

*Minutes of the Meeting of Wyese Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Moccas, on  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013 at 8.00pm.*

**In attendance**

Councillors, R Dudman, J Dale, J. Hughes, O. Whittall, O Pugh, A. Clipson, D. Roper, J. Newsome and A. Rawstone, plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, CSO Witcher and Ward Cllr. P. Price

**Police Update from PCSO Witcher**

PCSO Witcher detailed the bulletin crime trends. There had been a theft in Blakemere where some tools had been taken from a container at an asparagus farm. A reminder was given to everyone to call 101 and report any concerns. The bulletin also contained details of changes to local policing. Local Police Teams will be known as Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT's) and the Local Police Officer will be the Safer Neighbourhood Officer (SNO). Community Support Officers will now be known as Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's). The PCSO's will have more powers including the power to detain, the power to issue fixed penalty tickets for a number of offences, the power to search for alcohol and tobacco and the seizure of said items. PCSO's will now work until midnight on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr S Whittall and Cllr J Williams

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None declared at this point.

**3. To approve previous Minutes and matters arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013, were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting. Further to the situation reported re noise levels, and the public house in Preston, there had been some comments made to one of the councillors regarding a re-occurrence. The situation would be monitored.

**4. Report of North Ward County Councillor**

Cllr P Price spoke about the issues of the meeting with the Highways Agency that had been reported in the press and the situation around the Edgar Street trees. He spoke of the recent resignation of Ward Councillor Hamilton and said that this had been the outcome of lists of issues about many things. There would now be an election for a new Ward Councillor for the Pontrilas Ward. Cllr Hamilton's portfolio of tasks had been shared around the remaining cabinet members for the time being. The main topic of Cllr Price's update was the ongoing issue over finance and the cuts to income streams. He drew some graphs and pie charts on a flip chart paper to demonstrate the severity of the situation. Services that are currently enjoyed will not be deliverable, with the cuts as things stand, and choices will need to be made. The key consumers of the budget are adult and child social care provision and refuse and roads. There is not much funding left in the pot after these have been cared for, under the reducing income stream, and cuts to services and transfers to voluntary and other providers will be ongoing. This will invariably see more responsibility coming into the areas of activity of the Parish Councils going forward. The key challenge is to try to pull the expenditure and income lines together to minimise the gap which potentially stands at an 11 million pounds shortfall for 2014. The Council are also faced with the problems of expensive out of county social care and the fact that they cannot raise council tax by more than two percent without holding a referendum. There are some issues with the outgoing highways contract which are being addressed and training requirements for employees have been attended to by the new provider of the service, Balfour Beatty. There are a large number of back log jobs that need to be attended to there will be a 20 million pounds investment into the County's C class and unclassified roads to try

to bring them up to an acceptable standard. Works are scheduled for improvements to C1192 Lulham to Madley, Preston to Lulham in October.

### **5. Planning**

One application had been received.

Site: The Old Castle, Bredwardine, Herefordshire, HR3 6BZ  
 Description: Erection of a double garage  
 Application No: 132385/FH  
 Grid Ref: OS 331336, 244238  
 Application Type: Full householder

The Parish Council had no objections to the application.

### **6. Neighbourhood Plan – to organise an event to co-ordinate Steering Group**

There was a discussion re the Neighbourhood Plan and the way forward in particular to encourage people to join in and get involved. A draft questionnaire would be needed to start the ball rolling. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to invite someone to come to the November meeting to discuss how their parish have progressed the ideas and find out about “lessons learned”. The Clerk would contact Colin Thomas from Dorestone to ask if he would be kind enough to come along and give us some points.

### **7. Lengthsman To advise works for the Lengthsman**

Next quarter invoice to be submitted. Awaiting more details from Balfour Beatty about how the scheme will be managed going forward.

### **8. Roads To report on highway issues**

There is a badger’s sett outside Pope’s Place on the Preston to Blakemere Road. This has caused a land slip down the bank and mud is on the road. There has still not been any action in regards to the tree stump and broken wall in Blakemere. These issues will be relayed to Balfour Beatty.

### **9. Footpaths To report on footpath issues**

Cllr Newsome reported that he had been walking the paths and installing way mark arrows. A new gate in Cloverdale Drive had enabled a round walk to be completed. No further reports this month.

### **10. Correspondence**

These were acknowledged as per the information sheet. Included Balfour Beatty Newsletter.

### **11. To approve accounts**

It was resolved to approve the accounts and payments as detailed here. Payments proposed by O.W. and seconded by O.P. Carried

<b>Opening balance</b>	<i>at 30/08/13 £ 8501.68</i>
	<i>Receipts £0.00</i>
	<i>Payments Clerk £221.40 (salary £164.80, travel £30.60</i>
	<i>home office £20.00 stamps £6.00) Tax £41.20,</i>
	<i>Moccas Village Hall £18.75,</i>

### **12. Defibrillator Information**

The representation of interested people at the Preston Hall in the previous meeting had indicated that there was a wish to try to fund a defibrillator(s) for the Villages. There were further discussions about it at the Village Hall meeting. The Clerk would see if any information about the defibrillator at Peterchurch could be obtained to help make the decisions about it easier and to possibly gain some knowledge as to the best way to proceed. A proposal that a donation of £200.00 towards the purchase be given by the Parish Council was made by Cllr Rawstone and seconded by Cllr

Newsome. Resolved unanimously. The money will be made available if the other required monies are raised by various means, grants, fund raising etc.

**13. Website Considerations**

The web site was again discussed and the merits of it as a tool for communication were emphasised. It was agreed that councillors would try to look at other sites to get some ideas as to how they might wish a new website for the parishes to look. Cllr Price explained about file transfer protocols and said that there could be links to other websites, from within the Parish site, to make other information available and add interest value and communications opportunities.

**14. Balfour Beatty Launch Update and Way Forward**

The Clerk had attended the Launch Evening held at the Three Counties Hotel and had seen the introductory presentation. The new company were wishing to make contact with Parishes and work together to improve things for people. Exactly how all of this was going to move forward would be revealed over the coming weeks as Balfour Beatty settle into their new role. A newsletter had been produced with a welcome, details of the launch event and some locality news.

**15. Matters raised by members for the next Agenda**

Neighbourhood Plan, Web site, Defibrillator update, Balfour Beatty, Precept, Donations for Churchyard upkeep and Village Mowers honoraria

**16. Date of next meeting**

The next main meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at the Village Hall, Preston on Wye, at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

SIGNED .....

DATED .....