

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014 – There was no attendance at the Open Public Forum.

Mr D Forrester of Cala Homes attended the Meeting and made a short presentation to the Parish Council relating to the prospective purchase of land at the rear of Roman Meadow. The main points were as follows:

1. The development would be made up a mixture of 2,3 and 4 bedroom homes, 30% of which would be affordable housing.
2. A consultation event will be held in the village on 10<sup>th</sup> March. The event will be an opportunity for residents to view plans and to make comments/raise issues. Mr Forrester assured the Parish Council that all comments would be taken into consideration before a planning application is made to Wychavon District Council. Cala intend to leaflet drop to all homes in the village regarding the event.

The Parish Council informed Mr Forrester that they hoped that the views of the Parish would be taken into consideration and that the Parish Council would be kept updated and well informed of the proposals concerning the site. It was confirmed to the Meeting that this was very much the intention of Cala.

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Eckington Parish Council held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

16/14 Present – Cllrs. Williamson, Wood, Smith, Bainbridge, Cameron, Ransted, Wilkes, Forrest and Glaze.

17/14 Apologies – Apologies were received from District Cllr. Davis.

18/14 Declarations of Interest – Two Declarations were received from Cllr Williamson (Items 6 and 14 of the Agenda). The Declarations were recorded and signed.

19/14 Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014 – The Meeting agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 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.

#### 20/14 District & County Councillor Reports –

Cllr Davis sent a short report to the Meeting. Points raised were as follows:

- Central Government have capped Council Tax at 2%;
- All outstanding monies have now been received from the Icelandic Investment Bank;
- Councillors urged to attend the Update on New Homes Protocol (26<sup>th</sup> March, Civic Centre);
- Cllr Davis, along with a number of Wychavon Officers, intends to make a Ward visit, in an attempt to speak with residents, business owners and possibly the School. He anticipates this will take place in March.

21/14 Progress Reports – The following was reported:

#### Clerk –

- Brown sign on Church Street advertising The Anchor Pub – This had been queried by a resident. It was reported to the Meeting that it had been requested and paid for by The Anchor. WCC had explained to the Clerk that following a site visit, the present position was found to be the most suitable site;
- During bridge closure periods (upon request from the Parish Council), a sign is now being erected stating ‘business open as usual’;

- Upon request from the Parish Council (due to the bad condition of verges), Astons have confirmed that during bridge closure periods the bus route will be along Hollands Road, rather than straight up through Nafford Road;
- Both the Clerk and Chair have put in a request for WCC to visit Eckington in order to view specific areas of the village which require attention from the Highways department. A date for the visit has yet to be secured.

#### Village Hall –

- Cllr Bainbridge thanked the Clerk for the legal advice (relating to the PC considering becoming a Trustee) received from CALC;
- Proposed building works – Unfortunately, due to the quote received from the architect and the lack of Village Hall funding, the Committee are not in a position to move forward with the proposed works at this stage. The Committee are currently considering alternative funding prospects.

22/14 – 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 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014:

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) – Comments sent to WDC.

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

W/14/00019/PN Former Sutton Farm Yard, Nafford Rd – Erection of a dwelling house – Objection.

W/13/02454/PP Thimble Mill, School Lane – Addition of dormer windows to loft space and single storey side extension – No objection.

W/14/00104 Nafford Bank Farm, Nafford Road – Conversion of barns to form 1 dwelling unit, stables and office accommodation – Comments sent. No objection.

W/13/02591/PP Dhekelia, Drakes Bridge Road - First floor side extension to sitting room – No objection.

#### **Refusals:**

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

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

23/14 – Highway Matters – An update was given on the following matters:

- Jarvis Street, pothole – Highways confirm the work has now been carried out;
- Hacketts Lane, persistent drainage issue – Highways have jetted out gullies, no blockage was found. A CCTV survey will now be undertaken. The PC have requested that a Highways representative meet with a Parish Councillor to visit the site in order to discuss the matter and decide on the best way forward regarding this ongoing issue;
- New Road, verges in need of maintenance – Highways have confirmed that a site visit was made, however no safety issue was found and therefore no works are planned at present.

The PC agreed that they would continue to pursue the request for Highways to visit Eckington, in order to discuss all outstanding matters.

24/14 – Section 106 Funding – The Meeting was informed that following receipt of tender applications, the Section 106 Committee propose to meet with the Recreation Committee in order to appoint a contractor for works.

25/14 – New Homes Bonus Meeting – Cllr Glaze reported the following:

- Both the Cricket Club and Defibrillator applications have now been approved at the recent Localism Panel;
- Following a meeting with WDC, support was pledged to the PC regarding providing the shortfall required in relation to the proposed Village Hall application. However due to concerns by the PC regarding the Village Hall’s financial situation and a subsequent meeting with the Village Hall Committee, no application will be made at present;
- Significant changes to the current process have been considered and were agreed at the Executive Board Meeting. A new protocol is therefore being prepared and once completed, will be available to view on the WDC website.

26/14 – Cemetery – The Meeting agreed that due to the large amount of money requested in the quote received relating to works on the Cemetery railings, and concerns raised by residents, the PC would not be carrying out the works at this present time.

It was also confirmed to the Meeting that the new landowner intends to erect fencing around his property, thus ensuring that deer will be unable to enter his land and subsequently the Cemetery.

The Meeting agreed, however, that Cllr Wilkes would re-visit the area where both incidents involving the deer have taken place, in order to consider whether (in the short term) wood should be added which would cover this small section of spikes.

27/14 – Parish Games – The Meeting discussed and agreed that the amount allocated for funding for the 2014 winners event should be increased to £200. The Meeting therefore agreed that the PC would make up the shortfall required.

28/14 – Finance – Cllr Cameron proposed and was seconded by Cllr Bainbridge that the following payments should be approved:

Clerk’s salary	£376.81
Admin expenses & mileage	£34.35
Lengthsman salary	£148.00
Village hall hire	£12.00
Bellinger Design	£1440.00
Louise Gerber (reimbursement for ink cartridge)	£20.90

29/14 – Correspondence for Information – Noted.

30/14 – Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda

- Legal information regarding Parish Councillors as Trustees.

Reports:

- Speed issues – Cllr Williamson will consider whether data collected from the VAS sign can be translated in order to be published in the Parish Magazine.  
20mph signs outside School – it was generally agreed that due to the fact it seemed unlikely vehicles would be travelling over 20mph on School Lane and the limit would not be enforceable, this matter would not be pursued.

- Cllr Williamson reminded all Councillors that she has a stock of sandbags, which are available for use by residents.
- Cllr Glaze reported the following issue which had recently taken place in Boon Street:  
A local resident had parked his vehicle in front of one of the large trucks on route to delivering supplies to Readyhedge. Cllr Williamson was unable to discuss the matter with the resident (in her capacity as Chair of the Parish Council), due to the fact that this could be deemed to be a conflict of interest. Therefore Cllr Glaze visited the resident to discuss the matter. The following was reported:
  - (i) There have been occasions when lorry drivers have left their vehicles in unsuitable places on Boon Street while seeking directions;
  - (ii) These lorries are posing a safety hazard for pedestrians, particularly young children;
  - (iii) Damage has been caused to other vehicles.The resident informed Cllr Glaze that he intended to take the matter up with both Wychavon District Council and Worcestershire County Council.  
The Parish Council briefly discussed the matter, however it was agreed that legally there is no action the PC could take regarding this matter.

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

The meeting was closed at 9.55pm.