

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council, held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall, on Wednesday 7th September 22 from 8.00 pm

In attendance were:

Councillors: C. Chu (Chair), J. Dale, J. Green, A. Rawstone, O. Whittall (from 8.11 pm), D. Roper, J. Hughes, D. Gurney and R. Mitchell plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, Lengthsman Paul Wright and two members of the public.

Cllr Chu (Chair) welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1. Open Session with any parishioners

No matters were raised.

2. Co-option of a new councillor for Bredwardine

There was one possible candidate present at the meeting. The candidate would go away to consider whether to proceed. The opportunity for co-option would be on the next Agenda.

3. Apologies for absence

There were apologies received from Cllrs S. Russell and H Light. Cllr A. Smith was not present.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

5. To approve previous minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th July 2022

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 6th July 2022, were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

6. Report of North Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr. Hewitt was not present at the meeting. Some concerns were expressed about her ongoing absence from the parish council meetings as there were issues that the parish council would wish to discuss with her, in particular speed limits and traffic regulation orders.

7. Roads/Lengthsman

(7.1) To report on highway issues

Covered under agenda item number (7.3)

(7.2) To look at work for the Lengthsman

The stile at the bottom of Pentre Lane had been looked at by the Lengthsman and it was agreed that the repairs/replacement would be carried out, plus any other seasonal requirements for clearing grips and gullies etc.

(7.3) To update on road safety meeting with police road safety advisor and highways

The Chair, Cllr C. Chu and Cllr S. Russell had met with the road safety professionals and they had returned some information on possible road marking actions for consideration which would be circulated. Some examples of other village road markings etc. were included in the information. The Chair updated the meeting and advised that the comment had been made that there was “no point in reducing the limits as no-one takes any notice”. There was a clear lead to try to look at the visual impressions made as drivers go through the village lanes, keeping things as trimmed back and tidy as possible being a priority and the incorporation of planters and items to give the sense of habitat and the need to slow down. Central white lines could be removed, where present, and lines at the side of the road painted to make the impression of the road narrower and hopefully encourage slower speed. There was advice given to “clean up any untidy areas.” It would be for councillors to talk to the communities with a view to putting together an “aspirational plan” which would set out

the outcomes that villages would like to see in respect of road safety. The police safety advisor did say that speed enforcement would be carried out along the village lanes.

Traffic lights on roadworks

Comments were made about the delayed removal of traffic lights after a road works project had been completed. This concern would be conveyed to the Highway Authority.

Waste sacks

A large number of white sacks of refuse had been sited at the end of Bodcote Lane junction to the B4352. The Clerk would ask for these to be collected as soon as possible.

TRO Scheme @ Bredwardine Bridge, Herefordshire - STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The Wyese Group Parish Council considered the papers, as supplied, and would be making the following observations on the draft proposals for new traffic regulation orders (TRO) at Bredwardine Bridge:

- 1) The yellow lines may need to be taken further up the road towards Letton? Possibly not currently shown as extending far enough?
- 2) The concern remains regarding unobstructed emergency access at busy times. Will the proposals mean that the passage is kept clear should large vehicle access be required (fire engine, ambulance etc.)?

8. Footpaths and Tree Warden – To report on footpaths and trees

The footpath officer, Cllr John Green updated that he was continuing to review the paths and clear obstructions to stiles etc. as required. He advised that a tree had snapped off on the bridleway leading from “Point Cottage”.

It was advised that a bough was hanging on a tree close to the Chair’s home in Blakemere. The Chair would investigate and advise the owner of the tree.

It was agreed that Cllr Russell would be asked to appraise the Black Poplar tree on the Blakemere Green in review of condition etc.

9. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet

The contents of the sheet were noted and included:

Herefordshire Council Various, as circulated including:
Talk Community bulletins

VAT Reclaim

The VAT paid by the parish council had been reclaimed but HM Revenue and Customs had paid it to the wrong parish. This was their error and the Clerk was arranging for the sum to be paid over correctly.

Blakemere Village

Request for donation towards Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations

10. Planning – to consider any applications with a view to comments and then determination by Herefordshire Council

There were no new applications for consideration of comments.

11. Finance and Policies

(11.1) **To note bank balance:** The bank balance was noted as £13848.44

(11.2) **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 September 2022

HMRC (tax) £85.00

The Rotary Club of Hereford Elgar (Jubilee donation – Blakemere Village) - £200.00

(11.3) To consider request for Platinum Jubilee donation from Blakemere parish

This was agreed and £200.00 was awarded.

(11.4) To consider request for support with funding of hall hire and refreshments for defibrillator training

The hall hire costs had been met and the parish council resolved to make a donation of £30.00 for refreshments at the defibrillator training session(s).

(11.5) To consider request for support with churchyard mowing costs - Blakemere

The parish council, acknowledging the legal position, made a donation of £150.00 towards the Blakemere mowing.

(11.6) To confirm adoption of revised Standing Orders (April 2022 version)

The Parish Council resolved to adopt the revised Standing Orders, as published April 2022.

12. Matters raised by members for next Agenda

Usual items would be included with co-option of council member for Bredwardine. Also to be raised: Preston Green, upkeep and leaf debris considerations. The painting of the guard around the tree at Blakemere Green would also be considered.

12. To confirm date of the next Meeting as Wednesday 5th October 2022 from 8.00 pm

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 5th October 2022 and this would be held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall from 8.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.25 pm

SIGNED

DATED