

Minutes of the Meeting of Wyese Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Preston on Wye, on Wednesday 6th March 2013 at 7.30pm.

In attendance

Councillors, J. Williams, A. Rawstone, O. Whittall, D. Price, J Hughes, J Newsome, J Dale, R. Dudman and O. Pugh, plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, Ward Cllr P Price, CSO Witcher and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr S Whittall, Cllr O Whittall and Cllr D Price

2. Declarations of Interest and election of Chair and Vice Chair

None declared at this point. Declaration of Interest forms were returned by councillors and would be sent to the Electoral Services Department.

3. To approve previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 6th February 2013, were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

4. Report of North Ward County Councillor

Cllr P Price gave details of the Golden Valley Ward Report for March 2013.

The next Council meeting would be on Friday 8th March and the Tax resolution would be debated, to calculate the Council's Council tax requirement and set the Council Tax amounts for each category of dwelling in Herefordshire for 2013/14. This can only be done following the Council's tax setting and when Police, Fire and Parish Precepts are known.

The Core Strategy 2011-2031 draft is now out to consultation from 4th March for 6 weeks. Those Parishes undertaking Neighbourhood Plans must try to read the draft, and then digest and comment on it.

The Core Strategy has been a work in progress since 2007 and the future planning arrangements, for the next twenty years, will be based on the National Planning Framework, the finalised Local Plan and local Neighbourhood Plans. These all have to line up so that good planning decisions can be reached.

Cllr Price urged all, please, to try and comment and fill out the questionnaires which can be found, with supporting documentation, on the Herefordshire Council Website.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

This is also in the consultation phase and it should definitely be reviewed as all new build accommodation will attract a CIL levy. The levies are suggestions only, at this stage, and are different in each identified housing area of the county. This may or may not be contentious, so please consider your comments.

Those parishes that do Neighbourhood Plans can get 25% of the levy into their area for infrastructure. Parishes that do not have a Neighbourhood Plan can only expect up to 15%.

Peterchurch Police Station

Confirmation has now been given that the Police Station will be closing, but the same number of officers will remain.

5. Planning

A Licensing Application for vending alcohol and food items had been received from Byecross Farm. The papers were passed to the Councillors for consideration and comment.

6. Council Vacancies

There were two vacancies for Moccas. These had been advertised on the Notice Boards in all five parishes.

7. Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan Service Level Agreement, with the Herefordshire Council, was signed by the Chair and would be returned to Samantha Banks. Three Councillors asked to be booked onto the Neighbourhood Planning Event that would be held on April 25th at the Town Hall. The Clerk would book the places.

8. Lengthsman To advise works for the Lengthsman

The Parish walk works as identified had been progressed. Some pressure clearing of gullies had been carried out. A large number of tasks had been undertaken and a mini digger hired to carry out ditch clearance. Ruth Kinsella from Amey had been instrumental in arranging the pressure clearing. There was still work to be completed and the Lengthsman Co-ordinator would investigate pressure gully clearance prices.

9. Roads To report on highway issues

Some roads had been identified for strategic capital maintenance, Dorstone and Stockley Hill. There were often issues with the school bus service during times of freezing weather and it was imperative that the roads were kept usable, in all weathers, for the safety of children travelling to school etc. A letter had been received from the Secretary to St Andrew's Church PCC regarding potholes in the driveway and at the junction with the main road, where a significantly large pothole was causing concern. It was reported that the road between the ponds in Tyberton had now all but collapsed. Signage and remedial works were now urgently required here as the road condition was now potentially dangerous. Tim Ellis from Amey had been shown the problem on the Parish Walk. Amey would be advised of these issues.

10. Footpaths To report on footpath issues

Cllr Newsome advised that there had been request for a dog access stile by a walker who could not lift their pet over the existing stile. Cllr Newsome would advise the Clerk where this was and ask if a dog friendly modification/addition could be made to the access point.

11. Correspondence

These were acknowledged as per the information sheet and included information from West Mercia Police on strategy arrangements and also a letter with an enquiry about potholes.

12. To approve accounts

It was resolved to approve the accounts and payments as detailed here.

Opening balance	£ 5944.10
	<i>Receipts Vat refund £1619.60 Lengthsman Allowance £812.25</i>
	<i>Payments Clerk £212.29 Tax £42.60</i>
	<i>HALC Sub £299.59,</i>
	<i>Lengthsman £1185.50, Lengthsman Co-ordinator £118.55</i>
	<i>Room Hire (Odd House) £27.00</i>
Closing Balance	£ 6490.42

It was agreed that Cllr Williams would become a cheque signatory for the Parish Council Bank Account. Cllr Williams to speak to Cllr S Whittall re the application procedure.

13. Matters raised by members for next Agenda

Neighbourhood Plan, Parish Council vacancies, Core Strategy response

14. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 3rd April 2013 in the Village Hall, Preston on Wye at the "summer" time of 8.00pm

15. Clerks Review

Members of the public were then asked to leave the Hall, due to the confidential nature of the last item, and the Clerk stepped outside whilst details of her employment review were discussed. Upon return, the Clerk was informed of a successful review and a salary progression to point SCP 22 on the Local Council Clerks Pay Scale from 1/04/2013

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm

SIGNED

DATED