

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council, held via Zoom Platform (during Covid 19 virus pandemic), on Wednesday 6th October 2021 from 8.00 pm

In attendance on Zoom were:

Councillors: D. Gurney, C. Chu (Chair), O. Whittall, J. Darbyshire, H. Light, S. Russell, D. Roper, A. Rawstorne and A Smith, plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright. There were no members of the public present.

The first Zoom session ran from 8.00 – 8.40 and the second session from 8.45 to 9.23 pm

Cllr Chu (Chair) welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1. Open Session with any parishioners who have joined the Zoom Meeting

There were no topics raised during the Open Session.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Hughes had sent his apologies. Cllr Dale had also said that he would try to join the meeting later on if possible. (Apologies recorded for Cllr Dale). Cllr Bill Bowen had sent his resignation as councillor for Moccas within the Wyeside Group of Parishes. The Parish Council thanked him very much for his contribution to the work of the council, on behalf of the community. The Clerk would write to Bill and formally thank him also.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

4. To approve previous minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st September 2021

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 1st September 2021, were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

5. Report of North Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr. Hewitt was not in attendance. Concerns were expressed by the parish councillors that the parish council did not seem to be having very much interaction at all with the Ward Cllr. There was no report for the meeting. This subject would be revisited.

6. Roads/Lengthsman To report on highway issues including any update re signs

The Clerk and Lengthsman had carried out a full five parish inventory of the road signs. The list would be written up and sent to Balfour Beatty, in the first instance, to see which signs they would be able to replace as they were worn out. The remaining signs could possibly be replaced subject to the Wyeside Group PC funding the replacements, once the initial list had been considered. Overall, there were not very many signs requiring total replacement but a number needing cleaning, straightening and trimming around.

The Clerk was asked to find out how much longer the Bredwardine bridge saddling works would be continuing for (four way traffic control in operation).

7. Footpaths and Tree Warden – To appoint new officer(s) and report of footpaths and trees

A new Footpath Officer and Tree Warden were required. The positions would be advertised. One councillor was aware of a possible candidate and would follow this up.

8. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet

The contents of the sheet were noted and included:

Herefordshire Council Various, as circulated including:

Parish Precepts – request for 2022 – 2023 information on amount required

ROAD CLOSURES - OCTOBER - 30.09.2021

Talk Community Newsletter 24 September 2021

Will Wilson – ADL Traffic

Notice of Proposal (Public Consultation): TRO Scheme @ B4352 Tyberton

The Parish Council would reaffirm their acceptance of the proposals.

West Mercia Police

Golden Valley Briefing - October Newsletter received.

Introduction by West Mercia Police Herefordshire RABO Mark Stokes

Cllr Chu updated the meeting regarding the recent Parish Summit that she had attended. The parishes had been asked to consider what they may have available for the younger persons in the parishes? There was a discussion about the Young Farmers and about possible play facilities. It was commented that the Old Thatch play facilities, in Preston on Wye, were designated for use by Old Thatch residents and not for general use. Some thought to be given, going forward, regarding possible options for young people.

9. Planning – to consider any applications with a view to comments

There were no new applications for consideration of comments.

There was some discussion about a recent appeal refusal in Blakemere. This was noted. Once the new Local Area Plan (Core Strategy) had been ratified, it was thought, by the councillors, to be a good idea to consider the possibility of revisiting the policies concerning “infill” housing etc., as contained within the Wyeside Group Neighbourhood Development Plan, to make sure that it met the communities’ requirements.

10. Finance and Policies To approve accounts and note balances

(10.1) To note bank balance: The bank balance was noted as £17630.98

The September precept tranche had been received - £4860.00

(10.2) To resolve to accept payments, as per listing

Payments were resolved to be paid as follows:

Mrs A Wright paid in accordance with contract for October 2021

HMRC (Tax refund received and repayable to Clerk)	£88.73
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Longfield Services (Lengthsman)	£126.50
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10.3) To consider precept request for 2022 – 2023

The precept request was agreed as the same for previous year. £9720.00 would be requested for the 2022 – 2023 year and this request would be sent to the Finance Department by the Clerk.

10.4) New notice board for Bredwardine

It was agreed that the Lengthsman would construct a new notice board, along the style of the previous notice board. Thanks were recorded to the Lengthsman for filling in the holes in the car park surface at Preston on Wye and also to Cllr Russell for assisting Cllr Whittall with the removal of a tree branch that had been hung up, near the war memorial, in Moccas.

10.5) Possible use of beech tree timber from Bredwardine – discuss

The beech tree had been felled, the branches and brash had been removed and the main trunk left, in situ, on the lane leading to Bredwardine Church. The timber had a large shake in it and it had been decided that, due to all circumstances, the residual timber would need to be cleared away and probably used as firewood. Offers of help were received from several persons, if required. Cllr Darbyshire would liaise with a representative from the Bredwardine PCC about the clearance of the trunk. Going forward, there may be options to obtain grant funding for a replacement for the felled beech tree?

11. Matters raised by members for next Agenda

Usual items would be included. Also - meetings going forward and Ward Cllr liaison.

12. To confirm date of the next Ordinary Meeting as Wednesday 3rd November from 8.00 pm

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 3rd November 2021 from 8.00 pm and would be held on Zoom, unless notified otherwise.

The Meeting closed at 9.23 pm

SIGNED

DATED