

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council, held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall, on Wednesday 1st February 23 from 7.45 pm

In attendance were:

Councillors: J. Dale, O. Whittall (until 8.22 pm), A. Rawstorne, J. Hughes, D. Hughes, S. Russell, J. Green, D. Gurney, D. Roper and R. Mitchell (in the Chair) plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, and two members of the public. Also in attendance was PC Jeff Rouse of West Mercia Police

Cllr Mitchell (Chair) welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1. Open Session with any parishioners

The meeting heard about concerns regarding hare coursing, and other similar activities, from the local farming community. There had been activities observed around the area and from the Madley area also. Since Christmas the incidence had slowed down a bit. Some of those present expressed concern to the police officer Jeff Rouse that there appeared to have been a late response to an incident in Shenmore, when a vehicle had become stuck in a field. The PC apologised for this but explained about incident prioritisation. There had also been an incident where a dead badger had been found in a field with a number of tracks around it from vehicles. There was a discussion about response times to incidents and a number of concerns about local crime trends, thefts from outbuildings and of vehicles. PC Rouse emphasised the importance of reporting crime, via 999 if you came across poachers etc. in the act or on 101 if the situation was not an emergency one. It was stressed as to the importance of keeping locations as secure as possible, gates on fields, lights, cameras and surveillance could all be used as applicable. Also take the registration number of any suspicious vehicles and report these via 101. There was also a communication e mail forum called “Neighbourhood Matters” which everyone could sign up to and then receive updates on local issues, and activities, plus information on scams etc. Sign up via your local police officer. PC Jeff Rouse could be contacted on mobile number 07870 150972.

2. Apologies for absence

There were apologies received from Cllr C. Chu. Cllrs A. Smith and H. Light were not present.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

4. To approve previous minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th December 2022

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 7th December 2022, were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

5. Report of North Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr. Hewitt had advised that she was on compassionate leave.

6. Roads/Lengthsman

(6.1) To report on highway issues

The “double bend” signs had been knocked round in several places. Flood signs had been placed on the highway, when flooded, but not the TRO signs for the revision at Tyberton.

There was a blocked ditch on Dorestone Hill, the Bredwardine side. Grips and gullies required clearing.

Summerwell Cottage – storm drains required clearing.

Godway Farm – drainage ditch required clearing

Blakemere, near “Plough” and village green three grips to be cleared

Silt on road in places

Pope Place – ongoing issues with badgers sett and road subsidence plus pothole outside

(6.2) To look at work for the Lengthsman

Grips and gullies plus signage straightening as possible

(6.3) To update on any road safety initiatives and TRO (Traffic Regulation Order)

The Blakemere list of road safety wishes, to include for possible changes, were to be discussed at a village meeting on February 8th.

The signage for the revised TRO at Tyberton was still not altered to encompass the new catchment, in spite of repeated requests for this to be actioned.

The Moccas suggestions for revised TRO would be going forward for consultation following a site meeting.

(6.4) To update regarding leaves debris in Preston on Wye

Cllr Rawstorne updated the meeting that there were still some leaves around from the large Sycamore in the village. Hopefully these would be cleared up when the grass was cut.

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

The footpath officer, Cllr John Green would receive the footpath post and path signs from the Clerk. He was looking to make some improvements to the steps on the footpath at Blakemere. There were some broken pegs and some handrail damage. Cllr John Green would liaise with the Lengthsman to look at materials and fixing the issues. There were also issues on the path between “Point Cottage” and Madley where there were signs up regarding the need for bridge restoration. The bridge was logged for works, under the capital program, for 2028.

8. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet

The contents of the sheet were noted and included:

Herefordshire Council Various, as circulated including:
Talk Community bulletins

Bulletins had also been received from the Police and the Balfour Beatty Locality Steward plus from Balfour Beatty: Members Monthly Update and Street works updates

9. 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.

10. Finance and Policies

(10.1) To note bank balance: The bank balance was noted as £15719.31

(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 February 2023

HMRC (tax) - £146.80

HALC Subscription 2023 – 2024 - £662.66

Wynet Internet Services - web hosting) - £11.99

Village Green Mowers 2022 (18 payments) – Total £535.00

(10.3) To update regarding broadband provision.

Those affected by poor reception would be receiving information. Information had been sent to Cllr Chu by the Ward Cllr Jennie Hewitt.

11. Matters raised by members for next Agenda

Usual items would be included. Also litter picking and issues with littering. Councillors had been clearing up litter, an organised litter pick would be considered.

12. To confirm date of the next Meeting as Wednesday 1st March 2023 from 7.45 pm

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 1st March 2023 and this would be held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall from 7.45 pm.

Future meeting dates for 2023 – April 5th, May 10th, June 7th, July 5th, no meeting in August, September 6th, October 4th, November 8th and December 6th.

The Meeting closed at 8.53 pm

SIGNED

DATED