

Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Preston on Wye, on Wednesday 2nd May 2018 at 8.00pm

In attendance

Councillors J. Dale (re-elected to the Chair), A. Rawstorne, D. Roper, B. Bowen, O. Whittall, J. Newsome, S. Russell, A. Smith, D. Price, J. Darbyshire plus Ward Cllr P. Price, Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright and three members of the public

Cllr Dale welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1. Public Question Time - Open Session with members of the public

There was a brief open session during which the issue of some blocked footpaths were raised, particularly in the Bredwardine area. The resident had been advised by Balfour Beatty that the paths were “low priority” ones. The resident was trying to find out more information about the accessibility of the area’s paths. Cllr Philip Price made a reply to the concerns on behalf of the Herefordshire Council and Public Realm Contract. Ongoing reductions in funding had led to increased prioritisation of the available funds and the money available for footpath upkeep was one area where cuts to service provision may have been in evidence. There was an increased reliance on volunteer effort to keep paths open across the county.

2. Election of Chair and receipt of acceptance of office

Cllr John Dale was proposed as Chair. Proposed by Cllr D. Price and seconded by Cllr D. Roper. Cllr John Dale was duly appointed as the Chair of Wyeside Group Parish Council. Acceptance of office form signed.

3. Election of Vice Chair and receipt of acceptance of office

Cllr Andrew Rawstorne was proposed as Vice Chair. Proposed by Cllr O. Whittall and seconded by Cllr Newsome. Cllr Andrew Rawstorne was duly appointed as the Vice Chair of Wyeside Group Parish Council. Acceptance of office form signed.

4. Apologies for absence

There were apologies received from Cllrs O. Pugh, J. Hughes and W. Whittall.

5. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6. To approve previous minutes of the Meeting held on 4th April 2018

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council, held on 4th April 2018, were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

7. Report of North Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr. Price gave a summary of his report. He gave an update on the analysis of traffic movements around Hereford City and noted how school choices, and resultant traffic, impact on logistics. He then explained about some up and coming road repairs to be carried out on the A438 in 2018 and 2019. An extended lease, 10 years, had been signed with Hereford Football Club for the football ground.

8. Planning as may be advised

No new applications had been advised.

9. Neighbourhood Plan – update

The draft plan was currently undergoing a second examination and there were some questions that required answers from the examiner. It was agreed that an Extraordinary Parish Council and Steering Group Meeting would be called to discuss and agree appropriate responses to the questions. This would be arranged promptly as there was a tight deadline, for which an extension would be requested, to respond. Cllr Darbyshire very kindly agreed to circulate the draft responses and information ahead of the planned meeting. The Clerk would book hall and arrange the date and time etc. All members of the public would be welcome to attend.

Cllr Rawstone left with Mrs Rawstone at 9.28pm.

10. Lengthsman - To advise of works for the Lengthsman

The Lengthsmen would be carrying out seasonal maintenance. Any identified issues would be advised for action.

11. Roads - To report on highway issues

The Clerk had been on a parish tour with the Locality Steward and a number of issues had been logged and others attended to. The gully pot near the Moccas Cross had water lying that was splashing up on pedestrians when cars passed by. This had been marked up for attention.

12. Footpaths and Tree Warden – To elect a Footpath Officer and Tree Warden and to report on footpaths issues and trees

Cllr Newsome was nominated as Tree Warden and Footpath Officer by Cllr O Whittall and this was seconded by Cllr J Dale. Cllr Newsome accepted the roles and was confirmed in both posts. Cllr Newsome would be sorting out the planting of a Black Poplar tree in Preston on Wye, as previously discussed.

13. To update on any response to the provision of parish freighter service

There had been a minimal response to enquiries of the wish to provide the freighter service. This would be advertised again in the Link and Pump and placed on the June Agenda for review.

14. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet

The contents of the sheet were noted and included:

Herefordshire Council Various, as circulated including:

Notification of road closures

Notes of GDPR Workshop

Travellers Sites Plan Document

HALC

Transparency Grant has been received. Funds of 1360.00 towards internet expenses and computer have been banked.

Important information received regarding new data legislation and training. Information Corner and NALC update circulated regarding various topics.

15. Finance and Policies

15.1) To approve balance and payments. It was resolved to approve the accounts and payments as detailed here:

Mrs A Wright (salary May £376.90, mileage £14.04, home office £20.00)

£410.94

Total £410.94

Bank Statement balance at April 2018 Meeting: £10,400.56.

15.2) To approve exemption form for accounting statements and appoint internal auditor for end of year accounts 2017 – 2018

The appointment of the internal auditor for 2017 – 2018 was confirmed and the exemption from external audit form would be completed and submitted to PKF Littlejohn once the accounts had been ratified.

15.3) To consider policies for adoption re GDPR Data Protection Regulations

New Policies had been circulated and were being modelled for adoption and publication.

15.4) To confirm adoption of revised Standing Order provision, as advised

The revised 2018 NALC Standing Orders were adopted.

16. Matters raised by members for the next agenda

All of the usual items would be included, plus updates on the Neighbourhood Plan consultation process, website, internet training and parish freighter provision. Also - adoption of policies for GDPR Data Protection regulations and councillor resignation.

17. Date of next meeting

To confirm date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 6th June 2018 at The Village Hall, Moccas, at 8.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.55pm

SIGNED

DATED