

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held 11th December 2018
At Eckington Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors George Glaze (Chairman), David Bainbridge (Vice Chairman), Geoff Ransted, Mary Hughes, Nils Wilkes, Cilla Cameron, Chris Yarnold, Chris Auty and Mike Wood.

Also present: District Councillor Ron Davis.

Apologies: None

Public Participation: No public attended.

Declarations of Interest: None.

ITEM:	MINUTE RECORDED:	ACTION AGREED:
92	<p>The Minutes of the Meeting held 13th November 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Cameron, seconded Cllr Ransted. All agreed subject to amendments below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 81 – <i>future</i> WW1 events deleted. 	
93	<p>District & County Councillor Reports County Councillor – no report. District Councillor – Cllr Ron Davis reported on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Homes Bonus – figures updated 27th Nov. • WDC budget process underway – no surprises expected. Have agreed not to give funding to Worcs CC to assist deficit as the money should be spent in the district. • Cllr Glaze raised the matter of soil being tipped at Strensham (see previous minutes) – under enforcement review currently. • Drakesbridge planning application – query why Cllr Davis had not made a comment to the consultations? Cllr Davis confirmed this is not normal procedure. 	
94	<p>Progress Reports Clerk – updates were given regarding Police incidents (as circulated). Highways matters would be dealt with on the agenda. Village Hall – Cllrs Bainbridge & Auty reported as follows - Recreation Centre – Cllr Auty had circulated the minutes from 17th October Committee meeting. Matters were discussed as follows –</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW1 events held during Nov raised over £1000.00 to be shared equally between Help for Heroes, the RBL and the village hall. • The WI Rep has resigned – replacement sought. • Next meeting date is Weds 2nd Jan 2019. <p>Cllr Wood reported that the actions had been followed up from the previous PC meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Auty had circulated the Minutes of the AGM held 21st Nov.</p> <p>Footpaths – no report made.</p> <p>Tree Warden – no report made.</p> <p>Bredon Hill Conservation Group – Cllr Ransted reported regarding the successful site appeal made by Allens Caravans.</p> <p>Church & Bridge Trust – no report made.</p> <p>Wychavon CALC – Cllr Glaze reported regarding as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worcs CALC AGM held 14th Nov. Sue Baxter was re-appointed President of the Association and her report featured “One Community”, a guide to closer working partnerships between local and principal councils. • Wychavon CALC Area meeting was held 6th Dec. WDC Community Development Manager gave an overview of funding sources for local initiatives. CALC Executive Officer’s report focussed on the procedure after elections in May 2019. <p>Partnership – no report made.</p> <p>Cemetery & Churchyard – no report made.</p> <p>Allotments – see financial matters re fencing quotes obtained.</p> <p>Community Engagement – Cllrs Auty & Yarnold handed out copies of draft documents for the community engagement survey. Electronic versions will be circulated for final approval following minor amendments. Local businesses have been contacted (shop etc) to ask if they will keep hard copy surveys and a positive response has been received so far.</p> <p>A draft article has been sent to the Clerk for the survey and the Facebook page – parish magazine Jan edition.</p>	<p>Cllrs Auty & Yarnold to progress community engagement – Final survey to be circ’d for approval. Clerk to assist with content of Facebook page. Clerk to send in magazine articles for Jan edition.</p>
95	<p>Planning Matters</p> <p>Application for consideration: 18/02029/FUL - Drakes Bridge Drakes Bridge Road Eckington Pershore WR10 3BN Demolition of existing property and construction of 4 no. houses. The objection submitted in Nov was noted.</p>	

	<p>Notifications:</p> <p>Approval: Non-Material Amendments to 18/01686/HP to change the roof shape to a fully hipped (pyramid) shape at Court Gate Nursery, Station Road, Eckington, Pershore, WR10 3BB</p> <p>There will be a Planning Enforcement Summit at Pershore Civic Centre on 31st Jan at 6.15 pm for Parish & Town Councils.</p> <p>SWDP Issues & Options Document (as previously circulated) – the document was noted and it was agreed the Cllr Glaze should respond for the PC.</p>	<p>Cllr Glaze to respond to the SWDP document.</p>														
<p>96</p>	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>Payments proposed by Cllr Wilkes, seconded Cllr Auty. All agreed.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>£341.47</td> <td>Clerks salary (net)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£287.01</td> <td>Clerks expenses – phone & internet £15.66 / L'man wheelbarrow £39.99 / £231.36 L'man signage & cones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£44.49</td> <td>Clerks expenses – printer ink</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£101.28</td> <td>Road grit/salt purchased – reimbursement to G. Glaze</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£16.00</td> <td>Internal auditor – reimbursement to G. Glaze (Chairman's allowance)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£177.60</td> <td>New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Recreation Centre only)</td> </tr> </table> <p>Monies received:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>£2106.00</td> <td>WDC reimbursement – NP S.E.A. payment</td> </tr> </table> <p>Account balances:</p> <p>£13,161 - Treasurers Account £25,907 - Business account</p> <p>Precept and budget 2019-20 – further to the proposed figures as circulated, Cllr Ransted proposed that the precept be raised for 2019-20 by 4.37%. Seconded by Cllr Hughes. All agreed in principle subject to WDC confirming the Council Tax base in January 2019. The reason for the increase was discussed in line with expected costs and reserves. It was noted that there is nothing in this budget for 'community land' but the PC will have to take account of this in future years in line with the NP referendum and subject to the outcome. If the NP is approved, a payment to the PC will enable some works to be completed. It was also noted that the PC may need to look at local opportunities for small commercial units or similar – this will require future discussion possibly.</p>	£341.47	Clerks salary (net)	£287.01	Clerks expenses – phone & internet £15.66 / L'man wheelbarrow £39.99 / £231.36 L'man signage & cones	£44.49	Clerks expenses – printer ink	£101.28	Road grit/salt purchased – reimbursement to G. Glaze	£16.00	Internal auditor – reimbursement to G. Glaze (Chairman's allowance)	£177.60	New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Recreation Centre only)	£2106.00	WDC reimbursement – NP S.E.A. payment	<p>Clerk to pay accounts as agreed.</p> <p>Clerk to inform WDC of the precept decision in Jan 2019.</p>
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	<p>Burial Fees Review – the PC noted that fees had been raised in 2018 and agreed that they should remain the same for 2019. Proposed Cllr Cameron, seconded Cllr Bainbridge. All agreed.</p> <p>Fencing quotes received – quotes had been received and circulated for fencing / gate post repairs. It was proposed by Cllr Bainbridge, seconded Cllr Yarnold, to proceed with the gate post repairs as quoted. It was further agreed that the fencing quotes seemed quite expensive and that at least two further quotes should be obtained. Matter for next agenda.</p> <p>Gravestone repairs – a quote had been received to ‘lay down’ the stones which raised H&S concerns in the cemetery and churchyard. It was proposed by Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Yarnold, that the work should go ahead as quoted. All agreed.</p>	<p>Clerk to prepare new fees sheet and place on the cemetery notice board / website.</p> <p>Clerk & Cllr Wilkes to action re gate post / fencing quotes. Next agenda.</p> <p>Clerk to action re gravestones.</p>
97	<p>Parish Lengthsman Lengthsman training has been completed via Highways. PPE has been collected from Highways. All equipment has been ordered as agreed previously. Cllr Wilkes agreed to carry out a parish walkabout with the Lengthsman to agree priority areas etc asap. Cllr Glaze had received a formal complaint regarding parish hedges, which was noted – this work will be included in future Lengthsman tasks as appropriate. The previous Polite Notice scheme will also be used.</p>	<p>Cllr Wilkes to arrange the walkabout.</p> <p>Clerk to send the Lengthsman the Polite Notice template.</p>
98	<p>Speeding Survey data (Tewkesbury Road) Report as circulated, and data noted from Highways. There are now limited options based on the results – best options are white gates and ‘dragon’s teeth’ road markings. The data also highlighted the problem of drivers slowing down after the speed limit and therefore approaching Cotheridge Lane junction at over 30 mph. Cllr Glaze has written to County Cllr Hardman to raise this concern and the time taken for deceleration from 60 to 30 mph. Highways do not support moving the speed limit further outside the village or introducing buffer zones. Rumble strips are also not supported due to road noise in residential areas. County Cllr support is vital to making progress and the PC will have to be prepared to pay for any initiative. Third party funding may also be possible. The need to action this on all entrance roads in to the village at some stage was acknowledged, although the north end would be subject to planned development.</p>	<p>Next steps – Cllr Glaze to follow up options with County Cllr Hardman.</p>

	It is important the PC remains proactive and also supports the Speed Watch Group.	
99	<p>Libraries Remodelling All documents had been previously circulated, and it was noted that Pershore will continue to be well served. The mobile service will also continue locally. Councillors were permitted to respond as individuals.</p>	
100	<p>Neighbourhood Planning Cllr Glaze is liaising with Cllr Hughes re outstanding queries. Reg 14 consultation ends on 13th Dec – WDC and County Council responses awaited. Responses so far are varied, and all will be reported prior to Reg 16 commencing.</p>	
101	<p>Highways Matters The Clerk gave updates on current Highways tasks requested. Cllr Wilkes reported that the hedge at Nafford Road needs cutting back. Cllr Ransted raised local concerns regarding Nafford Road parking.</p>	Clerk to contact owners re the hedge.
102	<p>Parish Matters <p>Bus services – the Scrutiny Report has been debated and rural services considered. Going to Cabinet on 13th Dec but important to keep up pressure with County Cllr Hardman. The report as circulated by Cllr Ransted was noted – ‘Bus & Community Transport provision’.</p> <p>Rural Communities Programme – the recent meeting report had been circulated by Cllr Hughes for information. Next meeting date to be arranged.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Watch & Community Speed Watch – Cllr Ransted had circulated a report for the meeting. Some concerns regarding the number of active CSW members Some NW areas have obtained new street signs – to find out more information on this. More areas linking up with Facebook and similar to our area.</p> <p>Defibrillator training – The Rec. Centre have enquired regarding maintenance and whether there are paediatric pads? There has been a Facebook post recently offering defib. training which the Clerk will follow up as the previous option is no longer available.</p> </p>	Clerk to check re defib. query and training.

103.	<p>Councillor Reports & Items for Future Agendas</p> <p>Cllrs Auty & Yarnold – Facebook is progressing well; all were reminded to submit personal profiles asap.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes has received a cheque from the Scouts for annual rental. Clerk will need to acknowledge formally.</p> <p>Cllr Glaze – next agenda item – 2019 elections.</p>	<p>All to write personal profiles and send to CA & CY.</p> <p>Clerk to acknowledge cheque from Scouts.</p> <p>Next agenda – 2019 elections.</p>
	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.</p> <p>Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.</p>	

DRAFT