

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held 12th June 2018
At Eckington Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

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

Also present: County Cllr Adrian Hardman

Apologies: District Cllr R. Davis

Public Participation: 3 members of the public attended.

Matters discussed –

1. The significant risk to local bus services in the future due to poor usage and rising service delivery costs. There is a Public Meeting to discuss options on 20th June at Pershore Town Hall.
2. Parking concerns raised by the Parish Council Chairman, during an Eckington School / family event held recently, when vehicles were parked along the road by the Recreation Ground. Organisers attended this meeting to discuss the matter further with the PC directly. It was noted that on a separate occasion, the Police had been called to vehicles parked in this location, hence the concern raised. The event Organisers reasons/comments were acknowledged on this occasion, together with the PC concerns raised, and it was agreed to seek to improve future event communication channels.

Declarations of Interest: None

ITEM:	MINUTE RECORDED:	ACTION AGREED:
24	The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held 8th May 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Wilkes, seconded Cllr Auty. All agreed	
25	District & County Councillor Reports County Cllr Hardman reported on the following matters – 1. Flood alleviation scheme – support will be given to the PC in asking M. McGuiness at Worcs CC for further information regarding costings and the model to be used. 2. Surface dressing of local roads completed recently, and no complaints received to date. Some delays had occurred, and reasons had been noted. 3. OVO Cycle Race will come through the parish and will coincide with the Open Gardens Flower Festival event. 4. The speed survey requested is being undertaken and results will be available shortly afterwards via Highways.	AH to arrange a meeting with MM and the PC during July/ August.

26	<p>Progress Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clerk – the Recreation Centre grit bin has been ordered as agreed. This can be stored at the Rec. VAS stats circulated via email. 2. Village Hall Committee – Cllr Bainbridge is attending a meeting re the centenary celebrations. 3. Recreation Centre – no report. 4. Footpaths – Cllr Wilkes reported that path 514 (around the river) will be cut in the next 2 weeks. Also paths 504 (Oatly Lane) & 522 (Piecing). 5. Tree Warden – no report. 6. Bredon Hill Conservation Group – no report. 7. Church & Bridge Trust – no report. 8. Wychavon CALC – Cllr Ransted reported on the recent AGM held. Next meeting in Sept. 9. Partnership - Cllr Ransted reported that the Group is now open to anyone – next meeting 20th June re ‘early ages’. 10. Cemetery & Churchyard – Cllr Wilkes reported that the weeds have been cleared along the wall. The pink grave border stones have been removed and stored – a notice has been placed for relatives. The annual safety check is to be arranged via the Clerk. STW leak has been resolved. 11. Allotments – Cllr Wilkes reported a shed has been erected within PC T&Cs. All plots are now filled. It was noted that one plot may become vacant shortly – Clerk to check with the Tenant. 	<p>Clerk to arrange the annual safety check at the cemetery.</p> <p>Clerk to check re possible future vacancy at the allotments.</p>
27	<p>Planning Matters</p> <p>The SWDP call for sites was discussed – no actions required. The SWDP Village Facilities and Rural Transport Survey (VFRTS) was discussed and it was noted that Eckington is currently a grade 2 village. It was agreed that the Clerk should register the risks to public transport by the 2nd July deadline.</p> <p>Applications for Consideration:</p> <p>18/00727/FUL – Mr Dave Bennet, North House, Church Street Eckington WR10 3AN - Detailed planning application for 3 no 4 bed detached dwellings (with garages), 1 no 3 bed bungalow and 4 no car parking spaces with spaces for Crown Court residences (alterations to planning permission ref W/15/02149/PN). Comment agreed – visitor parking provision does not appear to have been included and is needed due to restricted parking. The PC support the views of Heritage England in maintaining village heritage, particularly as the bungalow seems to be an ‘add on’ and does not enhance the overall scheme. Clarification is required as to who will maintain the green space.</p>	<p>Clerk to respond to VFRTS consultation as agreed.</p> <p>Clerk to submit responses as agreed.</p>

	<p>18/00771/OUT - Land East Of Bredon Road Off Tewkesbury Road Bredons Hardwick – it was agreed that draft comments previously circulated by Cllr Bainbridge should be submitted. This PC is not a statutory consultee however we have been asked to comment as a neighbouring parish, by Bredon PC.</p> <p>Notifications: 18/00442/FUL – Court Gate Nursery, Station Rd, Eckington WR10 3BB – approval for erection of plastic greenhouse/polytunnel. 18/00618/HP – Mr S Bott, 14 The Close, Eckington WR10 3AY – approval for single storey front and rear extensions and rear dormer window. 18/00405/HP – Mr & Mrs A Fenton, 33 The Close, Eckington, Pershore, WR10 3AY – approval for two storey rear extension.</p>	
28	<p>Financial Matters Payments proposed for payment by Cllr Ransted, seconded by Cllr Cameron. All agreed.:</p> <p>£515.24 Clerks salary (net) to incl back paid change to tax code & NALC salary award £69.99 Clerks expenses – Office 365 renewal £156.40 P. Higgins - Lengthsman salary (net) £383.88 New Farms Grounds Maintenance – churchyard/cemetery 2 cuts £355.20 New Farm Grounds Maintenance – Recreation field/play area 2 cuts £30.00 Worcs CALC training fee £50.00 Eckington WI – flower box planting £135.00 Local Council Public Advisory Service – Data Protection Officer fee</p> <p>Monies received: Nil</p> <p>Account balances noted: £9682.72 Treasurers account £25900.08 Business account</p>	Clerk to pay accounts as agreed.
29	<p>Staffing Matters A resignation had been received from the Parish Lengthsman, which was accepted. The Lengthsman will continue to work until end June. A reference request was acknowledged which the Chairman agreed to write together with a letter of thanks. It was also agreed that a gift should be purchased up to the value of £50.00.</p>	Clerk and Cllr Bainbridge to arrange the advert as agreed. Chairman to write as agreed. Clerk/Chairman to arrange the return of any equipment.

	<p>for signature by Cllr Bainbridge, seconded by Cllr Ransted. All agreed. The Chairman duly signed the statement.</p> <p>The Annual Accounting Statement had been circulated by the Clerk for approval. This was considered accurate and proposed for signature by Cllr Cameron, seconded by Cllr Hughes. All agreed. The Chairman duly signed the statement.</p> <p>Financial Regulations – The Clerk had circulated a draft and Cllrs Glaze and Cameron agreed to meet to work through these and make a recommendation to the next meeting.</p> <p>Code of Conduct – the Clerk had circulated this after the annual meeting; the contents were duly noted by all Cllrs.</p> <p>Transparency Code – no updates.</p> <p>GDPR (Data Protection) – the Clerk has drafted templates for circulation and approval at the next meeting. It was noted that generic Cllr emails are now required and that the format was agreed to be Cllr???@eckingtonpc.com. The Clerk and Cllrs Bainbridge and Auty will co-ordinate.</p>	<p>and submit the annual audit by 2nd July.</p> <p>GG & CC to meet re Financial Regs.</p> <p>Clerk to circulate draft docs before next meeting. Cllrs Bainbridge & Auty and the Clerk to co-ordinate emails.</p>
31	<p>Neighbourhood Planning</p> <p>The Chairman summarised recent quotes received for land valuation reports. As the matter requires further clarification, it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should meet with CALC to discuss the best way forward. It was noted that an Extra-ordinary meeting may be required after July to progress matters.</p>	<p>Clerk to arrange CALC meeting asap.</p>
32	<p>Highways Matters</p> <p>Some issues had been raised under the County Cllr report. Speed survey results to be requested from Highways. The bell bollard has been installed at The Cross and thanks were given to all involved. The Clerk is to write and thank formally. Cllr Wilkes will also write an article for the parish magazine via the Clerk.</p> <p>The closure of Hacketts Lane was noted for STW works. A no through road sign is required for Jarvis Street – in response to residents’ concerns re right of way at the School Lane junction.</p> <p>Holes in Drakes Bridge Rd have been marked up by Highways. A letter of thanks is required following the repainting of the phone box – Cllr Wilkes and Clerk to arrange.</p>	<p>Clerk to request speed survey results. Clerk to write and thank as agreed / place article in parish magazine (Cllr Wilkes) Clerk to request NTR sign.</p> <p>Clerk / Cllr Wilkes to arrange letter of thanks.</p>

	Cllr Glaze reported work still required along Manor Road – a residents’ petition has been sent to Highways. Clerk to email in support.	Clerk to email Highways re Manor Rd works needed.
33	New Homes Bonus No applications received.	
34	Parish Matters There will be a public meeting to be held 20 th June at Pershore Town Hall re bus services and future service risks. Rural Communities Programme – Cllr Hughes reported a successful first meeting had been held and regular meetings will follow. Dementia Champion Training is available to anyone interested. Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Ransted reported that the scheme is going well with some new group members. Community Speed Watch – Cllr Ransted reported that more people are to be trained. Some surveys have been carried out successfully. Speeding & Inconsiderate Parking – the Clerk had produced the Polite Notices for use as agreed and placed an article in the parish magazine. It was noted that it needs everyone’s support for the scheme to work and all agreed to use the notices as appropriate. WDC Parish Games – there have been no responses to the advert for a Co-ordinator, so it was agreed that a further advert should be placed in the July parish magazine.	Clerk to place a further advert as agreed.
35	Flooding Matters The Chairman has chased Worcs CC (M. McGuinness) and it was noted that County Cllr Hardman is to arrange a meeting asap.	
36	Correspondence for Circulation It was noted that the PC had not received recent copies of the Avon Navigation Trust newsletter – is it still going to the previous Clerk’s address? Clerk to investigate.	Clerk to check re the ANT newsletter.
37	Councillor Reports & Items for Future Agendas Cllrs Auty & Yarnold – next agenda – community engagement item and will send an explanatory email before the next meeting. Also wish to attend the 5Ps CALC training – Clerk to arrange. Cllr Bainbridge – query whether the amenity areas had been cut by Highways as requested for the Flower Festival weekend – Cllr Wilkes confirmed that they had been cut as requested. It was agreed that the Clerk should thank Highways.	Clerk to arrange 5Ps training as requested. Clerk to thank Highways for cutting amenity areas.

	The Chairman reminded everyone of the need to attend CALC trainings and the recent training schedule circulated. Apologies from Cllr Cameron were noted for the July meeting.	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm.	