

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council, held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall, on Wednesday 7th June 23 from 7.45 pm

In attendance were:

Councillors: A. Rawstorne, J. Lycett Green in the Chair), D. Gurney, J Hughes, D Hughes, P. Gorringer, H. Light, R. Mitchell and C Chu plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, Ward Cllr Philip Price and two members of the public.

Cllr Lycett Green (Chair) welcomed everyone to the Meeting. There were introductions around the table with a welcome to new Blakemere councillor; Phil Gorringer, and a welcome back to Ward Cllr Philip Price.

1. Open Session with any parishioners

No matters were raised during the Open Session.

2. Apologies for absence

There were apologies received from Cllrs O. Whittall, J.Dale and D. Roper. Cllr A. Smith was 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 1st March 2023

The Minutes of the Annual Parish and Annual Statutory Council Meetings, held on 12th May 2023, were approved as true and correct records of the meetings.

5. Report of North Ward Councillor

Ward Cllr. Philip Price explained about the new council set up for Herefordshire. The Conservatives, with 21 seats, six seats short of the 27 majority required, were forming a minority administration, with key placements from other parties and independents. The Ward Cllr explained about his own personal responsibilities in cabinet, which included roads and infrastructure. Of immediate concern for attention was the “state of Children’s Services. The recent report made “bad reading” and things had got to “get better”.

The Ward Cllr explained about the levelling up fund bidding and ran through some of the previous administrations projects. There were space issues for the Holme Lacy cars/bikes and pedestrians set up and there had already been three “serious accidents” on the cycle way in St Owens Street.

The decline of the Shire Hall was another concern. The possibility of a bypass was mentioned in line with the volume of increased traffic and the building of thousands more homes in the county. The County Plan was being reviewed and all villages etc. should “keep an eye” on their Neighbourhood Development Plans.

The Ward Cllr advised that he would not be able to come to all the parish council meetings, due to clashes with other meetings in other villages, but he would be sending reports and updates. The parish council thanked the Ward Cllr for the update and information.

6. Roads/Lengthsman

(6.1) To report on highway issues

The Ward Cllr explained that it would cost £300 million to put right all of the issues with roads in the county. This was against a budget of £2.5 million. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Ian Connolly again about the follow up to the visit in April, and highlighting possible traffic counting also (some currently in progress). The Ward Cllr would be copied into the e mail to Ian Connolly.

Cllr Gorringe advised that Balfour Beatty were trying to source appropriate pipe-work for “Bullpits Corner.”

(6.2) To look at work for the Lengthsman

Lengthsman, seasonal works and grip, gully clearance.

(6.3) To consider any feedback in relation to roads, traffic regulation orders and signs etc.

The meeting were updated in regard to the Tyberton TRO, the 30 mph speed limit signs had now been moved to the re-designated place.

The Bredwardine Bridge vicinity traffic regulation orders were in progress of consultation.

(6.4) To receive any update on kiosks and any enquiries

There had been a number of enquiries about the Bredwardine Kiosk. The kiosk was confirmed as being the property of the Wyeside Group Parish Council (Contract with BT dated December 16th 2017 was held by the Clerk). Cllr Chu had supplied information in regard to obtaining signs and paint. The Clerk had also answered questions posed via Cllr Light. The parish council position was that the housing of a defibrillator project, in the kiosk, would need to be community organised and driven. The parish council would support with pads and batteries, in the future, subject to application before purchase and would also consider assisting with a possible refurbishment quotation, ahead of any works actually being carried out. Prior approval to be requested from the parish council before any actual spend on the items to be put forward. The community would be responsible for ascertaining power supply availability to the kiosk and the viability as a defibrillator housing (some models require temperature regulation).

Cllr Chu would look at the possible organisation of further defibrillator training and also CPR.

(6.5) To receive any update on village greens

The Clerk had obtained an amount of information and maps on the subject of the greens. There were parish council parcels of land in Preston on Wye and Blakemere according to the paperwork. This would be further discussed at the July meeting, as the person who had made the initial enquiry was not present. The copies of the maps etc. would be sent to the Ward Cllr, for information, also.

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

The footpath officer, Cllr John Green, advised that he had been in contact with his counterpart in the Herefordshire Council, Richie Pearce. He had been taking a clipper to brambles on the paths as required. The Golden Valley Pilgrimage Route was a point of note for those interested in participating. More signs would be forthcoming on the paths soon.

8. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet

The contents of the sheet were noted and included:

Herefordshire Council Various, as circulated including:

Talk Community bulletins

Information about the village greens with maps

Bredwardine Village Hall

E mail from Hamish on behalf of the Bredwardine Village Hall

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

There were no new planning consultations for discussion with a view to comments. Ward Cllr Price updated the meeting in regard to the planning at Tyberton for two houses. He said that he would be “leaving the matter to the planning officers to determine the safety of access” for the site.

10. Finance and Policies

(10.1) **To note bank balance:** The bank balance was noted as £16838.12

(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 June 2023

HMRC (tax) - £90.40

Mrs S M O Walker (Internal Auditor) - £35.00

10.3) **To sign Exemption Certificate for accounts 2022 – 2023**

The Exemption Certificate for accounts 2022 – 2023 was approved by the council and signed by the chair

10.4) **To sign and approve Annual Governance Statement 2022 – 2023**

The Annual Governance Statement 2022 – 2023 was approved by the council and signed by the chair

10.5) **To sign and approve Accounting Statement 2022 - 2023**

The Accounting Statement 2022 – 2023 was approved by the council and signed by the chair

11. Matters raised by members for next Agenda

Usual items would be included.

Village Greens – update

Kiosks – use of

Ian Connolly – road safety – update

12. To confirm date of the next Meetings as Wednesday 5th July 2023 from 7.45 pm

The date of the next ordinary meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 5th July 2023 and this would be held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall from 7.45 pm.

Future meeting dates for 2023 – no meeting in August, September 6th, October 4th, November 8th and December 6th

The Meeting closed at 9.01 pm

SIGNED

DATED