

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held 14th November 2017
At Eckington Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Public Participation:

Two members of the public attended to give feedback on the new bus service. All comments were noted by the PC and it was agreed that these comments would be taken to the meeting arranged between the PC and First in the very near future.

Tony Smith, Chair of the Village Hall Committee attended and gave an update re the new extension and assoc. works. The PC was thanked for its' contribution to the overall cost of the project via New Homes Bonus and for the new front doors.

Cllr Nils Wilkes raised concern regarding the lack of a lower bar on the new handrail and it was agreed that this would be looked at in more detail by the hall committee.

Mary Hughes reminded the PC that Footpath EK 502 across The Grove still requires repairs to the gate at the northern end, but it was noted that this was landowner responsibility.

Present:

Councillors George Glaze (Chairman), David Bainbridge (V/Chairman), Geoff Ransted, Nils Wilkes, Sally Brown & Mike Wood.

Also present District Councillor Ron Davies.

Apologies:

Councillor Cilla Cameron, County Councillor A. Hardman.

Declarations of Interest:

None.

ITEM:	MINUTE RECORDED:	ACTION AGREED:
163/17	<p>The Minutes of meetings held 12th September and 10th October 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record.</p> <p>Sept – proposed Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Bainbridge.</p> <p>Oct – proposed Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Brown.</p> <p>All agreed.</p> <p>It was also agreed to ask members of the public if they wished to be named in future Minutes.</p> <p>Matters arising – none.</p>	
164/17	<p>District & County Councillor Reports</p> <p>District Cllr Davies updated the PC regarding WDC issues including possible Council Tax rates and the future of New Homes Bonus Scheme.</p> <p>Feedback was also noted about the new bus service via Defford.</p>	

<p>165/17</p>	<p>Progress Reports for Information Report of the Clerk – Polite Notices have been issued to the Lengthsman as agreed. CALC AGM to be attended on 15th Nov. WDC precept notice letter has been received – Finance meeting to be arranged. There are now x2 allotment vacancies. Highways updates were noted. Planning enforcement notices were noted. The Clerks pre-booked April 2018 holiday was noted, and it was agreed to hold the PC meeting a week later than normal.</p> <p>Village Hall – Cllr Bainbridge updated further re the building works.</p> <p>Recreation Centre – Cllr Wood – no report made.</p> <p>Footpaths – Cllr Wilkes – no report made.</p> <p>Tree Warden – Cllr Wood – no report made.</p> <p>Bredon Hill Conservation Group – Cllr Ransted reported on-going concern regarding Mitton Bank houses.</p> <p>Church & Bridge Trusts – Cllrs Wilkes & Cameron – no report made.</p> <p>Wychavon CALC – Cllrs Glaze & Ransted will be attending the AGM tomorrow night with the Clerk. Area CALC meeting to be held 7th Dec but apologies sent. Can anyone else attend?</p> <p>Partnership – Cllr Ransted reported that the next meeting will be held in April 2018.</p> <p>Cemetery & Churchyard – Cllr Wilkes reported that an additional grass cut is required and that the moss needs spraying along the main pathway. There is also an issue with moles again which need removing.</p> <p>There are some inappropriate grave ornaments and surrounds which are not in keeping with the PC policy. No ownership details can be found. It was therefore agreed that notices will be placed on these graves to advise owners that items need to be removed by end Jan 2018, otherwise the PC will remove the items.</p>	<p>Allotment vacancies to be advertised.</p> <p>Clerk to arrange 2018 meeting dates as agreed.</p> <p>Cllrs to check diaries re CALC meeting.</p> <p>Clerk to contact contractor re grass cuts and spraying.</p> <p>Clerk to contact contractor re mole removal.</p> <p>Clerk to place notices on graves.</p>
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166/17	<p>Planning There were no applications for consideration.</p> <p>Decisions noted:</p> <p>APPROVED - Planning Ref: 17/01809/HP - Orchard House, Drakes Bridge Road, Eckington Infilling of garage door with brickwork and new windows, construction of a porch with catslide roof, construction of a chimney, other alterations.</p> <p>APPROVED - Planning Ref: 17/01879/CU - Fir Tree House, Cotheridge Lane, Eckington To separate annexe from Fir Tree House to create an independent dwelling.</p>	
167/17	<p>Finance The accounts presented were approved for payment – proposed Cllr Wilkes, seconded Cllr Ransted. All agreed. Amendments to the agenda were noted.</p> <p>Payments to be made: Clerk's salary £251.10 (net) P. Higgins (Lengthsman salary net) £150.60 PAYE (Lengthsman) £70.20 R. Hartland (hedge trimming) £156.00 Royal British Legion (wreath) £25.00 New Farm Grounds Maint (cemetery) £187.20 New Farm Grounds Maint (rec.) £355.20 Eckington Village Hall hire fees £21.00</p> <p>Income received: E. Hill & Son (cemetery fees) £89.00 Memory Lane Memorials £147.00 Memory Lane Memorials £105.00</p> <p>Balances: Current Acc. £31,595.80 Deposit Acc. £13,895.95</p>	Clerk to pay accounts as agreed.
168/17	<p>Co-option applications An application was received from Mary Hughes which will be considered at the next PC meeting.</p>	Clerk to circulate to Cllrs before the next meeting.
169/17	<p>Neighbourhood Plan The Chairman reported that a draft is still be worked on for mid-December. WDC Locality have been contacted for funding and technical support.</p>	
170/17	<p>Highways Matters The Polite Notice scheme for the Lengthsman was noted as previously agreed.</p>	

	<p>It was noted that the surface of Nafford Rd is deteriorating, and a Surveyor has attended re proposed works.</p> <p>Manor Rd surface is also in need of attention and is to be reported by the Clerk.</p> <p>The war memorial paving repairs have been carried out and thanks were given to Highways for a good job done – Clerk to pass on thanks.</p> <p>The war memorial requires some repair work to the lettering and the Clerk will progress this with the War Memorials Trust following training attended.</p>	<p>Clerk to report highway concerns as raised and to pass on thanks for work completed at the war memorial.</p> <p>Clerk to attend war memorial condition survey training on 29th Nov. Then to progress repair work as reported.</p>
171/17	<p>Bus Service</p> <p>Public and PC feedback received was noted. A meeting with First is to be held shortly when all comments received will be shared.</p>	
172/17	<p>Flooding Issues</p> <p>The Chairman has chased Matt McGuiness and has also forwarded correspondence to County Cllr Hardman. To date, no update has been received from Matt McGuiness.</p>	<p>The Chair will continue to progress with County Cllr Hardman.</p>
173/17	<p>Rural Communities Programme</p> <p>Cllr Brown reported on progress to date. The scheme is going well, and a Steering Group meeting will be arranged shortly.</p>	
174/17	<p>Neighbourhood Watch & Community Speed Watch</p> <p>Cllr Ransted updated the PC on progress with CSW and recruitment made to date. Three training sessions held successfully so far.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Watch has not received such a good response and additional articles are planned for the Parish Newsletter. Social Media options also to be explored.</p> <p>VAS – The Clerk is investigating reporting software.</p>	
175/17	<p>Parish Litter Bins</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes raised concern that the recreation ground bins are not been regularly emptied. WDC are emptying the bins by the gate and the play area, however other bins are not being emptied. Cllr Wilkes had queried which other parish bins were being emptied by WDC and thought that x19 bins are currently emptied. It is thought that the PC pays for 4 of these bins to be emptied but further clarification is required. It was agreed that Cllr Wilkes should continue to seek clarification.</p>	<p>Cllr Wilkes to clarify with WDC re bins and costs.</p>

	WDC should be notified re the recreations bins not being emptied.	Clerk to notify WDC re bins at the rec. ground.
176/17	Correspondence for Information None	
177/17	<p>Councillor Reports & Items for Future Agendas</p> <p>Cllr Brown informed the PC that a Ready Hedge lorry had been stuck along Drakes Bridge Rd due to difficult access and parking problems in Boon Street. The PC agreed to ask Highways for advice re parking problems / solutions.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes suggested that the PC monitor the CALC updates re transparency. Agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Bainbridge has read through the information re Data Protection Regs and will monitor future updates with the Clerk to see what the PC is required to do.</p>	Clerk to contact Highways re Boon St parking.
178/17	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Next meeting to be held Tuesday 12th December 2017 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm</p>	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm	