Minutes of the Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council held in Moccas Village Hall on Wednesday 2nd March 2011 at 7.30pm

In attendance

Councillor D.Price in the chair.

Councillors L.Whittall, J.Williams, T.Thomas, O.Pugh, A.Rawstorne, P.Price, M.Prosser., R.Dudman, S.Whittall

1. Apologies

G.Whittall, J.Brown.

2. Declarations of Interest - Nil

3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true record.

4. i. Localism Bill (item raised from the Southern Area Meeting)

The Localism Bill was published by the Coalition Government on 13th December 2010 and represents the most radical shift in power since town and country planning was first introduced. The Bill is long and complex but in short, a parish council will now have the opportunity to play a core role in the planning system.

NALC and members attending the meeting are opposed to this proposal. Parish councillors are voluntary representatives and have not got the experience or time to take on this responsibility. It was noted that parish councils could liaise with planning officers but there would be a charge for their services. A further meeting is to be held at Brockington on Thursday 10th March at 7.30pm.

ii. Poll cards for the election

It was agreed to purchase official poll cards for the Parish Council Election on 5/5/2011. These will only be printed if an election is contested and the PC will be required to meet the full cost of printing and postage.

iii. Christmas Tree

The council was asked last December for a donation towards the cost of providing a Christmas tree for Preston village green. This was declined. We need to be prepared should the council be asked for a donation again this year. A proposal was made of contributing between £50-£100 per parish. A decision was made not to support this proposal following a vote resulting in three for, three abstentions and four against.

5. Roads

Highways will take on resurfacing / repairs to 'C' roads in the last month of the financial year. Pot holes repairs still outstanding on Bredwardine Hill.

Pot holes between Blakemere Church and just beyond the White House leading to the Godway. Bredwardine (from the bridge towards the Red Lion) - road broken up on the bend on the left hand side between the entrance to Old Court Farm and the Church road. – this will be highlighted again. The flooding and drainage issues outside the bungalow on the Blakemere / Preston road has been handed to Amey to resolve.

Overhanging trees at Bodcott – due to the uncertainty as to who the tenant is, it was agreed to ask advice from the legal team at Amey to ascertain responsibility.

6. Footpaths

No issues raised.

7. Correspondence

Woodland Trust –Jeremy Evans would like the support of parish members to one of their consultation events with tree planting as a main priority. The aim is to improve the landscape. There will also be an update on the Woodpeckers of Hereford project – this part of the county seemingly has the highest density of woodpeckers hence this part of Herefordshire being chosen to undertake this project. Venues are:-

14thMarch Clifford Community Hall 7pm 16th March Moccas Village Hall 7pm 21st March Bredwardine Village Hall 7pm.

Sgt Tim Dugmore moving on –he has been temporarily transferred for 8 weeks to the Local Policing support unit based at Malvern police station to undertake a review of the Local policing structure currently within West Mercia Police area and how this will look from the 1st April 2011. Following this work he will be taking up a response Sergeants post within Hereford City.

The current Golden Valley Local Policing Team is as follows:-

PS 3113 Robin Davies (currently acting Inspector of the South) e-mail robin.davies@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

PC 2368 Chris Lea 07855 785080 christopher.lea@westmercia.pnn.police.uk CSO James Cooke 07779 141223 james.cooke@westmercia.pnn.police.uk CSO Katie Middleton 07779 141223 katie.middleton@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Thank you from Moccas PCC for the donations received for Churchyard maintenance.

Precept – for 2011/12 accepted at £4200 . Number of band D equivalent properties 321.48, equates to estimated £13.06 council tax per band D.

In the Hot Seat – Chairman training course – Brockington –Tuesday 22nd March from 6.30pm.

8. Accounts – approved

Opening balance £ 12157.87

Receipts - 24p (Bank Interest)

Payments - £20 (HALC training course) £9 (Moccas Village Hall) £60 (Computer

repair)£28.96 (Clerkpostage/stationary)£450.68 (Dell laptop & Microsoft office package)£1356 (Lengthsman) £297 (A.Jones – footpaths) £297 (R.Jones – footpaths)£27 (Blakemere room hire)

£108.88 (Moccas notice board repairs)

Closing Balance £ 9503.59

9. Matters raised by Members

Nil.

10. Planning

No applications or decisions received this month

11. <u>Issues raised</u> – Clerk's salary

Following a discussion to review the Parish Clerk's salary the decision to increase the salary to Salary point SCP 24 with effect from 1st April 2011 was unanimous.

It was decided to purchase an external hard drive to ensure that all Parish Council records were
backed up regularly and stored in a separate building to the Parish Council laptop.
Councillor Mike Prosser to arrange the purchase.

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The next meeting of th	e Parish Council	will be on W	Vednesday 6 th	April 2011 a	t Preston	Village l	Hall
at 8pm.							

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There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40pm					
SIGNED	DATED				