

*Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Wyeside Group Parish Council, held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall, on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 from 7.45 pm*

**In attendance were:**

Councillors: J. Lycett Green (in the Chair), D. Gurney (from 7.53 pm), J Hughes, J Dale, D Hughes, H. Light, R. Mitchell, A Smith, P Gorringer, A Rawstorne and C Chu plus Parish Clerk Mrs A. M. Wright, Ward Cllr Philip Price and two members of the public. PCSO Pete Knight was also in attendance for the first part of the meeting.

Cllr John Lycett Green (Chair) welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

**1. Open Session with any parishioners**

No matters were raised by the public during the Open Session. PCSO Pete Knight advised that there was no recently reported crime for the Wyeside group of parishes. In the first weeks of August there had been thefts of items from four churches in the Golden Valley. These included Vowchurch, Craswall, Peterchurch and Bacton. Coping slabs had been removed from the four churches and also a collection box had been removed from the church at Bacton (later found intact). PCSO Knight issued a plea for the public to be vigilant. PCSO Knight advised that PC Jeff Rouse was back on the patch but that he may be moving on again, later in 2023.

PCSO Knight left the meeting at 7.48 pm.

**2. Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies received. Cllr D Roper 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 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023, were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**5. Report of North Ward Councillor**

Ward Cllr. Philip Price had sent his report and he highlighted some of the issues at the meeting.

The Ward Cllr advised that he had been in six council meetings that day, starting at 8.00 am. He updated regarding the budget and that there was, currently, an expected overspend forecast in order to meet commitments and that “revenue reserves were running out fast”. A key area of concern was still the Children’s Services and further reports had been supplied.

The Bridge Sollers road had been closed for four times recently to facilitate the implementation of a 40 mph Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). The road would likely be closed again for the brown asphalt to be laid. The Ward Cllr said that TRO’s can come at an “enormous cost and delays etc.” The Waste Strategy, extended to 21/09/24, was noted, the second biggest contract that the council runs. The possibility of new bin collection arrangements with more options such as additional bins for food waste collection, were being discussed by the council. Herefordshire Council had made the comment that additional funding would be required, from Government, if this were required to be implemented.

An update was given on the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), the Wyeside Group NDP would “still be extant, no changes.” Increased levels of house building, in the county, were scheduled for areas where resource services were identified. There was still the idea of the creation of a new settlement. Two possible qualifying places had been identified, one being Pontrilas with its proximity to a rail link. A question was asked about what qualifies as a “resource”? These were advised as things such as school, surgery, public house, shop, village hall etc. The question of the

phosphate moratorium was also mentioned. Could the council get “cornered” on this issue? The question of possibly “removing nutrient neutrality to get moving again on building” was noted.

## **6. Roads/Lengthsman**

### **(6.1) To report on highway issues**

#### **Chilstone – near the egg hut**

Localised flooding, possibly mains burst near the egg hut at Chilstone. Water was lying on the road. This was in the Madley Parish area and the parish clerk would be informed.

#### **Bredwardine Bridge**

Concerns were raised about some upkeep and repairs that may be required for the Bredwardine Bridge. The Clerk would highlight this to the Highways Contractor. The ongoing issue of congestion of traffic around the Bredwardine Bridge, particularly during sunny weather would be the subject of a request for enforcement of parking regulations to prevent obstruction. The Police would also be asked to check the area for such obstruction during possible peak times.

#### **Pentre Lane**

A head on collision had been advised on the Pentre Lane Hill. Considerable resources had been deployed as a result, including the air ambulance. Thankfully, no-one had been seriously hurt in the collision but the ongoing concerns about the road, and the lack of passing places, was discussed and would be the subject of continued pressure for action on possible safety measures.

#### **Badgers setts**

Badgers setts were situated near to Pope Place and at Tyberton. What was happening in regard to these, in particular the road closure at Tyberton?

### **(6.2) To look at work for the Lengthsman**

Seasonal works, as required. The Chair thanked the lengthsman for cleaning the signs, particularly at Preston on Wye.

### **(6.3) To receive any update on the use of kiosks**

Bredwardine Village Hall Committee had presented some figures for the possible refurbishment costs relating to the Bredwardine Kiosk and the housing of a new defibrillator within it. It was agreed that the council would look at the request and put forward a proposal for a donation, towards the costs, at the October 2023 parish council meeting. Cllr Light would advise regarding possible payee details.

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

The footpath officer, Cllr John Green, advised about the Pilgrims Way initiative and about the British Pilgrims Trust. There had been 2000 visitors to “Arthur’s Stone”, demonstrating the importance of local heritage and increased interest. There were also opportunities for “staycations” and sleep-ins at local churches, on route, with the Golden Valley Pilgrims Way. More details can be found at: <https://www.abbeydoredeanery.org/gvpw/>

There had been a report of a wooden bridge on the footpath between Bredwardine Bridge and Bredwardine Church being blocked by overgrowth. The Footpath Officer said that he would clear this.

## **8. Correspondence – Refer to information sheet**

The contents of the sheet were noted and included:

**Herefordshire Council** Various, as circulated including:  
Talk Community bulletins

Election Expenses chase ups

### **Bredwardine Village Hall Committee**

Correspondence received from the Bredwardine Village Hall Committee in respect of the kiosk upgrade, obstruction to a footbridge and the conditions at Bredwardine Bridge. These items were conveyed via Cllr Light and have been identified for action etc. throughout the meeting.

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

There was a new planning consultation for discussion with a view to comments:

**APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:** Planning Consultation - 232425 - Lane Cottage, Bredwardine Hill, Bredwardine, Herefordshire HR3 6BZ

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed demolition of the existing cottage and replacement with a new dwelling.

**GRID REF:** OS 331819, 244261

**APPLICATION TYPE:** Planning Permission

The Parish Council discussed the proposals in planning consultation **232425** and resolved to comment in support of the application.

### **10. Finance and Policies**

(10.1) **To note bank balance:** The bank balance was noted as £12527.67

(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 September 2023

HMRC (tax) - £90.60

Moccas PCC (Mowing Donation) £150.00

Blakemere PCC (Mowing Donation) £150.00

### **11. Matters raised by members for next Agenda**

Usual items would be included. The Chair, Cllr John Lycett Green and Cllr Hamish Light recorded their apologies for the October 2023 Meeting.

### **12. To confirm date of the next Meetings as Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 from 7.45 pm**

The date of the next ordinary meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and this would be held at the Preston on Wye Village Hall from 7.45 pm.

Future meeting dates for 2023 – November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup>

The Meeting closed at 8.45 pm

SIGNED .....

DATED .....