

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held Tuesday 12th September 2017 at
Eckington Village Hall Commencing at 7.30pm

Public Participation:

Mary Hughes attended for the Recreation Committee and updated the Parish Council regarding funding from the New Homes Bonus to purchase play equipment. An award of 80% had been granted but the PC was also asked to consider a contribution towards the remaining 20%. A meeting with the Committee is to be arranged.

Present:

Councillors George Glaze (Chairman), Geoff Ransted, Nils Wilkes, Sally Brown & Mike Wood.
Also present: County Cllr Adrian Hardman, District Cllr Ron Davies.

The Chairman welcomed Michelle Alexander to the meeting as the new PC Clerk.

Apologies:

Councillors David Bainbridge (V/Chairman), Cilla Cameron. Acceptance agreed.

Declarations of Interest:

None.

ITEM:	MINUTE RECORDED:	ACTION AGREED:
131/17	<p>The Minutes of a meeting held 11th July 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed N. Wilkes, seconded G. Ransted. All agreed.</p> <p>Matters arising – G. Ransted queried if the PC will be attending a meeting about Pershore Town Plan? Clerk confirmed that a date is to be arranged.</p>	
132/17	<p>District & County Councillor Reports:</p> <p>Cllr Ron Davies attended and reported on the following issues: New Homes Bonus – still assumed to be received but subject to the autumn financial statement. Looking for ‘legacy’ style applications to benefit the whole community. Applicants suggested to find 20% match funding, enabling funds to stretch further.</p> <p>Cllr Adrian Hardman attended and reported on the following issues: Concessionary passes – confirmed that if a gap of 2 hours to the next service, the passes will be accepted on the 9am bus and applies to the whole of the route.</p> <p>Lorry parking at Ready Hedge – some resident concerns raised vehicle movements, size, weight and frequency.</p>	<p>Cllr Hardman to request the PC receives official notification re pass acceptance.</p> <p>Cllr Hardman to speak with Ready Hedge re concerns raised.</p>

	<p>Highways repairs recently carried out were noted. The yellow line painting was not in conservation style – apology noted. A section at New Rd has been missed and needs to be done.</p> <p>WCC finances – the PC was updated regarding future budget austerity and were advised to consider any future works within the parish for the next year.</p> <p>Flood alleviation scheme – the Chairman asked Cllr Hardman for an update re the financial position of the scheme in line with current modelling via Matt McGuinness. Cllr Hardman confirmed that the capital budget line ends this year but further funds may be available via the LEP and Government Growth Fund. We may be 3 or 4 years off a decision however due to other local schemes being undertaken. Concern noted re flood depths at either side of the bridge noted.</p>	<p>Cllr Hardman will notify Highways re New Rd section.</p>
<p>133/17</p>	<p>Progress Reports: Clerk – report on tree works from Unwins had been received. The change to BHIB Insurance Brokers was noted.</p> <p>Village Hall – circulated via email from Cllr Bainbridge.</p> <p>Recreation Centre – Cllr Wood reported there would be a meeting at the end of Sept. The report from the Football Club at the previous meeting was noted.</p> <p>Footpaths – Cllr Wilkes reported no further updates but the PC noted the difficulty in finding the start of the Piecing Path. A new post has been requested by the farmyard road.</p> <p>Tree Warden – Cllr Wood reported no updates.</p> <p>Bredon Hill Conservation Group – Cllr Ransted reported re the objections lodged against static caravan development.</p> <p>Church & Bridge Trusts – Cllr Wilkes reported no updates.</p> <p>Wychavon CALC – The Chairman has sent apologies for the next area meeting.</p> <p>Partnership – Cllr Ransted reported on the 29th Sept tourism event planned at the WDC Council Chamber.</p> <p>Cemetery & Churchyard – Cllr Wilkes reported on the tree works recommended by Unwins. Quotations now required asap.</p>	<p>Cllr Wilkes to chase up the new post requested.</p> <p>Clerk to obtain quotes for tree works required – next agenda.</p>
<p>134/17</p>	<p>Planning: The meeting noted the following – Applications: W/17/01163/FUL – Blue Gecko Plants, Tewkesbury Rd – erection of a mobile home - withdrawn. W/17/01356/HP – Jarvis Street – erection of garden office in rear garden – no objection.</p>	

	<p>Approvals: W/17/01204/HP – Wynryde, Hacketts Lane – two storey extensionsto the front and rear and single storey side extension. W/17/01006/FUL – Hill Barn, Nafford Hill Farm – gate reposition.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes showed the PC the published gravel extraction notice at Strensham - noted. Cllr Wilkes reported a new fence at La Casa, Drakes Bridge Rd which may need planning permission / Network Rail land also fenced – WDC to be informed.</p>	<p>Clerk to notify WDC Planning re new fencing erected.</p>																										
<p>135/17</p>	<p>Finance: The payments listed were proposed for approval by G. Ransted, seconded by S. Brown. All agreed.</p> <p>Payments already made:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>P. Higgins (Lengthman salary)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£150.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£427.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Farm Grounds Maintenance (PC)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£645.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wychavon Sport (Parish Games)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£75.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Village Hall Committee (planning appln)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£97.50</td> </tr> </table> <p>Payments to be made:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>P. Higgins (Lengthsman salary)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£174.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eckington Village Hall (hire)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£460.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Farm Grounds Maintenance (PC)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£374.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cotswold Line Promotion Group (subs)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WDC (Annual bin charge x2)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£164.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L. Gerber (BT phone bill)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£73.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L. Gerber (final salary payment)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£58.50</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was noted that the PAYE to HMRC is deferred until the Clerk transfer is complete. The payment of £97.50 to the Village Hall for planning was approved retrospectively. The Chairman presented calculations for the final salary payment to L. Gerber, including annual home office allowance to be part repaid – agreed.</p>	P. Higgins (Lengthman salary)	£150.60	New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec)	£427.80	New Farm Grounds Maintenance (PC)	£645.60	Wychavon Sport (Parish Games)	£75.90	Village Hall Committee (planning appln)	£97.50	P. Higgins (Lengthsman salary)	£174.00	Eckington Village Hall (hire)	£30.00	New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Rec)	£460.20	New Farm Grounds Maintenance (PC)	£374.40	Cotswold Line Promotion Group (subs)	£10.00	WDC (Annual bin charge x2)	£164.38	L. Gerber (BT phone bill)	£73.56	L. Gerber (final salary payment)	£58.50	
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<p>136/17</p>	<p>Co-options: None</p>																											
<p>137/17</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plan: There will be a WDC meeting tomorrow re development at the north end of the village. Further village consultation to be held 22 & 23 Sept. The Steering Group requested permission from the PC to progress the Jarvis Street development land Option Agreement (OA) with the current owner. The draft was circulated to those present and objectives shown re – JSJ – car park JSH – access to rear 3 Thatched Cottage JSG – path from school to play field The Steering Group need to protect the development land re the type and scale of properties. The OA will transfer the land</p>																											

	<p>to the PC to protect for future development applications, thus enabling neighbourhood plan visions to be delivered. The land will be transferred back to the owner for development so long as neighbourhood plan criteria are met. The PC have been asked to formally approve the OA as drafted and to consider a contribution towards the legal preparation of the agreement.</p> <p>It was proposed by G. Ransted, seconded by S. Brown that the Option Agreement be approved but that no further financial contribution be made to the Steering Group for preparation costs as £10K has already been awarded to neighbourhood planning to include legal fees incurred. All agreed.</p> <p>Concern was raised by Cllr Ransted that the PC were not receiving regular updates from the Steering Group but the Chairman explained that constant change made that difficult currently and that the PC had delegated authority to the Steering Group to progress the plan. It was agreed that the Steering Group should be asked to present an update to the PC before the public consultation event planned.</p>	<p>Chairman to notify the Steering Group of the decision re the Options Agreement and financial contribution requested.</p> <p>Chairman and Cllr Wilkes to liaise with the Steering Group re a presentation to be made to the PC.</p>
138/17	<p>Highway Matters: Yellow line painting noted as per County Cllr report (Cllr Wilkes) Halt signs needed at the end of Cotheridge Lane to main road (Cllr Ransted)</p>	Clerk to report highways matters as required.
139/17	<p>New Homes Bonus: Applications received from – Eckington W.I.(craft hub) towards hall hire and resources – it was agreed that the application does not meet the revised criteria.</p> <p>(See Public session)The Recreation Committee has been granted 80% of the funding towards the play equipment applied for, leaving a 20% shortfall. The PC was asked to contribute towards the 20% shortfall but agreed that no further funding would be made available from the precept funds (voted 3-1 against).</p> <p>Football Club towards barriers and shelters – it was agreed that the application does not meet the revised criteria.</p> <p>The PC noted the revised criteria as per the County Cllr report.</p>	Chairman and Clerk to notify applicants of decisions made.
140/17	<p>382 Bus Service: Timetables noted – mostly a 2-hourly serviced including Saturdays. PC to monitor usage and publicity to follow.</p>	
141/17	<p>Flooding Issues: The Chairman will continue to liaise with Matt McGuinness.</p>	
142/17	<p>Signage Policy: CALC are not aware of any other parishes with a signage policy and there is no CALC model.</p>	Clerk to remove this item from the next agenda.

	The PC may ask WDC Legal Services to make a Public Spaces Protection Order if appropriate. It was agreed to take no further action re the policy but to continue to protect the war memorial and planters.	
143/17	Rural Communities Programme: Cllr Brown had met with the WDC Officer re the formation of a Steering Group of community members and making the village dementia friendly. Four members of the group so far and a notice placed in the parish magazine for more to join.	Cllr Brown to progress RCP.
144/17	Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr Ransted reported re setting up a new scheme for the parish. A presentation is planned and volunteers to be recruited.	Cllr Ransted to progress NW.
145/17	Correspondence: Circulated as listed – Cotswold & Malvern Line News No 127.	
146/17	Councillors Reports & Items for future agendas: Cllr Ransted – next agenda - Community Speedwatch. Concern re traffic speed through the village. Local volunteers needed and publicity planned. Safer Roads Partnership are considering volunteer applications and training to be arranged asap once approved.	Clerk to note next agenda items.
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm	

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 10th October 2017 at 7.30pm at Eckington Village Hall