

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th July 2019
At Eckington Village Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30 pm

Councillors Present:

Councillors G. Glaze (Chairman), G. Ransted (V/Chairman), J Bees, G Goodlad, M. Hughes, J Wiffen, M Wood, C Yarnold

Also Present. District Councillor R Davis, Clerk G Jennings

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.

34. Public Participation: No adjournment was called due to non attendance.

35. To receive Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Knight

36. Declarations of Personal or Pecuniary Interests:

None declared

37. To Agree the Minutes of the Meeting of 11th June and 27th June

The Minutes were proposed Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Hughes and agreed as a true record

38. To receive and request County & District Councillor reports

- To raise a question about resurfacing of Manor Road – this matter would be referred to Highways

Cllr Davis welcomed new councillors and clerk to the parish. He was asked to find out whether the DC would enforce parking offences more rigorously following a change to the parking restrictions in Church Rd? In response to a question he advised that the allocation in the Local Plan for traveller sites had not yet been met. He was asked to find out whether there was a surcharge on rates due to failed planning appeals by the DC.

39. To receive reports from the Chairman and Parish Councillors

The Chairman passed on an invitation to the induction of Rev. Allison Davies at the Church of Holy Trinity on 24th July.

Police report: two break-ins in the last month - one vehicle parked at the wharf and theft of cash/items from Eckington Manor.

Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr Ransted advised that Neighbourhood Watch would attend to give a presentation in the village hall on the 14th August at 7pm

Reports were noted where circulated. The Recreation Committee were making progress with the play and recycling schemes.

The following actions were agreed by the Council:

Footpaths: The Council agreed that a tree report should be obtained on the Sweet Chestnut on the junction of New Road and Upper End. The parish lengthsman to be asked to cut back

overhanging vegetation from pavements, and a general reminder to go in the parish newsletter.

Cemetery and Churchyard: A parishioner should be approached to cut back the trees overhanging the cemetery. An inappropriate memorial in the form of paving slabs and ornament to be dealt with by correspondence with the grave owner.

40. Planning Matters:

40.1 Applications for consideration:

19/01241/HP Butterfly House, Nafford Rd WR10 3DH – Enlargement of rear balcony, renovation of elevations and internal remodel to detached dwelling – **No objection**

Street Trading Licence – whole of Wychavon District – **No objection**

19/1517/FUL Additional overhead cable in Nafford Road – **No objection but a site visit would be made**

The following applications were agreed to be delegated to the Planning working group for advice, draft response for agreement by the council by email:

19/01254/FUL Woollas Farm, Woollas Hill, WR10 3DN – replace agricultural buildings With new office buildings and farm winery

19/0156/COU Eckington Caravan Park – change of use of land to accommodate static holiday homes

19/1491/LB/HB Drakes Bridge House

19/1355/FUL Field SO9239 – 5 caravan pitches

40.2 Notifications:

- 19/01029/CLE – Lechmere, Hammock Road – Approval Certificate of Lawfulness
- 19/00940/FUL – Drakes Bridge, Drakes Bridge Rd, WR10 3BN – demolition of garage and construction of detached dwelling – Refused

40.3 Correspondence

To consider objections raised by a resident and necessary action

This matter was discussed at length and it was agreed that a response to the letter would be drafted by the Chairman for approval by the Council in order to dispel any myths that might arise from its publication.

41: To appoint an additional councillor to the Planning Working Group

Councillor Goodlad was proposed Cllr Glaze, seconded Cllr Bees and agreed by the majority.

42. To consider and agree a response to the consultation on the changes to parking restrictions in Church Street

It was proposed Cllr Yarnold, seconded Cllr Goodlad and agreed by the majority that the best course of action was to regularise the No Waiting At Any Time restriction but that consideration should be given to allowing parking outside the church for dropping off etc.

43. Councillors and residents to make comment on the Worcs. Passenger Transport Strategy via: <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/passengertransportstrategy>

The Vale Transport Group would call a public meeting to gather views before the council responds.

44. Financial & Governance Matters:

44.1 Payments for authorisation:

£276.58	Clerk salary
£69.80	HMRC
£175.50	Lengthsman salary
£30.00	Worcs CALC Training
£2981.04	Smartwater

Payments were proposed Cllr Glaze, seconded Cllr Wiffen and agreed unanimously.

44.2 Bank reconciliation to 30th June:

£35,902.52 discuss cheques to village hall unrepresented

The Bank balance was noted. The Council agreed that the Village Hall Committee should be paid by BACS in future.

44.3 To authorise online banking by the Clerk

Authorisation was proposed by Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Glaze, all in favour.

45. Councillor 'Wards': To receive plan of suggested allocations and agree way forward
Cllr Hughes circulated a plan and it was agreed to allocate responsibility as suggested:

Area 1/1a G Glaze/M Wood

Area 2 T Knight

Area 3 & 4 J Wiffen/J Bees

Area 5 C Yarnold

Area 6 G Goodlad

Area 7 G Ransted

Area 8 M Hughes

46 GDPR Updates: To consider quotations for setting up email accounts and website hosting – Email accounts were being set up by resident volunteer. The website management and hosting required costing and review. **(Clerk to action)**

47 Insurance Policy: To receive quotations and review risks (Finance Committee)

The current renewal quotation at £337.57 was proposed by Cllr Glaze, seconded by Cllr Wiffen, all in favour

48 Neighbourhood Plan: To receive a progress report (Neighbourhood Plan Group)

No report

49. Parish Council Logo – To receive suggestions for progressing this item

Cllr Goodlad will draw up a communication strategy. Cllr Bees will obtain costs for creation of a logo. **B/F to next meeting.**

50. Date of Next Meeting – 10th September 2019

The meeting closed at 10pm

Following site visits the following decisions were made:

Planning Application - 19/01517/OL

Overhead Lines, Nafford Road, Eckington

Overhead electricity line works to install 232m long 3rd wire to existing overhead line route.

Request Approval

Planning Application - 19/01355/FUL

Change of Use from disused land - Field So9239 at Eckington Road, Bredons Norton to 5no. Pitches for local travellers with 1no. Static and 1no. Touring Caravan on each pitch (10 Vans in total).

It does not comply with the current South Worcestershire Development Plan, the revised version of which is currently being produced, which should give proper consideration of the provision of traveller sites across Wychavon to ensure it meets its required obligations in a planned manner, rather than by default through inappropriate approvals of small sites proposed in an ad-hoc manner which do not meet local need/specifications.

The proposed site access is unsafe, as per Highways, with poor visibility (they said 'it posed significant highways problems'); the potential for serious accidents on an unrestricted speed section of road.

The site does not fall within any Village Development Boundary.

The site is not commensurate with the area of outstanding natural beauty in which it is proposed (The Cotswold Conservation Board regarded the previous similar application as 'seriously detrimental to the character of the landscape and the appearance of the countryside in this area').

The land is subject to surface flooding which will only worsen with hard standings laid, and nothing has been identified in the application as to how this will be addressed.

The site is not included in the Draft Eckington Neighbourhood Plan currently with the Inspector for approval prior to final consultation.

Request Refusal

Planning Application - 19/01254/FUL

Woollas Farm, Woollas Hill, Eckington, Pershore, WR10 3DN

Expansion of Deer Park Business Centre, through redevelopment of farm yard at Woollas Hall Farm

(Replace existing agricultural buildings and construct new office buildings and farm winery (agricultural use)).

Following our Site Visit on 15th July we are happy that the proposals will improve the site through replacement of existing old lower quality buildings with the new ones being proposed, that the proposed new buildings are sympathetic to the existing site and will be no more visible to surrounding areas than the current ones thereby not compromising the current area of outstanding natural beauty; and in addition it is hoped they will increase local employment opportunities.

Request Approval

Planning Application - 19/01490/HP

Drakesbridge House, Drakesbridge Road

Replacement two storey rear extension and detached car port.
We recommend refusal of this application for the following reasons:

Q10 of the planning application asks if there has been a new or altered access and is answered no: This is not correct. The authorised vehicle access is on the south west corner of the site, whereas the planning application shows a new access along the southern boundary.

Q11 asks if the proposed works affect car parking arrangements and is answered no: Again, this is incorrect. Car parking spaces have been moved from the Western boundary to the Eastern boundary.

We have no concern with the proposed extension provided all materials, including window/door frames match existing.

We are concerned with the new unauthorised vehicle entrance from Drakesbridge Road.

While understanding Drakesbridge Road is an unclassified road, we believe moving the vehicle entrance towards the railway bridge is very dangerous, as there is limited vision for emerging vehicles exiting the property on to a road used by a variety of traffic, including a number of heavy goods vehicles.

Moreover Drakesbridge Road is the only access to the lower end of the village and any disruption or blockage would be catastrophic!

In addition, the Arboricultural report is out of date and refers to another proposed development.

Request Refusal

DRAFT