

CLERK'S INFORMATION SHEET FOR  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 11 JUNE 2020

- 5.1 Get in touch: Tel: 101 to talk to your local SNT or report a crime. Email: kw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk  
Website: [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) Facebook /Twitter @NHfdShireCops  
**Useful information:** Please find the links to the Fly Tipping prevention guides, currently viewable on the NFPG website. Always worth a read if you ever have the misfortune to encounter such waste.  
Householder - <http://www.tacklingflytipping.com/Documents/NFTPG-Files/NFTPGAdviceforHouseholders.pdf>  
• Businesses - <http://www.tacklingflytipping.com/Documents/NFTPG-Files/NFTPGAdviceforBusinesses.pdf>  
• Landowners - <http://www.tacklingflytipping.com/Documents/NFTPG-Files/NFTPGAdviceforLandowners.pdf>  
Dean Wall PC 07773 053846  
Emma Dune PCSO 07971 051474  
Felix Rawlingson PCSO 07971 051480  
Report a crime Police 101 Ext 61216  
Useful Crime Prevention document – copy the following link to a post on parish council website <https://www.eardisland-pc.gov.uk/2020/05/06/crime-prevention-newsletter-may-2020/>
- 5.2 Thankfully this beautiful weather has helped us all cope with these strange times. Who would have thought at the end of one of wettest winters ever that three month later we would be desperate for rain. I have been taking my daily exercises in the ward walking our footpaths and enjoying our countryside and the sunshine. I think we all realise how lucky we are to reside here, I was talking to one of my colleague councillors in a London Borough where over 90% of her ward live in flats with some huge social issues and problems.  
Continued thanks to all lead co-ordinators and helpers for their work; our lead link member with Herefordshire Council has changed with Jane stepping back to her substantive role in social care and she is succeeded by Janette Rowette and supported by Morag Clayton and Zoe Johns – contacts details later on in report.  
This month, if the statistics allow, will see the phased return of some of our school pupils and reopening of some shops although we will have to wait to next month probably for a haircut. I pass on peoples request for further opening of our waste sites particularly Kington but the cabinet member is not supportive at this stage only agreeing to reopen Ross to add to Hereford and Leominster indicating staff shortage and costs as reasons to delay.  
We are entering a different phase of this pandemic but we need to remain vigilant act with responsibility and respect social distancing. If you are moving around the area please also have respect for others and pick up your litter.  
As public meetings are not allowed we are having to resort to virtual meeting via various internet suppliers- zoom, bluejeans, Microsoft teams etc. Wearing various hats I am involved in several meetings a week and have chaired some which is a very different experience. Last week I presented to a pension webinar and launched the Local Government Pension Scheme Annual report from my sitting room – very 21<sup>st</sup> century. Certainly I don't miss the travel and I think more of such meetings will be one of the positive outcomes from this virus.  
Parish Council meetings are also very different these days but responsibilities continue with discussions and decisions needing to be made. I appreciate that it may be difficult for some residents to observe the meetings but given the extraordinary times were are in this is the most practical option across the country. I have had a zoom meeting with all my parish clerks and joined PC meetings in Lyonshall, Shobdon, Pembridge and Eardisland in May with Titley group next week. Getting the protocol right is important –everyone switching to mute except the speaker, getting the camera angle right, pressing the correct links and buttons, and of course you can always look at what's on the wall behind everyone!  
This month working with our MP I have been establishing maintenance works responsibilities on the river arrow with the Environment Agency. Any dredging or clearing has to be done by the riparian owner and they need a license from the EA. Hopefully this virus will leave us but the threat of flooding will remain so we need to work on local plans to reduce risk particularly in Eardisland and Lyonshall who were impacted in February.  
I have also upon a request sought clarity via our MP with Natural England on their advice to the council on the phosphate issue. This is an extract from their letter "Natural England provide statutory scientific advice, in this instance regarding whether the impacts of development on the integrity of the River Wye SAC can be ruled out with sufficient certainty. The planning authority will be mindful that its decision could be subject to Judicial Review. As you are aware we are working with Herefordshire Council, Environment Agency and other partners, through the Nutrient Management Board to find an effective solution as soon as possible to enable developments to proceed."  
They confirmed the council would risk judicial review if they ignored their advice. As I said last month I suspect there will be no permissions for living extensions or new dwellings this year or indeed beyond. Such a restriction on the catchment area of the river Lugg which includes the rivers Arrow, Hindwell and Frome mean 40% of the county is affected. This will have an impact on our delivery of our Herefordshire housing targets. We are already failing our 5 year supply and if we fall below 3 year supply we are at risk in the rest of the county and ourselves when the ban is lifted to developers who will be able to ride over the county core strategy and Neighborhood plans.  
In this month's update I cover Covid-19 with some key messaging and information on Test and Tracing, Highway matters, new bus shelter in Titley and some visitors from America.  
As ever if you think I can be of help please do not hesitate to contact me.  
Stay safe and well everybody  
ROGER  
Titley Bus Shelter  
Great to see this new bus shelter in Titley commissioned by the Parish Council and built by local lifelong parish resident Mark Jones. For generations the children and adults have had to stand in the open braving all the elements so it's a much wanted and valued addition to the village. Sadly due to the virus we couldn't give the shelter the official opening it deserves but as you can see it was decked out for the VE celebrations. Similar in design to the those also built locally in Lyonshall by their Parish Council these structures compliment our rural communities much better than the urban metal types.

TITLEY ROAD CLOSURE B4355 June 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 9am to 5 pm for Surface dressing

### VISTORS FROM AMERICA

Shobdon airfield has over the years played host to many different aircraft but this month saw one of the most modern and spectacular as the US special services flew in with their Tilt-Rota V-22 Osprey. They were here to train with their UK colleagues from the SAS and many residents will have seen and heard them during the day and at night.

According to the manufacturer this combat multiplier represents "a quantum improvement in strategic mobility and tactical flexibility for expeditionary forces". It has a wingspan of 46 ft, height of 22 ft, can transport 24 troops and travel up to 300 mph.

As the lockdown is eased the airfield will be gradually be re-opening to more normal activity initially three days a week Tuesday, Thursdays and Saturdays at the beginning of this month.

### KEY MESSAGES & ADVICE

Please make positive and sensible choices and be responsible citizens, by doing this you will save lives, protect the NHS and keep yourself and your family safe.

- Please continue to limit who you have contact with as much as possible.
- Please take personal responsibility and take sensible steps to maintain social distancing if you do go out.
- You are able to spend time outdoors with up to six people as long as those from different households maintain social distancing.
- Being outdoors reduces the risk of infection, but it doesn't eradicate it. Please maintain social distancing.
- We are fortunate to have some beautiful places within our counties, and many people will be glad they now have the option to make the most of them over the coming weeks. If you travel somewhere and it's busy, please be sensible and go elsewhere or return at a different time. Keep in mind the purpose of the regulations and the ongoing national effort to protect the NHS and save lives.
- There is different legislation and guidance in place in Wales, please respect it.
- Please continue to keep washing your hands. This is a vital part of reducing the risk of infection.
- If you are displaying symptoms of coronavirus, it is vital that you self-isolate for seven days and order a test immediately. If you test positive for coronavirus, you must share information promptly about your recent contacts through the NHS test and trace service to help alert other people who may need to self-isolate. If you have had close recent contact with someone who has coronavirus, you must self-isolate if the NHS test and trace service advises you to do so. If someone you live with is feeling unwell or displaying symptoms, please self-isolate for 14 days.
- Some people might not display symptoms so social distancing and hand washing remains vital. You can wear a face covering when out, to protect other people when you may be asymptomatic
- Facilities such as waste & recycling centres, outdoor sports clubs, and outdoor retail outlets such as garden centres are now starting to reopen. Please follow the social distancing instructions and directions regarding entry and queuing, be aware that they might be busy, and try to avoid peak times.
- Hereford and Leominster waste and recycling centres are open for essential waste that can't be stored safely. Please only visit if it is absolutely necessary and be prepared for queues.
- West Mercia Police will continue to engage with the public, explaining and encouraging people in relation to the guidance and social distancing, and we will only take enforcement action where it is absolutely necessary - when there are clear breaches of the restrictions, predominantly people gathering in large groups.
- The NHS are still available and services continue. Please do not delay in seeking medical attention, should you need it.
- If you are self-isolating and don't have support, contact Talk Community on 01432 260027 or local Parish contacts at the end of this email.

The national programme for Test and Trace has been launched. This programme of work is now a very important part of the strategy to contain the spread of the virus. As part of the whole system it will be necessary for local areas across the country to develop the intelligence system to identify localised, positive cases of Covid-19. This will enable us to identify outbreaks if they occur and to decide what action would be appropriate. The intention is to suppress outbreaks before they spread, and through early action taken across our system within the county, we can contain the virus.

Absolutely key to the success of this work which will last many months is engagement and support of communities.

Herefordshire has a population of 192,000 people of which 56,000 are considered as a high risk due to age (over 70) or underlying health issues. Amongst those some 8,000 are on the Shield and protect list who are the people our local network is particularly established to oversee.

Contact tracing is a well-established method of preventing and controlling outbreaks from measles and TB through to sexually transmitted infections like chlamydia. The principles are tried and tested.

If you are displaying symptoms you must order a test immediately (website – NHS 111online) and self-isolate together with other members of the household. Following a confirmed diagnosis the authority and Public Health England will help you to remember everyone who you have had close contact with while you could have been infectious. They contact and warn everyone who might be at risk, as quickly as possible, offering advice on how they should act in order to help prevent further spread. This is the way we can limit an outbreak and if necessary prevent a special lockdown for part or whole of Herefordshire can be ordered.

As the unlock hopefully continues the activity of the local economy should increase. The Government has given Herefordshire £172,000 to support the reopening of the high street for this month. My understanding is that will be focused on Hereford and the market towns and should include some limited opening of public toilets.

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) which covers our area carried out a survey of businesses in the sub region. Its conclusions while not surprising starkly warn us about the tough economic recovery we face.

Of the business responding 98% had been affected by Covid-19 with 44% suffering a complete loss of sales, and similarly 44% also had taken advantage of the Coronavirus job retention scheme to furlough staff. The £10,000 cash grant for small schemes has been taken up by 35%, with only 12% taken up or applied for the business loans scheme. Just over half the survey replies confirmed they were not eligible for small business grants, small business rate relief or rural rate relief with 25% identifying cashflow as their greatest challenge and 15% falling sales. The LEP has also allocated over 400,000 from Government to Herefordshire to support the restart of the visitor economy.

### PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESS

Many of our local business are supporting our community with supplying delivery of groceries, take away food and other items.

They are too many to list here in case I miss someone but they will be on your local websites. Please support them. If this crisis teaches us anything it is the importance of local community and a local economy.

As of the 27th May there had been 108 deaths with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 in Herefordshire, of these, 53 of these were in hospital (acute or community); 50 in care homes; 2 in hospice; 3 at home address. There has been a reduction in cases in care homes and the council is working with all homes as it has been allocated 2.7 million from the National Care Home Fund. PPE continues to be distributed to care homes, homecare and to schools as they increase their opening. Over 70 previously homeless people in the county are currently being housed by the local authority.

More details for local businesses on [smallbusinessgrants@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:smallbusinessgrants@herefordshire.gov.uk)

Local information on services and advice [www.Herefordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.Herefordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

National information [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19) [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

#### HIGHWAY MATTERS

The latest news on the Lawton's cross change of priority project is that it has been put back to the summer. Balfour Beatty are waiting for confirmation from Highways England on their work programme on the A49 to ensure they do not clash with them. The Lawtons cross project will take five weeks and they also need to be confident that the material supply chain will be secure and not affected by Covid 19.

My latest battle with Balfour is in Shobdon on the B4362 just west of the village in the Downwood dip where water has been crossing the highway all winter with poor road surface and potholes. It is now erupting in the middle of the highway as on the north side it cannot escape. The other side of the wall has over half an acre of flooded land and this was mid May after over weeks of dry weather.

While acknowledging a problem, Balfour however do not believe (incredibly) that there is a blocked culvert under the highway! They are ranking it as number 9 on the priority list which means it will not be dealt with until spring 2021 at the earliest. I consider the "Downwood dip" is likely to need several visits a year to repair potholes, the integrity of the wall and trees are being undermined with increased danger of falling into the highway. Given the acknowledged weakness of the integrity of the road surface it will be more liable to successful driver claims. But most importantly the presence of water on the carriageway will increase the risk of accidents and danger to persons at times of high rainfall and freezing.

The saga of the underground spring at Fishpools in Lyonshall continues which is difficult to identify but we now have a small sink hole appearing in the pavement! I am also working with Shobdon PC on the provision of a new footbridge off the main road by the Bateman.

The lack of traffic is helping Balfour get on top of the pothole issue but Please report any problems on highways or footpaths using the links below or phone 01432261800.

Go onto Herefordshire Council website and download the pothole App to help report potholes

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes>

<https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole>

Report fly tipping it will be dealt with in a much quicker time frame. by either calling the Contact Centre on 01432 261800 or by logging the fly tipping via the council website on the links below as your

[https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200226/report\\_a\\_problem/98/fly\\_tipping](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200226/report_a_problem/98/fly_tipping)

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prov-problem>

If you wish to make a claim as a result of damage to your

vehicle [https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/206/highway\\_claims](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/206/highway_claims)

#### PARISH CONTACTS

Pembridge [clerk@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk) Shobdon [shobdonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:shobdonparishclerk@gmail.com)

Lyonshall [lyonshallparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:lyonshallparishclerk@gmail.com) Eardisland [parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk)

Titley Group [rachaeljones.titleypc@gmail.com](mailto:rachaeljones.titleypc@gmail.com)

If you want to discuss a planning matter please contact [Adam.Lewis@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Adam.Lewis@herefordshire.gov.uk)

If you a planning enforcement concern [mttansley@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:mttansley@herefordshire.gov.uk)

The following [household recycling centres](#) are open from **Saturday 9 May: Hereford HRC, Chapel Road, Rotherwas**  
[Leominster HRC, Bridge Street, Leominster](#) Open hours 7 days per week from 8am to 6pm

- 8.1 Work in May: Strimming one-way road and footpath to church; strimming recreation ground ditch
- 8.2 Millstream – Quotes for work to clear silt awaited. Cllr Hanson has said that her farm would be willing to take the silt, once it has been left to drain out on the side of the bank and can then be disposed of.
- Main river – Email sent to riparian owners.
- 8.3 Cost of annual inspection from Fran White's company £58.60 as previous years. Will be the same inspector as last few years as well.  
RoSPA inspection cost £68.50 + VAT for 5 pieces of equipment, £3.50 + VAT for each extra piece. Likely cost £72 + VAT BUT discounted cost only if done on RoSPA schedule which states Herefordshire inspections are in March/April.  
**Cost for this year would be £232 +VAT but would then be on automatic inspection schedule without further quoting and would be at discounted cost.**
- 8.5 Pembridge Clerk has confirmed that Pembridge PC paid its own legal fees using a solicitor in Hereford that it had used before. Cost was £950 for works including consideration of the contracts, examining the title and other documents, Preparing the land registry transfer and making registrations to then completing the transaction and £262 for searches – in 2016.

Quote from Lloyds Cooper, solicitor EPC has relationship with is ballpark figure of £750 + £90 for local searches and £40 for Land registry. Advice is might not need a new lease as EPC would step into HC's shoes as landlord to The Dovecote Trust, would depend on how lease between HC and the Trust is written. If new lease needed, ballpark figure £500.

Clerk has contacted HC Asset Management as first step in finding out if HC prepared to transfer asset.

8.6 3 cases (18 bottles x30mls) from Chase Distillery cost £72 +VAT, from grant for Coronavirus Volunteer support.

9. Correspondence – as follows:

From parishioners

- Phonecall re smoke from repeated bonfires
- Emails to Coronavirus Response Co-ordinators
- Email from Arrowbank Caravan Park re forthcoming application

From other sources

- From Herefordshire Council (HC) – various emails re Covid
- From various sources – re Covid
- From eUKHost – invoice for security software for website
- From HC – Rural Hub newsletter
- From HC – Information on tree planting scheme working with young people – forwarded to Community Garden leader
- From HC – Short breaks for vulnerable children funding
- From Community First – launch of Marches Community-Led Housing Hub
- From HC – new allocation process for rented housing and link re website accessibility

Alison Sutton – Parish Clerk

7 John Davies Place, Westcroft, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 8JD. Tel: 07789 322771. Email: [parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk)