

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held 9th April 2019
At Eckington Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors George Glaze (Chairman), D. Bainbridge (Vice Chairman), Geoff Ransted, Mary Hughes, Nils Wilkes, Chris Yarnold, Chris Auty, C. Cameron and Mike Wood.
Also present: County Cllr Adrian Hardman (arr. 8.00 pm)

Apologies: District Councillor Ron Davis

Public Participation: No public attended.

Declarations of Interest: None. All continuing Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Registers of Interest following 2nd May elections.

ITEM:	MINUTE RECORDED:	ACTION AGREED:
142	The Minutes of the Meeting held 4th March 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record Proposed Cllr Cameron, seconded Cllr Auty. All agreed.	
143	<p>District & County Councillors Reports</p> <p>County Cllr A. Hardman reported on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SmartWater contributions – a donation of £1000.00 was agreed towards the parish scheme, subject to other funding sources being confirmed and local support being achieved. • Village gateway / dragon's teeth funding is arranged, and the gates are in place. • Flood alleviation – there is no progress regarding capital funding for this scheme. Future resurrection of the scheme may be possible subject to environmental funding. • Ashchurch Garden Town scheme noted. (Tewkesbury Borough Council) • Thanks to all Parish Councillors for work to date. 	
144	<p>Progress Reports</p> <p>Clerk – Police report as circulated. Defib. training to be arranged at the end of May and will be advertised locally.</p> <p>Village Hall – Cllr Bainbridge reported that there had been no meeting in April – next meeting 7th May. The Chair has been informed of the PC decision regarding the funding of the notice board and picture frames.</p> <p>Recreation Centre – no report made.</p>	

	<p>Footpaths – Cllr Wilkes reported about a request to cattle-proof a gate on FP 524 The River Walk. FP 522 Hammock Brook is still being considered by Worcs CC / WDC regarding flooding.</p> <p>Tree Warden – no report made.</p> <p>Bredon Hill Conservation Group – next meeting on 17th April.</p> <p>Church & Bridge Trusts – no report made.</p> <p>Wychavon CALC – no report made.</p> <p>Partnership – no report made.</p> <p>Cemetery & churchyard – Cllr Wilkes reported that the Lengthsman has sided out a section of the footpath to increase the footpath width. The Council also considered whether additional works are required to repair some kerbstones to graves bordering the footpath (H62 & E61). This work has been quoted previously and the Clerk was asked to confirm the quotes given as there appears to be some difference in pricing. It was also agreed that subject to the pricing being confirmed, the Clerk has delegated authority to proceed with the kerbstone repairs.</p> <p>Allotments – Cllr Wilkes reported on works required to the water trough, outstanding fencing works and tenancies.</p> <p>Community engagement – Cllrs Auty & Yarnold had circulated the final results of the Community Engagement Survey. It was agreed that the results should be shared on Facebook, the website and in the parish magazine as a pdf. All agreed that it is also important that we highlight work that has already been started eg PC Facebook page, SmartWater, speed enforcement measures.</p> <p>It was also agreed that Cllr Glaze progress arranging a PC ‘surgery’, on Saturday mornings prior to a PC meeting being held the following week. Councillors agreed to attend on a rota basis and that it would run for a trial period of 6 months. Consideration was also given to ‘piggybacking’ local events with a PC presence, but further discussion may be required.</p>	<p>Clerk to confirm / progress kerbstone repairs as agreed.</p> <p>Cllrs Auty & Yarnold to share results as agreed. Clerk to assist as required.</p> <p>Cllr Glaze to progress PC surgery arrangements.</p>
145	<p>Planning Matters:</p> <p>Applications for consideration before the meeting: 19/00535/FUL – Land East of Pershore Road, Eckington – Lone Star Land Ltd - change of use of agricultural land to community uses. Supported: This application concerns land intended to be donated by the landowner to the community under the emerging Eckington neighbourhood Plan and, consequently, Eckington PC supports the planning application. (submitted 5th April)</p> <p>Applications for consideration at the meeting: 19/00595/FUL -Field SO 9239 Eckington Road, Bredons Norton – Mr F James – use of land as single pitch family traveller site.</p>	

	<p>Queries regarding consultations for this application were discussed. The precedent set for allowing an appeal for a previous application for a site was noted.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Glaze and County Cllr Hardman should speak with Bredon PC regarding this application. Cllr Glaze also agreed to contact WDC regarding traveller site requirements for the District area. All Cllrs asked to send comments to Cllr Bainbridge for a draft response to be agreed – WDC deadline 28th April.</p> <p>Notifications: ENF/19/0109 – Manor Farm, Manor Road, Eckington WR10 3BH – alleged breach of planning control acknowledged by WDC. (20th March)</p>	<p>Cllr Glaze & County Cllr Hardman to speak to Bredon PC. Cllr Glaze to contact WDC. All to send comments to Cllr Bainbridge to enable a draft response to be agreed.</p>																
146	<p>Financial & Governance Matters</p> <p>Payments proposed by Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Cameron.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>£341.47</td> <td>Clerks salary (net)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£92.46</td> <td>Clerks expenses – phone & internet / travel / stationery</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£250.00</td> <td>Clerk home/office annual payment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£214.20</td> <td>Parish Lengthsman salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£1610.04</td> <td>Paul Stanley Fencing – village gateway & planter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£191.94</td> <td>New Farm Grounds Maint. (£68.20 churchyard / £91.75 cemetery + vat)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£10.00</td> <td>Worcs CALC – GDPR event attended</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£148.55</td> <td>Wychavon DC – burial ground non domestic rates bill</td> </tr> </table> <p>Money received: £50.00 – allotment fees</p> <p>Account balances (at 31-03-2019): £4465.71 - Treasurers Account £25910.93 - Business account</p> <p>Parish Lengthsman contract 2019-20 was agreed and signed. WDC Parish Games 2019 – it was agreed to delegate payment to the Clerk as required. Public Works Loan Board – end of year balance noted. 2019 Parish Elections – The Statement of Persons Nominated was noted – x7 uncontested seats. The Clerk will pursue x2 co-options. It was agreed to publicise the SPN in the parish magazine. All continuing Cllrs were reminded of the need to return election expenses forms to WDC even if a nil return.</p>	£341.47	Clerks salary (net)	£92.46	Clerks expenses – phone & internet / travel / stationery	£250.00	Clerk home/office annual payment	£214.20	Parish Lengthsman salary	£1610.04	Paul Stanley Fencing – village gateway & planter	£191.94	New Farm Grounds Maint. (£68.20 churchyard / £91.75 cemetery + vat)	£10.00	Worcs CALC – GDPR event attended	£148.55	Wychavon DC – burial ground non domestic rates bill	<p>Clerk to pay accounts as agreed.</p>
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147	<p>Correspondence Received and Consideration of Responses: Cllr Glaze had received a letter from a resident regarding a parcel of land bordering Cedar House, Pershore Rd, which was noted by the Council. It was agreed to defer any response to the new Council as it would be premature to make any decision currently until options had been explored.</p>	
148	<p>Lengthsman Scheme The Clerk is arranging an appraisal date shortly. The W.I. have asked if the grass can be cut in front of the new planter – Clerk to liaise with the Lengthsman.</p>	Clerk to arrange an appraisal date / liaise re grass cutting.
149	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Reg 16 response due w/c 16th May 2019. Referendum expected June/July 2019. Cllr Glaze confirmed the costs of the NP to date following a previous request made. Cllr Hughes asked if the price of the Spitfire Homes was known? – confirmed by Cllr Glaze as not known currently.</p>	
150	<p>New Homes Bonus No applications received. WDC have confirmed that funding may be used for the SmartWater scheme up to 50% of the cost, subject to community support received.</p>	
151	<p>Highways & Rights of Way Matters It was agreed that the Mistletoe /vegetation overhanging the footway at the bottom of New Rd/The Cross should be reported to Highways by the Clerk, following conversations with the resident concerned.</p>	Clerk to report mistletoe to Highways.
152	<p>Parish Matters Bus services – Cllr Ransted confirmed the next meeting of the Vale & Pershore TG on 10th April. Further details on the Hopper service to follow. Rural Communities Programme – Cllr Hughes will circulate a report as the meeting is held tomorrow. Neighbourhood Watch / Community Speed Watch – Cllr Ransted reported that x3 NW signs have been installed – more to follow – nil cost to the village. A NW presentation has been offered to the PC after elections. SmartWater – a presentation is to be held on 15th May at 7.30pm in the village hall – community support is essential if the project is to go ahead at no cost to residents. It was agreed that the PC will support the scheme.</p>	

	<p>CSW – the speed camera is being re-calibrated. One new volunteer has come forward.</p> <p>War Memorial – Cllr Wilkes confirmed that the invasive weeds have been sprayed and the area re-turfed.</p>	
153	<p>Councillor Reports & Items for Future Agendas</p> <p>Cllr Hughes – idea of Ward areas for Cllrs on next agenda. Cllr Yarnold – ideas for collaborative community working to be considered at a future meeting? Noted that costs / needs / benefits / community support to be considered alongside any future community involvement ideas.</p>	Clerk to place matters on next agenda.
154	<p>Clerk's appraisal</p> <p>Cllr Glaze confirmed that an appraisal had taken place. Proposed actions were agreed –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLCC grade maintained. • Salary increase agreed wef 1st April 2019. • CiLCA qualification – training undertaken & portfolio being complied. Completion salary increase budgeted. • Additional duties – it is proposed to increase normal weekly hours from 7 to 8 hours with immediate effect. Still within budget. Proposed Cllr Ransted, seconded Cllr Wilkes. All agreed. 	
155	<p>Correspondence for circulation</p> <p>None.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 14th May 2019 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.</p>	