

*Minutes of the Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Moccas, on  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30pm*

**In attendance**

Councillors J. Dale (Chair), J. Newsome, B. Bowen, A. Rawstorne, C. Chu, H. Light, O. Whittall, J. Darbyshire, W. Whittall, A. Smith and J. Hughes plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, Lengthsman Paul Wright and two members of the public.

Cllr Dale welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

**Public Question Time - Open Session with members of the public**

A question was asked regarding the current status of the Wyeside Group Neighbourhood Development Plan and its weight when under consideration in conjunction with planning applications for the group of parishes. The land supply of Herefordshire Council and the terms of the Core Strategy had a bearing on the degree of weight given to the NDP. If there was an insufficient land supply available then the NDP could become of no weight at all in consideration of planning for the area. This was a matter for concern and Cllr Darbyshire was going to attend a meeting with Herefordshire Council, in March, to discuss the implications etc. and also he was going to seek clarification on the impact that may be caused to the Wyeside Group NDP. Cllr Darbyshire would feed back the information gathered, as soon as he had seen the Planning Team Officers. It was commented that the house building plans for Herefordshire were directly impacted by the road building projects. These roads, the Southern Link Road and Western Bypass, were currently under “pause and review” and it was commented that the funding previously obtained had potentially been forfeited due to the timescales.

**1. Apologies for absence**

There were apologies received from Cllrs S Russell and D Roper.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

**3. To approve previous minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**4. Report of North Ward Councillor**

Ward Cllr. Hewitt was not present. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Hewitt to ask her if she would attend the March 2020 Meeting. The Traffic Regulations Orders for Blakemere and Moccas, in relation to speed limits reduction and white lines, plus Tyberton, in terms of moving the 30 mph limit to outside the whole inhabited area and the bus stop, would be followed up with the Ward Cllr.

**5. Roads: Lengthsman works and road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty**

The Lengthsmen had been active in the area and had cleared numerous grips, gullies and had uncovered some “hidden” drainage systems. One in particular was a system right back about 3 feet off the current highway near the Red Lion at Bredwardine where reclaiming of the road and reinstatement of the drainage system was partly accomplished. A ditch would need to be cleared at the location also and Cllr O Whittall and the Lengthsman discussed this.

Jetter was need at Castle Cottage, Moccas (crossroads, turn right to Bredwardine, Castle Cottage was after the new houses on the left, the last property going out of the village. The pit on the edge of the road was heavily silted. Cllr O. Whittall had some planned digger work to do behind the houses but the jetter was needed to clear the pipe across and under the road.

Pentre Lane – blocked drains also reported there.

Preston on Wye was commented as to the requirement to keep at least one road out of the village clear as an exit in the event of flooding. Cllr Dale would speak to the landowner of the land approximately 150 yards up from the Yew Tree Public House, Preston on Wye which had water lying on the road periodically and may need the ditch to be cleared.

Cllr O Whittall and B Bowen would speak to the landowner regarding clearance of a tree that had fallen and may cause a blockage for larger vehicles when trying to pass.

## **6. Footpaths and Tree Warden - To report on footpaths issues and trees**

The Tree Warden and Footpath Officer, Cllr Newsome advised that the Elm trees were still available to replace any diseased Ash Trees. He reported that he had cleared brambles and replaced way marks as required on the footpaths. A number of sign posts, including some in Shenmore and Preston on Wye, had been damaged and some were missing altogether. The fallen gate on Cllr Hughes land had been located by the Lengthsmen earlier in the week. A new bridleway gate was required with posts and fixings. Cllr Hughes and Cllr Dale would order a new gate for replacement.

## **7. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet**

The contents of the sheet were noted and included details about:

### **Herefordshire Council**

- Get your town and parish council ready for the Great British Spring Clean.
- Hereford Transport Package and South Wye Transport Package decision
- HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY - JANUARY 2020

### **HALC**

Climate Change Workshops near you!

## **8. Finance and Policies**

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

Mrs A Wright (salary for February)	
Preston on Wye Village Hall (hall hire)	£55.00
Wyehost Ltd. (Domain name)	£11.99
HALC (Subscription 2020 – 2021)	£560.67
M R Cobb (Lengthsman)	£120.00
Longfield Services (Lengthsman)	£120.00

Bank Statement balance at February Meeting: £14221.12

Also authorised were payments for graveyard mowing at Preston on Wye and Blakemere for £150 each and the Village Mowers honoraria for 2019.

## **9. Update on plans for Blakemere phone kiosk and defibrillator progress**

Signed contract received from BT. The signage stating that the kiosk was no longer BT property was in the kiosk. The Italian Meal evening held in December at Preston on Wye had been a great success and the total amount collected, from all sources, for the defibrillator now stood at £2115.03.

## **10. Update on “Great Collaboration”- Climate Change Initiatives**

The Parish Council could decide whether to declare a climate emergency, in line with that declared by Herefordshire Council. The Clerk would send details of the Herefordshire Council declaration to the councillors for their consideration. It was stated that it would be a good idea to build any new housing required in line with available employment. This would help to minimise travel requirements and enable people to work closer to their homes. The thinking on planning needs to be “joined up” and ecologically motivated with as many “green” credentials being employed in new

building as possible. There also needs to be thought given to restrictive covenants when dealing with older properties, such as listed buildings, which could potentially stifle ecologically friendly adaptations.

#### **11. Planning**

There were no new applications for consideration this time.

#### **12. Update on ideas for Bredwardine Visitor Centre, kiosk and website changes**

Cllr Darbyshire supplied the following update: The Bredwardine and Brobury Community Heritage Project is setting out their plan for encouraging people to visit the area and is seeking views and ideas from the Bredwardine community at a meeting to be held in the village hall on Thursday 5 March 7-00pm to 7-45pm, prior to the 100 club draw. The Parish Council resolved to encourage the initiative to produce a Visitors Centre, subject to community support.

#### **13. Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Planning review**

This was discussed under the Open Session item following a resident's questions.

#### **14. Matters raised by members for next Agenda**

All usual matters to be on the Agenda, plus Climate Emergency and access to all for PC literature, also "dangerous" cycling and Traffic Regulation Orders plus Core Strategy update

#### **15. To confirm the date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.**

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at The Village Hall, Preston on Wye, at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

SIGNED .....

DATED .....