

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Council meeting) of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st January 2020 in Eckington Village Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30 pm.

Councillors Present:

G. Ransted (Chairman), J Bees, M. Hughes (Vice Chairman), G. Goodlad, T Knight, M Wood

Also present: Clerk/RFO/ 3 members of the public/Andrew Wilkins of Lone Star

It was noted that the proceedings of this meeting may be filmed or recorded but that anyone wishing to make such a record is to notify the Chairman before the commencement of the meeting.

117. To receive Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Yarnold (travel issues). District Councillor Ron Davis had emailed his apologies.

118. Councillor Vacancies

The Clerk advised the Council may proceed to co-opt to fill the vacancy following the resignation of Cllr. Glaze. The vacancy created by the resignation of Cllr. Wiffen has been notified to Wychavon DC and is currently being advertised for election.

In the interim between meetings the Clerk confirmed that Cllr Ransted had signed his Declaration of Acceptance of office as Chairman.

119. Declarations of Personal, Sensitive or Pecuniary Interests

None declared

120. To Agree the Minutes of the Meeting of 17th December 2019

The Minutes were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Knight, seconded by Cllr Hughes, majority in favour.

121. Adjournment for Public Participation

An adjournment of the business of the meeting may be called if a member of the public wishes to speak to any item on this agenda

Andrew Wilkins was invited to explain the changes to the planning application on land at Pershore Road which had been requested by the new Urban Design Officer at Wychavon DC. He explained that the previous courtyard layout had been changed to three roads with 4 different character themes.

Q Councillors asked if they could see landscape plans and whether tree species had been decided.

A Plans would be made available. The type of tree would be a planning condition.

Q What type of fencing would surround the properties?

A Railings with hedging plants

Q Are sewers capable of taking additional waste?

A There have been no complaints from stakeholders and it is likely that an improvement will be made through the sustainable development

Q Will the access road have an adequate visibility splay

A Yes, this has met Highway requirements with a 170metre splay.

A resident requested advice. Eckington Petanque club wish to expand and improve their facilities and attract spectators and new members. They are seeking funding. Resident advised to look at Wychavon District Council for details of the New Homes Bonus scheme and other funding available.

A resident asked another member of the public a private question and furthered his previous questions to the Council regarding overage charges. Cllr Ransted repeated advice previously given. The resident then entered into hearsay about a conversation with another individual which is not minuted herewith.

122. To receive and request County & District Councillor reports

A written report was submitted by Cllr Ron Davis " Happy New Year to you and congratulations to your new chairman. Please remind your members to apply for part of the £50k Community Grant which is on offer at present. Wychavon are heavily into finalising our Budget for 20/21 as I am sure you are. WDC 's finances are in a sound position and I will be recommending that we do not increase our element of the Council Tax again this year which, If approved at full Council next month, will be the third year in succession that we have withheld an increase".

123. To receive reports from the Chairman and Parish Councillors

Reports will be taken as read. Any actions arising from the reports will be itemised separately.

- Village Hall – report circulated
- Recreation Centre – notes circulated to members only
- Footpaths – no report
- Tree Warden – no report
- Bredon Hill Conservation Group – notes from BHCG circulated to members
- Church and Bridge Trusts – meeting taking place on the 30th Jan
- Wychavon CALC - monthly newsletter circulated – no meeting attended
- Cemetery & Churchyard – no report
- Allotments – report provided by recreation committee
- Community Engagement – no report
- Dementia Friendly Village – report circulated and published on village website
- Neighbourhood Watch & Community Speed Watch - report circulated and published on village website.

Cllr Ransted reported that the issue of dips and potholes in Nafford Road was going to be addressed by Worcestershire County Council as soon as the road was dry enough.

Cllr Knight reported that a resident had offered to undertake aerial photography of the community land if helpful as a record.

Cllr Ransted reported that development proposals at Ashchurch and Mitton in Tewkesbury were of concern as they would increase traffic through Eckington.

Cllr Ransted read out a letter of thanks from George Glaze.

124. Allotments

Discuss tenant issues and consider how to proceed

The Council discussed the representations received regarding the £50 deposit on plots it had hoped to impose to prevent abandonment and flytipping. This had caused controversy with tenants and **it was proposed by Cllr Ransted, seconded by Cllr Knight that this charge would not be made and instead the tenancy agreement would make clear that charges would be imposed to clear plots left in a bad state.**

The Council also agreed to give notice to quit to the tenant of plot 2.

The Council also agreed that it would deal with tenants on an individual basis rather than working through an unelected representative.

Cllr Knight proposed that contractors working on recreation ground might be asked to quote for clearance of plot 2. This proposal was not seconded.

Clerk to write to tenants

125. Planning Matters:

1. Applications for consideration:

19/02654/HP & LB single storey kitchen extension - 3 Jarvis Street
EckingtonWR10 3AS – **No objection**

The following 2 applications would be scrutinised by the planning working group who will report to the council via the clerk:

19/01490/HP & LB Replacement two storey rear extension and detached car port
– Drakes bridge House

20/00025/HP Hilldune, Drakes Bridge Rd, 2 storey extension to replace existing single storey extension

Planning Working Group to Action

2. Decision Notices:

None

126. Eckington Neighbourhood Plan

To set up a de-brief meeting with the ENP Group

The Council agreed to invited the Group to the next PC meeting to complete a handover of paperwork and data

127. Parish Council Logo – to consider quotations and receive ideas for design
Deferred from last meeting

The Council had been offered the Neighbourhood Plan logo and **agreed that this would be adopted as a council logo. Cllr Knight proposed that the councillors had badges and business cards printed for identification purposes at meetings, site visits etc. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Goodlad, all in favour.**

Cllr Bees to obtain costs

128. Finance

1. To authorise payments (list)

The following payments were agreed by unanimous vote:

J Cook Forestry (Tree at cemetery)	TFR	1020.00
Sally Harte (replacing cheque 1736)	1737	30.00
Cheque - wrong payee	1736	-30.00
T Knight (for Parish Games)	TFR	50.00
HMRC Oct/Nov/Dec	TFR	339.40
Admin		474.24
Office Expenses & mileage		26.69
Lengthsman		189.00
Parish Plan leaflets and banners		476.20
D Bainbridge Website - December		50.12
WDC bin emptying Hammock/New Rd		181.94
WDC bin for garden waste Rec centre		48.00
Village Hall hire 7 & 17th Dec		27.00
Village Hall hire replacement cheq		36.00

The Clerk advised the Council that in the interim between meetings the bank mandate had been updated to remove Cllr Glaze and add Cllr Ransted, this action was approved by unanimous vote of the Council.

2. To agree the bank reconciliation to end of December and budget reports December

The bank reconciliation to the end of December was agreed at £12812.27

The budget report was checked and Expenditure December £3072.89, receipts £931.50. Council requested a breakdown of grasscutting costs.

Clerk to Action

129. To consider a Grants Policy (Cllr Knight)

Cllr Knight will provide samples of policy which the council may want to adopt

Cllr Knight to Action

130. To consider an amended Code of Conduct

Wychavon DC have adopted a new revised code and recommend that parishes adopt the same code

The Council confirmed that they had studied the document and voted unanimously to adopt the revised code of conduct.

Clerk to Action

131. Date of Next Meeting

To fix the time and place of the next meeting

18th February 2020

Discuss arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting – It was agreed that this would be held at 6.30pm prior to the ordinary council meeting at 7.30pm in April.

Cllr Ransted to book the larger hall

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

