



## ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Council meeting) of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 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

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.

<u>132</u>	<u>To receive Apologies</u> Cllr Yarnold's apologies were accepted	Action
<u>133</u>	<u>Councillor Vacancies</u> To consider applications for co-option There had been no applicants – Notice to go out on Facebook	GJ
<u>134</u>	<u>Declarations of Personal, Sensitive or Pecuniary Interests</u> None declared	
<u>135</u>	<u>To Agree the Minutes of the Meeting of 21st January 2020</u> The Minutes were agreed as a true record by unanimous vote. It was agreed that the current arrangements re: minutes are satisfactory and that any amendments should be raised at the following meeting	
136	<u>Adjournment for Public Participation</u> <u>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</u> There was no adjournment	
<u>137.</u>	<u>To receive and request County &amp; District Councillor reports</u> Cllr Ron Davis had given apologies due to flooding. He stated that "the Eckington Neighbourhood Plan would be discussed for adoption by his council tomorrow. I will be proposing the budget for the ensuing year with a freeze on Council Tax for the third year running. However, there will be an increase for County Council and the Police and Fire services. We are currently looking to appoint a new CEO as Jack Hegarty is retiring in July, this process will take some months to complete. Our finances are in good shape and we	

	<p>are keeping an eye on the fair funding review as this could have an impact on the Council's finances from April 2021. However, we are better placed than most to withstand any shocks. We have a near balanced budget for next year with a small deficit of £37k and our general reserves should stand at £8.6m at 31st March 2025</p>	
<u>138</u>	<p><u>To receive reports from the Chairman and Parish Councillors/Clerk</u>  Reports will be taken as read. Any actions arising from the reports will be itemised separately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village Hall – Cllr Ransted -no report</li> <li>• Recreation Centre – Cllr Knight – no report</li> <li>• Footpaths –</li> <li>• Tree Warden – Cllr Wood – no report</li> <li>• Bredon Hill Conservation Group – Cllr Ransted – no report</li> <li>• Church and Bridge Trusts – Cllr Hughes – no report</li> <li>• Wychavon CALC - Cllr Ransted – no report</li> <li>• Cemetery &amp; Churchyard – Cllr Yarnold – report of inspection circulated</li> <li>• Allotments – Cllr Bees – no report</li> <li>• Community Engagement – Cllr Yarnold – recommendations B/F</li> <li>• Dementia Friendly Village – Cllr Hughes – report to follow</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Watch &amp; Community Speed Watch - Cllr Ransted – no report</li> <li>• Clerks Report – circulated</li> </ul> <p>Councillors discussed the vacant plots on the allotments and agreed that plot 2 should be offered free of charge but that Cllr Knight will also investigate whether it can be cleared during work to the recreation field.</p>	TK
<u>139</u>	<p><u>Planning Matters:</u>  <u>1. Applications for consideration:</u>  20/00107/HP Hendref, Boon Street - First floor extension over existing garage, convert garage to habitable room and single storey rear extension to replace conservatory – No objection</p> <p>19/00535/FUL Land East of Pershore Rd - Change of use of land from agricultural to community uses - Support</p> <p>19/00968/FUL Land rear of Roman Way - Erection of 38 dwellings and associated infrastructure – Support</p>	GJ

	<p>20/00104/HP 2 The Pippins – single storey side extension – Support</p> <p>19/01355/FUL Field SO9239Eckington Road Bredons Norton – Objection (clerk to write to County &amp; District Cllrs to obtain their input)</p>	
	<p><u>2. Decision Notices:</u>  19/02394/HP – Stone End, Manor Road, - Porch roof alteration – Permit  19/02696/HP – Clennage, Nafford Road, - Garage with attic room – Permit</p> <p><u>3. Consultations:</u>  Appoint member to attend SWDP briefing session on the 31<sup>st</sup> March – Cllr Ransted to attend the afternoon session but if places left Cllr Hughes will attend</p>	GJ
140.	<p><u>Eckington Neighbourhood Plan</u></p> <p>1. Council to congratulate the Neighbourhood Plan group on the “Yes” majority in the referendum and confirm adoption of the made Plan – plan not yet made  Plan Group to be invited to celebration (Annual Parish Meeting?)</p> <p>2. Arrangements for debrief meeting and handover of documentation</p>	GR/MH
141.	<u>Consider cost of Business cards and council badges</u> B/F	JB
142	<p><b><u>Finance</u></b></p> <p><u>1. To authorise payments (list)</u>  The Payments were authorised as listed.  Postage &amp; Printer Cartridges £85.91  Office Expenses/Mileage £36.69  Keep Britain Tidy Posters £300.00  Village Hall – NP &amp; PC Meetings £81.50  Greenworks – Grasscutting Recreation Ground £1093.20  Administration - £474.24  Lengthsman - £148.50  BJ Unwin Tree Inspection Sweet Chestnut £72.00  D Bainbridge – Website content - £50.12</p> <p><u>2. To agree the bank reconciliation to end of January and budget reports January</u>  The balance of the current account was agreed at £10364.77. Expenditure January £2968.50, Receipts £612.  Councillors considered the budget balances to date and agreed that the overspend on property maintenance was covered by virement from the election expenses budget and</p>	

	<p>general administration/hall hire was covered by allotments. In total the budget was within expectations.</p> <p><u>3. Discuss suitable projects for £24633 allocated from New Homes Bonus Scheme</u></p> <p>Clerk to write to WCC to explain projects will be taken forward from neighbourhood plan.</p>	<p>GJ</p> <p>GJ</p>
143	<p><b><u>To consider a Grants Policy (Cllr Knight)</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Knight will provide samples of policy which the council may want to adopt</p>	TK
144	<p><u>Confidential Item -To receive the Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting of 21 January and agree recommendations</u></p> <p>The Minutes were noted. <b>The Council agreed the proposal by the Staffing Committee of the 18<sup>th</sup> February to increase the clerk's hours by 1 hour from 1<sup>st</sup> March.</b></p> <p>During the adjournment under 144. Cllr Hughes briefed the Council on progress with the Wayleave Agreement. Discrepancies had been found with the equipment on the ground v the plan attached to the Agreement. The surveyor had resolved these issues with an uplift and back payment to the council of approx. £350. <b>The Council agreed to accept one annual payment for the HV and one lump sum in respect of the LV on the existing Wayleave.</b> The surveyor is to now progress with corrected documents and continue with the request re: the new connection</p>	
145	<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>17<sup>th</sup> March 2020</p> <p>To also consider involvement in VE Day celebrations 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> May – No plans were discussed</p>	