

Minutes of the Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Preston on Wye, on Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 7.30pm

In attendance

Councillors J. Dale (Chair), J. Newsome, A. Rawstorne, H. Light, J. Darbyshire, D. Roper, S. Russell and J. Hughes plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, Lengthsman Paul Wright and eight members of the public. Also present for the first part of the meeting were PCSO Pete Knight and PC Jeff Rowse. Ward Cllr Jennie Hewitt joined the meeting at 7.46 pm.

Cllr Dale welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

Public Question Time - Open Session with members of the public

The Police Officers present updated the meeting regarding local crime. A flock of 57 sheep had been taken from a field in Bredwardine. There had been an attempted theft from a shed in Bredwardine also. A vehicle had been travelling around with the occupant seeking to sell mattresses. Another vehicle had been observed “hanging around” near a Moccas Farm. A car was reported as being left in a road, for some time, in Preston on Wye with a flat tyre. This would be looked into. The Police left at 7.40 pm.

Members of the public present raised the topic of climate change. There was a discussion about recent comments published in the local parish journal. Questions were asked about climate change facts generally and whether information being published, concerning many aspects, could be relied upon. The issue of electric vehicles and battery production was commented plus the need to incorporate as many eco-solutions as possible into any new approved house building. This could include better insulation, solar energy generation and grey water reuse. The climate issues would be incorporated into the revised Core Strategy by Herefordshire Council. Cllr Darbyshire explained that he would be attending a meeting with the Herefordshire Council Neighbourhood Development Plan Officers later in the week and there would likely be changes required to the Wyeside Plan to incorporate climate change initiatives. The Clerk read out a mission statement, and details, as declared by Herefordshire Council, regarding climate emergency. Wyeside Group PC’s declaration would be tailored to capture elements where it was believed the council could help to assist with awareness of the issues, and possible measures to help address these.

1. Apologies for absence

There were apologies received from Cllrs B Bowen, W Whittall, O Whittall and C Chu. Cllr A Smith was not present.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

3. To approve previous minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th February 2020

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 5th February 2020, were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

4. Report of North Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr. Hewitt gave an update regarding help with flooding problems for those affected by recent events. She answered questions regarding climate change and lists of ideas that can be adopted were being drawn up. Groups of builders were also looking into retro-fitting for older buildings to help with energy efficiency.

Ward Cllr Hewitt updated regarding participation on task and finish groups that were looking at bio digester systems for food waste.

Ward Cllr Hewitt left the meeting at 8.32 pm.

5. Roads: to include

- **Lengthsman works and road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty**

Works as required ongoing. Potholes in Preston on Wye Village plus the issue of the bus being driven over the green was raised as it was happening again. Cllr Rawstorne would ask for registration details and times etc. from an observer so that this could be advised to the Bus Company.

- **Flooding and drainage update**

Local issues were being identified including Bredwardine at the bottom of Dorestone Hill.

- **“Dangerous” cycling issues and Traffic Regulation Orders**

The issue of cycling clubs using the lanes for fast circuit riding was discussed. It was agreed that it would be helpful if Clubs would advise when events were likely to take place and publicise to ward other road users. Riders need to be considerate towards other road users.

Traffic Regulation Orders for speeding etc. had been requested, via the Ward Cllr, previously.

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

The Tree Warden and Footpath Officer, Cllr Newsome advised that three new signs had been put up on some Tyberton footpaths. Cllr Newsome was continuing to place way markers to show footpaths as required.

The Notice Board outside the Red Lion Public House had collapsed and was unfortunately beyond repair. The board had been made by a local landowner some years previously. Cllr Light knew of someone who may be able to make a new one. Cllr Light would approach the person and advise the Clerk accordingly.

7. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet

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

- Review of the Hereford transport strategy
- Recovery under way in parts of Herefordshire as response continues
- OFFER TO BUSINESSES IMPACTED BY FLOODING
- Support to dispose of water damaged items
- River Lugg internal Drainage Board : properties flooded – Haywood
- County Plan

HALC

HALC Information Corner including **Community Resilience Plan**

Correspondence received from Preston and Blakemere Charity Fund

“I wonder if you could bring up at the next PARISH COUNCIL meeting whether the council would like the trustees of the Preston and Blakemere Charity Fund to serve for another 4 years? If not would they like to put forward any names to serve?”

The current trustees are

Clive Dale

Phil Pugh

Heather Gorringe”

Also details for those on pension credit within the villages who may be able to apply for assistance from the charity. Small amounts of money are available to those applying before the end of April 2020. **Applications to be made to: Clive Dale via e mail clivedale47@outlook.com or by writing to Clive Dale, Preston and Blakemere Charity C/o Bethany, Preston on Wye, Hereford HR2 9JU.** Applicants will need to provide their details, their pension number and what they need the payment to go towards.

The Parish Council would confirm that they would be happy for the trustees to continue and would publish contact details and criteria for any awards in the Minutes. Please see above details **in bold**.

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 March paid in accordance with contract) | |
| Information Commissioner (ICO) | £40.00 |

Bank Statement balance at February Meeting: £12349.26

Also authorised were payments for graveyard mowing at Moccas and Bredwardine for £150 each.

9. Update on plans for Blakemere phone kiosk and defibrillator

Cllr Russell advised that Cllr Chu had obtained an updated cost on the defibrillator and a tradesperson would be engaged to paint and upgrade the kiosk.

10. “Great Collaboration”- Climate Change Initiatives – Wyeside declaration

Any declaration for Wyeside Group would be revised in line with input to the Neighbourhood Plan and further information regarding the Core Strategy. Cllr Darbyshire would make some adjustments to the list of points as read out during the Open Session and these would be subject to further discussion.

11. Planning

There were no new applications for consideration this time.

12. Update on ideas for Bredwardine Visitor Centre, kiosk and website changes including access to all for PC literature

Cllr Darbyshire supplied the following update: There would be a meeting held on 5th March at Bredwardine Village Hall to discuss the way forward on this. There was some local hesitation about the encouragement of volume visitors and the parking capacity locally. A concern over the robustness of the Bredwardine Bridge was raised (for HGV). Cllr Darbyshire explained that the bridge was subject to inspections, and monitoring, and remedial works were undertaken as required. The Church of England would be withdrawing funding for the Bredwardine Church and the Parochial Church Council were trying to raise funds for the Church to replace this. The outcome of the March 5th Meeting at Bredwardine would be reported at the April Parish Council Meeting.

13. Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Planning review update

This was discussed under the Open Session and Cllr Darbyshire would be attending a meeting with the Neighbourhood Development Planning Team at Herefordshire Council to discuss the way forward for the Wyeside Group NDP. There would be a further update at the April Parish Council Meeting.

14. Matters raised by members for next Agenda

All usual matters to be on the Agenda, plus updates on the kiosks, NDP and revised Climate declaration.

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 8th April 2020 at The Village Hall, Moccas, at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.20 pm

SIGNED

DATED