

Minutes of the Meeting of Wyese Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Preston on Wye, on Wednesday 7th October 2015 at 8.00pm

In attendance

Councillors J. Newsome, R. Collins, O. Pugh, D. Price, D. Roper, J. Dale, O. Whittall, A Rawstone plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright and Ward Cllr. P. Price one member of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs A. Clipson, S Whittall, N. Bowen and H. Smith. Cllr J Hughes was not present.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To approve previous minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 2nd September 2015 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 28th September 2015 and matters arising

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council, held on 2nd September 2015 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 28th September were both signed as true and correct records of the meetings. There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere.

4. Report of North Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr. Price gave a resume of this report. The prime topic was that of the Core Strategy, Local Development Framework, which was due to be presented for acceptance on 16th October 2015. The Strategy had been seven years in the formation and as soon as passed it would take effect. It would provide for the five year housing land supply requirement and would be the new document to be referred to in planning terms.

Flooding issues had caused serious problems for businesses as well as others in the past. Sessions had been set up on a drop in basis to help people look at setting business contingency plans in place. These would be am and pm on the 28th October 2015 at the Town Hall and visitors would be able to obtain a template and advise on how to deal with a crisis etc. The sessions were free and one could just come along on the day.

There was an update on the ploughing match and cycle racing day and some hedge issues that had reared before the day started. Contact was made with Balfour Beatty and matters were taken into hand so there was no cutting disruption or debris on the day. The two ploughing matches held, within the group parish in one year, had been very successful.

Matters relating to the fire damaged building in High Town were finally being sorted out, some five and a half years since the fire and the front façade would be retained, under listed building regulations, now only.

There was also an update on some changes to business rates collection and further details would be known by the end of November 2015.

5. Planning

There had been no new applications to consider.

6. Lengthsman - To advise works for the Lengthsman

The Lengthsman had been away but was now back and the Co-ordinator would be meeting with him, as soon as possible, to discuss works as required.

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

A Meeting held with the Locality Steward: Linzy Outtrim from Balfour Beatty and Councillors for a parish walk with reference to highlighting issues had proved to have been successful with some of

the identified works already having been completed. In particular, Cllr Roper had shown the flooding issue at Tyberton to the Locality Steward and the technicians had been out and seen to the issue. There was some concern expressed that the soil removed was piled up and soon found its way back down again, especially when run in by large vehicles. It was explained that there were not enough funds available to remove and dispose of all of the displaced soil etc. The soil was “black and silty” and was placed in a way that may interfere with grass cutting. Cllr Whittall would mention this issue to the Locality Steward.

Further details of works that had been successfully completed followed including filling in of potholes and repairs to the edge of the road at Bodcote.

A list of further issues, to be presented, was being assembled for relaying on the 19th October when a parish walk with Cllr P Price and the Locality Steward would be taking place.

To consider any action re the Black Poplar Tree at Blakemere

Three quotes had been received. Russell Contracting had been chosen. An Extraordinary PC Meeting was held on 28th September specifically to look the way forward for the tree. The Meeting was attended by Councillors, as recorded, the Clerk and thirteen members of the public. Cllr O Whittall was in the Chair and he explained the options and the costs. The Options were for total removal at £1050.00 plus VAT or crown reduction at £380.00 plus VAT. A vote was taken and the outcome of the vote was for the tree to be crown reduced at a cost of £380.00 plus VAT. This will now be arranged. Full details are in the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting. There was a discussion over the relevant checks and surveys that would now be required, Ward Cllr Price would provide some advice on this. It was resolved that the barrier, on site and provided by Balfour Beatty, should remain where it is until after the tree surgery has been carried out.

8. Footpaths - To report on footpaths issues

There were no fresh issues. The outstanding issue of the footpath from Byecross to Preston on Wye persisted. Cllr Newsome asked if he could attend the Parish Walk planned with Ward Cllr Price, Cllr O Whittall and the Locality Steward on the 19th October, to have footpath related input. This would be arranged.

9. Correspondence - Referring to information sheet

The correspondence received was noted and included: Herefordshire Council advertising a Planning Seminar – Shaping our County, The Local Development Framework (LDF -Core Strategy) 2011-2031 from 6.30 - 8.30pm on October 22nd at The Shirehall, Hereford.

Also: Remember to complete the “Have Your Say” Questionnaire on the Herefordshire Council web site: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/budgetconsultation2016

This was an opportunity to have input to the budget decisions to be taken by the Council in terms of what can be done to save money and to generate income. Closing date: October 9th.

The next precept payment had been advised and a request for the setting of the next year’s precept request also had been received.

Also a request had been received, from a local resident, asking for permission to hold a bonfire party on the Village Green in Preston on Wye. This was considered and the Parish Council did not support the request, after discussing it. A parishioner, who was in the audience, agreed that his details may be passed to the enquirer regarding an approach to use one of his fields, possibly, for the party. The Clerk would advise the enquirer of this information and the outcome of the Council’s decision.

There was a discussion regarding a donation request from the Citizens Advice Bureau. After the discussion, a proposal was made by Cllr Newsome for a donation of a nominal £100.00 to be made. The proposal was put to the Members and a “seconder” for the proposal was sought. The proposal did not attain a “seconder” and did not, therefore, proceed.

10. To approve accounts

It was resolved to approve the accounts and payments as detailed here. Proposed by Cllr O. Pugh and seconded by Cllr. A. Rawstorne. Carried

Statement balance at August 2015 £8,200.34

<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Payments</i>	<i>Clerk £487.22(salary £433.38 (incl. tax rebate £58.00), travel £33.84, home office (Oct) £20.00)</i>

To consider requests for support from Hay Dial-a-Ride and Age UK

Both of these requests were considered and discussed and it was resolved that additional information should be requested, from each organisation, identifying the specific local contribution(s), in terms of statistics, made by them for the parishioners within the Group Parish. In regard to Hay Dial a Ride they would also be asked how far the service could extend into the Group Parish.

11. Neighbourhood Plan Meetings update and Minutes of Meetings

There had been further Steering Group Meetings held on 9th September. The draft plan had been sent to prospective consultants to seek an idea of the likely cost to formalise and legalise the plan ready for consultation and grant application. The Group have received three replies and a meeting is now being organised to progress the selection and to start the grant applications necessary to fund the work.

The next Meeting of the Steering Group would be advised shortly.

12. Bredwardine cycle rack and Monument wall seat proposals

This was not progressed due to the relevant councillor not being present. It was deferred.

13. Matters raised by members for the next agenda

All of the usual items plus precept requirement, an update on the Black Poplar Tree and feedback from the 19th October Parish Walk. Also, information from an up-coming Tree Wardens Meeting. Tree Wardens were being sought for all parish councils and training was to be provided.

14. Date of next meeting

To confirm date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting as Wednesday 4th November 2015 at The Village Hall, Moccas, at 7.30pm. Apologies were received in advance from Cllrs Clipson and O Whittall. Cllr Dale agreed to chair the November meeting.

Due to the confidential nature of the business of this agenda item, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3) it is proposed to put forward a motion to exclude members of the public during discussion of this agenda item

15. Clerk's Annual Incremental Review

The Clerk and members of the public left the room. The Parish Council discussed the Clerk's hours and incremental review. The Clerk rejoined the Meeting and the Chair advised of a one point increment rise, on the pay scale for Clerks, plus a one hour per week increase, both from September 1st 2015. The 1.50 hours per week allocation of additional hours, for the Neighbourhood Plan, to remain in place while the plan was in progress.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

SIGNED

DATED