

*Minutes of the Meeting of Wyese Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Preston on Wye, on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016 at 7.30pm*

**In attendance**

Councillors D. Price, J. Dale (Vice Chair and chairing the meeting), A. Clipson, N. Bowen J. Newsome, H. Smith, J. Hughes, O. Pugh, D. Roper and Ward Cllr P. Price plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright and three members of the public

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Whittall, Rawstone and Collins. The Chair (John Dale) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

There followed an Open Session to allow members of the public to address the Parish Council. Pam Parry, of the Village Hall Committee, raised a concern about the large tree close to the Preston on Wye Village Hall. There were ongoing problems regarding overgrowth of the tree's root system. The situation was discussed and it was felt that the only solution was to remove the tree as its proximity to buildings, and systems, was causing problems with drains, and structures, that had not been alleviated by previous attempts to cut the tree back. The Parish Council, whilst not responsible for the tree, did not raise any objection to the recommendation that the tree should be removed to safeguard neighbouring structures. Following further discussion, the removal action was supported by the Parish Council and was proposed by Cllr Roper and seconded by Cllr Smith. The Village Hall Committee would take responsibility for the safe removal of the tree.

**3. To approve previous minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 and matters arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council, held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

**4. Report of North Ward Councillor**

Ward Cllr. Price summarised his report. He explained regarding the setting of the Council Tax and the composition of the amounts which included contributions towards Police, Fire etc. The issue of the steep decline in revenue budget from the Government, with the continued expectation of the provision of statutory services, was putting the Herefordshire Council under sustained pressure to generate other sources of income. There were some top up grants, such as "New Homes Bonus" available but large amounts of revenue were going to have to be found, via council tax and business rates, going forward. Some statistics around the number of Band D properties were described and Cllr Price circulated some information sheets to illustrate the issues. Ideas to generate the much needed shortfall in income were being explored and may, possibly, include approaches for subsidy from "business rate rich" areas of the Country.

There was an update on the University for Hereford. Private investors would be building this. There was an update on an issue regarding the overturning of a local Neighbourhood Plan objective where the area was short of the five year land supply by 76 number houses. There was concern expressed by the Parish Council as to the consequent robustness of Neighbourhood Plans which have taken a lot of work and effort to produce. The idea of Government Policy then overriding local plans, which express local preferences, was commented on the fact that they "cannot have it both ways!"

**5. Planning**

There had been some new applications to consider:

<b>APPLICATION NO &amp; SITE ADDRESS:</b>	<b>160104 - Woodmans Cottage, Peterchurch, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 0ST</b>
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>Demolish existing porch to side of property and replace with single storey, open fronted, single pitch porch. Erection of single storey, open-fronted, open-sided, single pitch car port to side of garage.</b>
<b>APPLICANT(S):</b>	<b>Mr Stephen Bourton</b>
<b>GRID REF:</b>	<b>OS 337342, 238884</b>
<b>APPLICATION TYPE:</b>	<b>Full Householder</b>

The Parish Council discussed the application and resolved to support it.

<b>APPLICATION NO &amp; SITE ADDRESS:</b>	<b>160419 - Ash Meadow Farm, Preston-On-Wye, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 9JT</b>
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission P122863/F (Construction of new farmhouse and agricultural building) in order to reposition the agricultural building.</b>
<b>APPLICANT(S):</b>	<b>Mr P Cianchi</b>
<b>GRID REF:</b>	<b>OS 338964, 241340</b>
<b>APPLICATION TYPE:</b>	<b>Planning Permission</b>

The Parish Council discussed the application and resolved to support it.

<b>APPLICATION NO &amp; SITE ADDRESS:</b>	<b>160483 – Byecross Farm, Moccas, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 9LJ</b>
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>Proposed new roof on outbuilding 900mm higher than the previous damaged one</b>
<b>APPLICANT(S):</b>	<b>Mr Tony Fenn</b>
<b>GRID REF:</b>	<b>OS 337686, 242542</b>
<b>APPLICATION TYPE:</b>	<b>Planning Permission</b>

The Parish Council discussed the application and resolved to support it.

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

The Schemes for Lengthsman and Footpaths had been rejoined for 2016/2017 and the necessary papers completed and submitted to Balfour Beatty. The Lengthsman had been out to look at a flooding issue in Preston on Wye. The issue had turned out to be related to a mains burst and Welsh Water had been contacted. Ongoing works for routine clearing and ditching would continue.

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

Potholes generally were ongoing on the parish roads and in particular near to the property known as “Woodfield”. Stones placed close to the highway, at two different locations, would be advised to the Locality Steward to check re highway safety concerns. The Annual Maintenance Plan and ward walks should be highlighting areas of concern. There was the question over ongoing investment in the roads again and, with only two pieces of road being highlighted for renewal, concern was noted. Concern was also expressed regarding issues that did not seem to be receiving attention - even when repeatedly asked about. An example was the up-ended grit bin at Holywell which was queried three times and eventually put upright and sorted out by Cllr Dale and P. Pugh. Thanks were recorded to them both for doing this. Disappointment in the service, regarding this, from Balfour Beatty was noted.

A potentially dangerous situation regarding a flooding spring at the top of Stockley Hill was

mentioned. The water flows from the spring onto the road, almost continually, and freezes periodically to provide an icy surface which the school bus cannot cross safely. The implications of this had affected the school bus service three times just that week. This would be notified as an urgent issue for attention. Cllr Roper said that he would be pleased to assist the Locality Steward in locating the problem. The Clerk would contact the Locality Steward to describe the issue and to provide contact details for Cllr Roper.

#### **8. Footpaths - To report on footpaths issues and to consider Tree Warden Scheme**

The Footpath Officer, Cllr Newsome reported that there were still some outstanding issues regarding wire on a new stile that was making it unusable on the path from Madley to Preston on Wye. There were still issues over the brook at Preston and on the bridleway at Bellamore. The new gates for Bredwardine had been chased up and Linzy Outtrim was dealing with this. It was resolved that Cllr Newsome be appointed as Tree Warden for the parish group. Cllr Newsome would be undergoing training and the annual membership fee to join the Herefordshire Tree Warden Network, of £25.00, would be paid by the Parish Council. This was proposed by Cllr Clipson and seconded by Cllr Dale.

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

The correspondence received was noted and included: Information from Herefordshire Council regarding the precept payment dates. There was also a commemorative medal sent by a mint in London, with an invitation to purchase, and with a minimum order 50 items at £1.99 each. The Parish Council considered the item and resolved not to take up the offer.

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

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

Statement balance at January 2016 £16987.80

<i>Receipts</i>	<i>NDP Grant £6220.00 Lengthsman Grant £1986.00</i>
<i>Payments</i>	<i>Clerk £405.03(salary £357.98, tax £55.60 travel £20.57, home office (Mar) £20.00, stamps £6.48)</i>
	<i>Clifford PCC – Link account £60.00 (Dore)</i>
	<i>Information Commissioner (ICO) £35.00</i>
	<i>Tyberton Mowers Honoraria (3 x £20.00)</i>
	<i>HALC Subscription 2016/2017 £497.16</i>
	<i>Upper Bridge Enterprises (Web hosting) £224.38</i>
	<i>Village Pump (Dore) £12.00</i>

Also received was an invoice for the Lengthsman for £1225.00 for works carried out from September 2015 to February 2106.

Payments were proposed by Cllr D. Roper and seconded by Cllr. J. Dale. Carried

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

There had been further Steering Group Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The final draft plan, with colour photos and appendices, had been circulated. It was looking really good and many thanks were recorded to the Clerk and the Steering Group Members for all of their hard work in putting the Plan together. The next meeting of the Steering Group would be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at Moccas from 7.30pm.

#### **12. To consider vacancy for a Parish Councillor for Bredwardine**

A vacancy still exists for a Parish Council for Bredwardine Village. The Parish Council may still now co-opt. Councillors would continue to give consideration to anyone they felt may wish to join the Parish Council.

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

All of the usual items would be included plus the vacancy for a parish councillor for Bredwardine.

**14. Date of next meeting**

To confirm date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting as Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at The Village Hall, Moccas, at 8.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.46pm

SIGNED .....

DATED .....