

*Minutes of the Meeting of Wyese Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Preston on Wye, on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 8.00pm.*

**In attendance**

Councillors J. Newsome, A. Clipson, R. Collins, O. Pugh, N. Bowen, D. Price, D. Roper, J. Dale and A. Rawstone plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright and Ward Cllr. P. Price (from 8.25pm)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs S Whittall, O Whittall, J Hughes and H Smith. Cllr J. Dale was in the Chair (thanks were conveyed to Cllr John Dale for this).

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. To approve previous minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 and matters arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council, held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015, were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**4. Report of North Ward Councillor**

Ward Cllr. Price gave a resume of this report. He updated the meeting concerning a ministerial statement published on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015, on wind energy, which had led to a further modification of the Core Strategy. This would now require a further four week consultation period.

He spoke about school transport issues and bus subsidies for children taking the bus to and from school and outlined some measures relating to this.

There was also an update on the Local Nature Partnership and the strategy regarding phosphate levels in the rivers and plans were being drawn up between interested parties to further manage the effects and levels.

**5. Planning**

There had been one application to consider:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: 151761 - Bye Cross, Moccas, Hereford, Herefordshire, HR2 9LJ  
 DESCRIPTION: Proposed single storey and two storey extension.  
 APPLICANT(S): Mr Steve White  
 GRID REF: OS 337405, 242514  
 APPLICATION TYPE: Full Householder

The Parish Council considered the application and commented that they had no objections in regard to it.

Notification had been received of the refusal of appeal for Application Number 141514 at Byecross Farm.

**6. Lengthsman - To advise works for the Lengthsman**

There were no further works advised save that of local strimming and clearance pending completion of the main Balfour Beatty cutting of the verges and splays.

**7. Roads - To report on highway issues and latest information from Balfour Beatty**

- **To consider Tree Specialist Report on Black Poplar and actions required**

The Parish Council had held an Extraordinary Meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> June to discuss matters relating

to the Black Poplar Tree on the Blakemere Green. The Clerk had obtained land registry information that confirmed that the Parish Council were the owners of the green space, and the tree, and had been since the 1970's. The Parish Council commissioned an examination of the tree, by a qualified Arboricultural Consultant, and this had been carried out. A comprehensive assessment of the tree's condition had been provided to the Parish Council. This assessment was reviewed and the recommendations were heeded. After discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk should obtain three independent quotations to do 1) Remove the tree and stump entirely (only as a guide, as the option to treat the tree if possible was the preferred option) and 2) to reduce the size of the tree in line with the report's recommendations with a view to minimising the risk of further branch drop and managing the tree health-wise going forward.

The Clerk to obtain the quotations for the two options, as stated, and report back. The necessary bird and bat surveys would be on hold until a decision had been taken regarding the plan for the tree.

#### **8. Footpaths - To report on footpaths issues**

The Footpath Officer again described an issue of overgrowth on the footpath between Byecross and Preston. This item is as last time because it is still outstanding at the moment. The path had been used by persons, amongst others, walking from Byecross to the Yew Tree Public House in Preston. There was a particular stretch that was overgrown with nettles and it was agreed that the Chair would meet with the Footpath Officer and the Lengthsman to discuss clearing the obscured path. The possibility of a finger post pointing the route would also be discussed.

There was also comment made regarding dog fouling in Preston on Wye. Following discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk would send a reminder poster to the publications Link and Pump for inclusion, if possible, to ask owners to clear up after their pets in order to help minimise the risk of disease and nuisance to other animals, residents etc. and with numbers to report owners, who failed to clear up, to.

#### **9. Correspondence - Refer to information sheet**

The correspondence received was noted and included a notification from Chester Master Ltd. regarding tree and stone wall works to be undertaken in the Moccas Deer Park. The Parish Council had been asked to consider the proposals which included the removal of some trees and conservation of others, within the Park, plus works to restore some of the damaged walls. The Parish Council considered the proposals and it was recorded that they had no objections to raise, regarding the proposals, and that they were in support of the attention to be taken to restore the walling and to preserve the trees and habitat. This message would be conveyed to Anne Strong, the Land Agent for Chester Master Ltd.

There had been an appeal received from the Citizens Advice Bureau for a contribution towards their work. A discussion ensued and it was resolved to agenda the item for the next meeting when further information would be presented. Cllr Newsome took the paperwork and would be looking into this. A "thank you" letter for the churchyard donation had been received from St Mary's Church, Tyberton.

#### **10. To approve accounts**

It was resolved to approve the accounts and payments as detailed here. Proposed by Cllr J. Dale and seconded by Cllr. J. Newsome. Carried

Statement balance at May 2015 £10060.07

*Receipts 0.00*

*Payments Clerk £619.48(salary £530.13, travel £56.57, home office (July) £20.00, stationery £6.00, stamps £6.48)*

*Village Hall Donations (in lieu of audit fee) £17.00 each to Preston, Moccas, Bredwardine*

*Jerry Ross (Arboricultural Consultancy) £288.00*

**11. Neighbourhood Plan Meetings update and Minutes of Meetings**

There had been further Steering Group Meetings held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June and the 1<sup>st</sup> July. The Minutes of these Meetings were signed as true and correct records of the Meetings. The Minutes of the Emergency Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> June, to discuss the Blakemere Black Poplar Tree, were also signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting. The Clerk updated the Parish Council regarding the draft Neighbourhood Plan which was taking shape. The draft was almost ready for presentation to prospective consultants who would put the final touches to, and legally check it, before publication and ultimately consultation, and referendum, to determine acceptance, or otherwise. There was still the opportunity to come along and get involved and the invitation was open to all parishes. The next Meeting of the Steering Group would be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 7.30pm at Moccas.

**12. To approve and sign the End of Year Accounts**

The end of year accounts had been internally audited by John Entwisle and thanks were recorded to him for carrying this out. As in previous years, he had donated his fee for undertaking this to the three Village Halls of Bredwardine, Moccas and Preston on Wye. The audit statements were read out, and authorised, and the end of year accounts would now be sent to the external auditor, Grant Thornton.

**13. Bredwardine cycle rack and Monument wall seat proposals**

There was some discussion over proposals, made at the 2015 Bredwardine Parish Meeting, for the provision of a Village Cycle Rack, for which funding may be available, and also for installation of seating on the wall by the Monument in Bredwardine. It was agreed that further information would be needed to progress these matters and Cllr S Whittall had more information. It was agreed that these items be on the Agenda for September. There was mention of items, such as cycle racks, that may be required for other villages too and this would need to be investigated.

**14. Matters raised by members for the next agenda**

All usual items plus Bredwardine cycle rack and Monument wall seat proposals plus Citizens Advice Bureau request for donation and Black Poplar Tree update

**15. Date of next meeting**

To confirm date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting as Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 at The Village Hall, Moccas, at 8.00pm

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

SIGNED .....

DATED .....