

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014 – Three residents attended the Open Public Forum.

Mrs M Houghton requested up to date information regarding planned changes to the 382 bus service. The Meeting informed Mrs Houghton that apart from possible changes to the evening service, the Parish had not been given any further news. It was agreed the Clerk would seek an update regarding this matter.

Mr and Mrs Bolsover raised the following issues:

1. Various Highways issues at New Road, including a request for kerbs to be laid (this being due to the current state of verges, mainly caused by buses and large vehicles). A discussion also took place regarding maintenance of verges within the village – Clerk to investigate;
2. Deterioration of verges along Nafford Road (caused by buses using the route during flooding) – A suggestion was made for the buses to use Hollands Road instead (due to the fact that the road is wider) – Clerk to investigate;
3. Lengthsman's duties within the village were discussed;
4. Information was requested regarding the vehicle activated speed sign. The Meeting discussed the matter, highlighting the reasons why the Parish Council agreed to purchase and use the sign within the village.

#### **Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

1/14 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Wood, Smith, Bainbridge, Cameron, Ransted, Forrest and Glaze.

2/14 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Wilkes. The Meeting unanimously agreed to accept the Apologies.

3/14 Declarations of Interest – No Declarations were received.

4/14 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013 – Following two minor amendments, the Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December were a true and accurate record and a proposal was made by Cllr Glaze, this was seconded by Cllr Cameron. All present were unanimous in their agreement, and the Minutes were duly signed.

5/14 District & County Councillor Reports – Cllr Davis reported that:

- The WDC budget has now been agreed, cutbacks on staffing, waste, street and public toilet cleansing have been undertaken;
- Health & Wellbeing Board – The Board have agreed that only one District Councillor will now be included on the Board. There will, however, be no voting rights for the DC;
- The services of the village CPO have now been withdrawn and replaced with a WPC, who will cover a large section of the District.

A request was made to Cllr Davis for his support regarding two recent objections to planning applications, made by the Parish Council. A short discussion regarding planning issues took place.

6/14 Progress Reports – The following was reported:  
Clerk -

- An update was given from WCC regarding the progress of the ongoing Modification Order for Hammock Lane/The Piecing – outcome is still awaited;
- Tree removal at the Cemetery – The Meeting was informed that this had not yet taken place due to machinery problems and the amount of rain which had made the ground too soft for a large vehicle to drive onto. The work will therefore be carried out once the ground has dried out sufficiently.

The Meeting discussed and agreed the request made by the Clerk to use the Parish laptop for additional work for another local Parish. The Clerk agreed that all other work would be kept separately from work relating to Eckington PC.

#### Village Hall –

- The Committee have been informed that the Parish Council would need to seek legal advice before agreeing to becoming a collective Trustee for the Hall. Initially, it was agreed that the Clerk would seek advice from CALC regarding this matter;
- Proposed building works - A request has now been made to the architect to confirm fees for Phase 1 of the project.

7/14 – Planning - The following planning matters have been brought before the Clerk and/or Wychavon District Council since the last Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013:

W/13/02295/OU Clennage, Nafford Road – Outline application for 2 detached dwellings with associated access and gardens – Objection.

W/13/02348/OU Pinnocks Close Farm, Pershore Road – Construction of new dwelling with detached garage – Objection.

#### **Applications to be Discussed:**

W/13/02528/PP Vala, Pass Street – Addition of first floor to existing extension, new pitched roof to ground floor existing bay window, new single storey porch and ground floor WC and replacement double garage for original single garage (demolished by previous owner) – no objection.

#### **Approvals:**

W/13/02214/PP The Chapel, Jarvis Street – Extension to the rear of the existing detached dwelling.

W13/02275/PN Eckington Fields Farm, Hollands Road – Erection of 2 semi detached dwellings and erection of garage block – amendment to scheme approved under application W/12/02282/PN.

8/14 – Highway Matters – An update was given on the following matters:

- Church Street, blocked gully – now on works list at the maintenance unit. No timescale has been given;
- Pass Street, water leak – Severn Trent have confirmed that the work has now been carried out;
- Drainage issue at Jarvis Street/Cherry Hey Cottage – Highways have confirmed that the maintenance work will be carried out when the road is resurfaced. There are no timescales for the work at present.

Matters to be reported for investigation:

- New Road – maintenance of grips;
- Hacketts Lane – ongoing drainage issue;

- Jarvis Street – pothole.

9/14 – Section 106 Funding – The Meeting noted the Schedule of Works received from the Recreation Centre. It is anticipated the work will commence during the last week of April and be completed by the end of May.

10/14 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – The Meeting was informed that Approval for the two applications made to WDC, is still awaited.

The Meeting agreed to the suggestion made by Cllr Glaze to meet with WDC in order to request the shortfall in funding (which will be required when the application for NHB funding towards the Village Hall building project is made later in the year).

11/14 – Cemetery – The Meeting discussed and agreed ‘in principle’ the request from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to erect a sign relating to the war graves within the cemetery. The Clerk would arrange a meeting between the Commission and representatives from the PC, in order to agree a suitable location for the sign.

The Meeting discussed and agreed the need to remove the railing spikes at the far end of the Cemetery (due to two recent incidents of deer having been impaled). It was agreed that the Clerk would seek a satisfactory quote, which would be e-mailed to the Councillors before the works are carried out.

The Meeting discussed and agreed a minor change to the burial fees (previously agreed in the December Meeting).

12/14 – Annual Parish Meeting – Due to Clerk’s holiday, it was agreed the Meeting would be moved to 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Clerk would check the availability of the Hall.

13/14 – Finance – Cllr Smith proposed and was seconded by Cllr Cameron that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk’s salary	£376.81
Admin expenses & mileage	£25.46
Lengthsman salary	£148.00
Village hall hire	£15.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	£60.80

In light of confirmation received from WDC regarding the Council Tax base rate, a proposal was made by Cllr Bainbridge to adopt the draft precept. This was seconded by Cllr Forrest.

14/14 – Correspondence for Information – Noted.

15/14 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

- Request for Lengthsman to ensure gritting is carried out during icy weather conditions, in particular on School Lane and the bottom of Hacketts Lane.
- Letter of thanks from a resident, relating to the work carried out by the Lengthsman was read out to the Meeting. The Clerk would pass this on to the Lengthsman.
- The Meeting agreed that planning applications would now be placed on the village website.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014, in the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 9.30pm.