman salary	£419.40	HMRC PAYE payment Q4	£2160.00	Foxley Tagg NP professional fees	£105.00	Westcotec – VAS battery	£360.00	SBA-PFK Littlejohn – external auditor fee	£860.00	S. Blunsom, Churchyard and tree works	£27.00	Eckington Village Hall hire	<p>Clerk to pay accounts as agreed.</p> <p>Clerk to notify contractor.</p> <p>Cllr Bainbridge to inform the Committee of the decision.</p> <p>Clerk to look at alternative options.</p>
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133	<b>Correspondence Received and Consideration of Responses</b>																			

	Letter RB5 – as circulated together with two possible responses as drafted. The Chairman clarified the use of the term 'built form' – not used as 'policy' but as description in the narrative. All agreed draft response RB5b.	Chairman to send out agreed response.
134	<p><b>Lengthsman Scheme</b></p> <p>Clerk to finalise end of year claim and get forms completed by the Lengthsman.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes and the Clerk agreed outstanding tasks. An appraisal is also to be arranged.</p>	Clerk to finalise end of year / forms and arrange an appraisal date.
135	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Now submitted to WDC for Reg 16 consultation which will end on 29<sup>th</sup> April at 5pm. It will be publicised on the internet and all comments must be returned to WDC.</p> <p>Overage clause – Cllr Hughes circulated briefing notes to the meeting. The current owner is submitting a change of use application for the land to be transferred to the PC. It was agreed that Cllr Hughes should ask the Valuer to request removal of the overage clause if land is to be for the benefit of the village.</p>	Cllr Hughes to speak to the Valuer as agreed.
136	<p><b>New Homes Bonus</b></p> <p>An application has been received from the Village Hall Committee for a new notice board, but the application does not meet with the new NHB criteria from WDC. The Clerk will inform the Village Hall Committee of the decision.</p>	Clerk to write re the decision.
137	<p><b>Highways &amp; Rights of Way Matters</b></p> <p>County Cllr Hardman has talked to Worcs CC and will support the relocation of the 30mph limit at Nafford Rd, which has now been added to the TRO list.</p> <p>Village gateways - future options to be discussed for all village entry points but noted enforcement may be required.</p> <p>Hammock Lane - Cllr Wilkes had previously circulated a report – the survey is awaited regarding land drainage and a further meeting is to be held with Council Officers. WDC &amp; Highways need to liaise but recognise that this is only a minor matter so it may take some time to resolve. It was agreed to post a summary to Facebook.</p>	Cllrs Yarnold & Wilkes to send the Clerk a summary for Facebook.
138	<p><b>Parish Matters</b></p> <p><b>Bus services</b> – Cllr Ransted reported that Worcs CC will support local services for another 12 months. Hopper service currently 3 days a week but trying to increase / Vale Transport Group trying to improve benefits for Eckington.</p>	

	<p><b>Rural Communities Programme</b> – Cllr Hughes circulated a report on recent Dementia Friends activities and the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February. Next meeting 10<sup>th</sup> April (provisional).</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Watch / Community Speed Watch</b> – Cllr Ransted reported on NW street signage and suggested a future community event about SmartWater and other NW initiatives. CSW – 2 sessions held but recruitment still needed.</p> <p><b>Defibrillator Training</b> – the Clerk had circulated options and it was agreed that x1 evening and x1 weekend 2-hour event should be held in 4-6 weeks' time.</p> <p><b>Annual Parish Meeting</b> – agreed to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> April from 6.30 – 7.15pm, prior to the normal PC meeting. Event to be advertised on Facebook and in the parish magazine; to include a presentation by Spitfire Homes.</p>	<p>NW Community event to be placed on the next agenda – Clerk.</p> <p>Clerk to arrange defib training.</p> <p>Clerk to publicise APM.</p>
139	<p><b>Councillor Reports &amp; Items for Future Agendas</b></p> <p>Cllr Wilkes – streetlight number 1 on the footbridge over the railway not working.</p> <p>Cllr Hughes asked if the PC would like to have a presentation by the Dementia Friends Group at a future meeting in public session? The June meeting may be possible? Agreed.</p> <p>Cllrs Bainbridge and Ransted and the Clerk are to attend the Planning Enforcement Summit on 13<sup>th</sup> March at WDC.</p> <p>Cllr Glaze is to arrange an appraisal with the Clerk and will email Councillors for input.</p>	<p>Clerk to report light out.</p> <p>Cllr Hughes to liaise with the Clerk re June meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Glaze to arrange an appraisal.</p>
140	<p><b>Correspondence Received</b></p> <p>Clerks &amp; Councils Direct was circulated.</p>	
141	<p><b>Parish Council Elections</b></p> <p>It was agreed that this matter be moved to the end of the meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk updated the Council on election matters and the processes required for nomination.</p>	
	<p><b>There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.</b></p> <p><b>Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> April at the Village Hall from 6.15 to 7.15 pm.</b></p>	