

CLERK'S INFORMATION SHEET FOR
EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 13 AUGUST 2020

- 4.1 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 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 Rawlison 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/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Crime-Prevention-Newsletter-July-2020.pdf>
- 4.2 Dear Residents,
Hope you are coping and keeping well as we enjoy the usual summer weather but without our local shows, fetes and various events. In the past month we have had two local outbreaks at a fruit farm in Mathon near Ledbury and on a travellers site at Craven Arms. We owe a big thank you to staff of Lynhales Nursing home who experienced the worse aspects of the pandemic last May. I have included in my update a thank you letter I wrote to them on behalf of my residents. It is a warning to us all that we still need to maintain vigilance and keep our distances, wash our hands and wear face masks in confined areas.
One particular concern I have this month is on SCAMS by phone and in the post . I have been involved with a family who have an elderly resident who was befriended on the phone by someone reporting to be from a fraud investigating team, working on her behalf to protect her from a reported hacking of her account. Over a period he gained her confidence proceeded to extract funds from her accounts, and make her set up another account. Funds did leave and the family is in contact with the banks to resolve the matter but the skill and deception of the scammer was remarkable. Clearly with many people isolated we are more vulnerable than ever .
Other Scams are from someone reporting to be NHS Track & Trace requesting £50 for your Covid testing equipment, and requesting details for over 75 TV licence.
If anyone asks you for account details over the phone – put the phone down and tell others . No reputable company will ask for your financial details over the phone.
Please, let's get this discussed and into the open. I don't want to see any more of my residents and their families distressed in such a way. This is happening in our community and the more open we are the less lightly these horrid individuals will succeed.
Residents know that I had been pushing for the reopening of the recycling centre at Kington for some time and on Friday July 10th and in the words of Max Boyce –“ I was there” - to view residents queuing up to enter the site. This is a much valued local facility at the very heart of changing people's approach to green issues and recycling and should not have been closed for the length of time it was.
As vice chairman of the Rural Services Network I chaired a seminar this month of community leads on providing care in a rural setting. The pandemic has raised the profile of caring outside the NHS and many of us feel this a good time to raise awareness of the particular challenges in delivering these services in rural areas often not understood by urban based professionals.
We discussed the need to address workforce shortages, access to training and skilling up individuals, and rural proofing policies and practices in the care sector. We looked at developing local schemes of “ OKtoday” – where someone is contacted each day to check they are alright, checking households to avoid trips and falls, the issue of wearing of alarms and GPS monitoring in dementia care. Some of these elements may be useful to develop on the back of our current Shield and Protect Community scheme during the lockdown.
In this month's Update I summarise the latest information on the next phase of Gigaclear, the phosphate issue, extracts from the recent Annual Fire report, cover Covid and highway matters and the big reveal of Lyonshall Hall after its refurbishing .
Please forward this update to any residents in the ward who you think may be interested .
As ever if you think I can be of help please do not hesitate to contact me.
Stay safe and keep well everybody
Be Nice Nosey Neighbours
ROGER
I am delighted to have received photographs of the recent refurbish memorial hall in Lyonshall. Funds for the renovation were secured primarily from the Lottery Community Fund, the Co-op Community Fund and two years of fund raising by the Memorial Hall Committee. A small business grant from Herefordshire Council which will give some support us over the next few months until user groups feel confident enough to return. The planned closure of the hall and refurbishment start date was Monday March 23rd - the day Boris put the UK into lockdown. That morning presented a huge dilemma. whether to carry on as planned, or put the whole project on

hold because of an unprecedented set of circumstances. The decision was to carry on seeing a way forward where the trusted workforce could work together, but apart. There followed a mad scramble to gather all the building materials required as quickly as possible, before everything ground to a halt as local businesses were forced to shut their doors.

After four months the Hall now been totally transformed with a new floor, new ceiling, modern LED lights and wall radiators. It is now bright, airy and modern, and with insulation throughout, it is warm and comfortable. A huge thank you to local tradesmen and local community who helped out. The hall is now reopened for bookings and as readers know I shall be there for the first event involving cake. Congratulations to everyone on their hard work.

Gigaclear : next stage

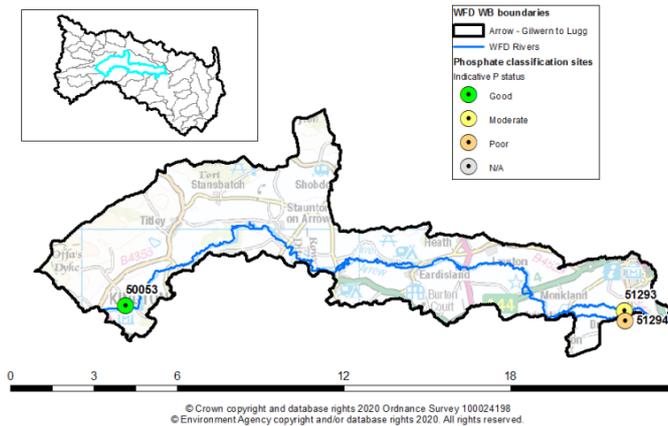
You will have all seen these roadworks over north Herefordshire in recent months. Gigaclear is the company which is contracted to bring fibre optic cable and very high broadband speeds to most of the residences in my ward over the next few years. They have been working for over 18 months in Shobdon area and are currently at Lyonshall Church junction on a section of A44 and working towards Bridge street in Pembridge. Many residents will have been approached about accessing their land but most of the network is in the public verges or highways.

The next phase will include the build in Pembridge village itself. This will require a cable being placed all down the north side of the A44 predominately in the pavement with junctions across the A44 to connect residences on the south side. I have had a meeting with Council highway officers and the contractor to look at the plans and limit the crossings of the recent smooth surface of the A44 in the village. We have requested where possible they share existing infrastructure will BT, who of course are a rival company, but the law allows for that. We have specified high standards of backfilling which I will seek both official and local unofficial inspection of.

The plan, which may well be subject to revision, is to commence work through the village in mid August. I have requested for all HGVs to be re routed for this period as traffic lights will be installed. There will be signs stating businesses open as usual.

The contractor will then be in the adjacent roads of the village and as Shobdon residents know this will go on for some months. The benefit if all this hassle is pods are dropped outside your properties allowing you the connect to world fast Broadband speeds which will be a great asset to your property, work and lifestyle.

Tackling the phosphate problem in the Lugg catchment area.



The moratorium on planning applications is having a significant effect on development in the ward and on the people and companies employed. Getting Natural England (NE) to alter their position on the phosphate levels is a challenge and there has to be a clear notable improvement or pathways to that improvement. I observed the recent Nutrient Management Board meeting where an eight point plan was being developed and significantly two elements being progressed.

Firstly Welsh Water must sign off and begin their 5 year investment programme which would include phosphate stripping processes at Presteigne and Weobley plus an upgrade of the stripping at Leominster.

Secondly using the Governments Homes Bonus of 2 million pounds, Herefordshire council would put this to installing reed bed solutions adjoining sewage plants at ten locations to allow the phosphate to silt in the beds rather than enter the water courses. The Wye and Usk foundation would deliver two and HC the other 8 sites in this wetland project . These sites have not been made public as yet. I shall be encouraging the progress of these to help get the ban lifted. NE indicate that movement on these two elements may mean the potentially lifting of or part of the ban by the beginning of next year.

A calculator of Phosphate will need to be identified and this will open up phosphate trading and land rewilding to offset the phosphate being produced by any new development. There is a similar problem on the Solent and we need to keep a watching brief on how they are responding.

At the meeting the Environment Agency produced a desktop plan for all the catchment area rivers and tributaries of their understanding of phosphate levels, with some ground evidence for each brook catchment area. The information doesn't look entirely secure but it is a basis to work on and ofcourse the EA monitor Welsh Water, and the agricultural industry via The Reduction and Prevention of Agricultural Diffuse Pollution Regulations (Farming Rules for Water) was introduced in 2018.

The Arrow phosphate levels are good upstream in our ward but records deteriorate by the time it enters the Lugg and it has the impact of the various sewage works and soil erosions.

The Curl begins above Elsdon Farm and runs through Lyonshall, past Morcourt, Weston, the Byletts and joins the Arrow at the green in Pembridge. The indications are that 43% of phosphate comes from agriculture and 56% from the Lyonshall sewage works . The recent analysis from the Wild in the Curl project has indicated the Lyonshall outfall is a concern. The Pinsey brook rises by Shobdon airfield and runs below Ledicot and Kingsland to join the Lugg near Leominster. The EA plan indicates phosphate source as 98% sewage works and 0% agriculture which cannot be right. Hence my concern that the information should be treated with caution.

Another aspect of the meeting was the pressure applied to Powys Council on their approach to planning. There are no restrictions on applications on the Welsh side of these water courses which all contribute to phosphate levels. Mention was also made about the growth of the Algal blooms in the river Wye. These plant growths restrict light and oxygen in the water impacting on fish and vegetation. Identified as far upstream as Bredwardine for many years it is now discovered as far as Llandrindod Wells on the river Ithon and is thought to be due largely to the establishment of over 100 free range egg farms.

(For further points in Roger's report, please contact the Parish Clerk)

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/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

PARISH CONTACTS

Pembridge clerk@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk Shobdon shobdonparishclerk@gmail.com

Lyonshall lyonshallparishclerk@gmail.com Eardisland parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk

Titley Group rachaeljones.titleyipc@gmail.com

If you want to discuss a planning matter please contact Adam.Lewis@herefordshire.gov.uk

If you a planning enforcement concern 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

- 7.1 Work in July: trimming round tree at junction of Lyme Lane; clearing and cleaning road signs in parish; spraying weedkiller on kerb edges in village; supplying and fitting 3 new oak gate posts and rehangng gates on recreation ground.

Work due in August:

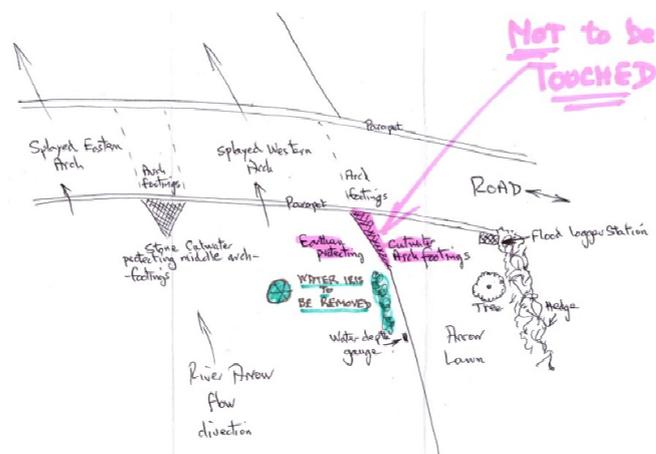
Strim and clear Lyme Lane ditch; strim and remove debris footpath to church; check drain tops and grips and clean white lines.

- 7.2 Planning application submitted and paid for – cost £259 (inc. £4.17 VAT). Kitchen drain is draining very slowly and needs checking. When drain company came before they could not check flow properly due to damaged drain on edge of carpark – now repaired. Suggest resurvey of drains with different company that jets drains and then CCTV survey – quote £475. (Cost of previous partial survey, no jetting, £144).

Update received from EVHMC: At the moment we still intend to open the Hall to hirers from 01 September (please note: those smaller groups who normally use the committee room will need to use the main hall until further notice). EVHMC has received inquiry from a hirer about using Zoon in the hall. Clerk has given advice to EVHMC about requirements (phone line, internet connection, internet camera and microphone, large screen) and committee may start first step and get quotes for phone line and internet connection.

- 7.3 Letter received from landowner for land on south side of river by bridge: informed by elderly resident that area where land joins bridge span is same as it was in 1940s, resident advised topping up top soil with loose vegetable matter that would be less likely to be washed away in storm and landowner has continued doing this. Soil acts as cutwater preventing blank face of bridge having to withstand scouring by storm water hitting the obstruction. 30% of bridge collapses in UK due to scour where foundations join bank. Landowner resists any suggestion of removal of cutwater soil on his land, not contributing to flooding and preventing scour of bridge foundations. Interested in getting yellow water iris on his land removed as is narrowing river, about 5m length. Would like PC to include in its exemption application (*email send explaining that he will have to get his own exemption*).

Landowner is keeping matter of bank retaining wall under continuous review.



Previous quotes from Hitrees: Clearing silt from millstream, £1,110. Clearing silt from river, £3,750.

- 7.5 Complaint received re hedge by entrance to ED7 – has been cut back but still overhangs pavement. Complaint received about narrowing of corner of Broome Lane from overgrowing hedge and white stones on road edge.
Advice from Locality Steward – stones on road side very grey area, technically not allowed and should be removed but HC and BB do not enforce. Therefore Locality Steward unable to help, but if landowners can be persuaded to remove stones, Steward will place verge markers instead. As markers are plastic, they will bend if hit by a vehicle rather than damage it and as fluorescent will be seen in the dark.
- 7.8 90+ participated via Zoom. Amy Pitt (Talk Community Assistant Director) gave an update on the response within the county to the Covid 19 pandemic. The aim of the presentation was not just to praise all those who have worked tirelessly to support communities, but also looked to draw out those best practices that should be used if a second wave arrives. Additionally, the hope is that many of those who volunteered at a local level will continue in non-COVID activities in future. This is likely to be followed in future.
The second presentation was mainly a detailed overview, by Karen Wright (Director of Public Health Herefordshire) on how Herefordshire will manage to control future outbreaks and hopefully avoid a second wave. Karen also stressed what all Parish Councils should do:
1. Report immediately any potential COVID issues
 2. Encourage, through publicity, the need to get tested immediately an individual has symptoms along with the need isolate straight away.
 3. Publicise the need to obtain a flu jab and to get up to date with any other jabs / health reviews that may have been missed. Before winter.
 4. Keep ramming home the basic needs: hand washing, social distancing, face masks where required etc. etc.
- 7.9 Following information received from landowner: Report done by a qualified arbourist (not a tree surgeon). The tree is in very good health, approx 750 years old, health and safety is not an issue as risk of branch falling off when someone is underneath is very low, dead branches should be left on tree as beneficial to tree ecosystem. The wheat is now harvested and the whole field is being put back to grass, no ploughing will be done under the tree to establish the grass, so at this present time I am not proposing to fence around it.
I hope this puts the parish council at ease with the recent ploughing issue that occurred without me knowing. The report is somewhat lengthy and any councillor that wishes to read it is welcome to contact me.
- 7.10 Membership of Herefordshire Green Network (HGN) usually £50/pa. Offer of membership for remainder of 2020 for £25.

HGN workshop 'Opportunities as we move toward Zero Carbon Herefordshire' held on Thursday 16th July 2020. A zoom event - part presentation and part discussion, presentation given by Richard Priestley, a well-known local writer who gives talks and classes nationwide and online. His writings and workshops usually focus on how we can have a more ecologically sustainable and socially just future.

Some of highlights of Richard's talk:

1. Transport - Transport - he believes the future is electric for the short to medium term and then and then hydrogen. Cities (including Hereford) should ban cars altogether and have electric buses. Rural communities will still need cars but encourage public (electric) transport and electric bicycles where possible, or walk. We will have to significantly reduce the world's air travel if targets are going to be met
2. Farming - radical change required for many reasons. Probably will come post Brexit. Richard it thinks that without radical change, possibly up to 50% of Herefordshire farmers may struggle. Mixed farming, both arable and grazed farms i.e. multi crop or multi animal on same land
3. Planning - ideal scenario is for all new houses to consider wide environmental standards. Richard's preference is for Carbon Zero/Passivhaus or similar. This needs government and developer attitude change. Little we can do locally to influence this unless the law changes which seems unlikely at the moment

The next workshop was held on Wednesday 5th August from 5.30-6.30 pm. The discussion centred around work that had been undertaken in the priority catchments (none local to Eardisland) to better understand natural flood management, and the talk was specific to these projects which included leaky dams, soil structures, natural retention features, tree planting etc. Primarily focused upon agricultural practise and the problems/solutions around various land uses and preventing flooding/run off (which is a big problem in Herefordshire) by reinstating and creating natural features. But also had some useful ideas about domestic properties, new builds and retro fitting and what might need to be added to NDPs as policies to ensure best drainage and water handling. Some good points for Eardisland NDP review.

Agricultural issues were a big part of the public discussion with many problems identified and possible solutions for this.

Questions were raised about Eardisland from a drainage network position and how we could get involved in any future projects or funding to help our situation. We have been added to the mailing list for further notifications, but we can also contact them for more specific advice. Find out more about the Defra funded River Wye and Lugg Natural Flood Management (NFM) Project(www.herefordshire.gov.uk/nfm), which is working with landowners and communities within the seven priority sub-catchments in Herefordshire, looking at the ways we can use natural processes to slow the flow of water and reduce the flood risk to downstream communities.

HGN has been successful in a bid for funds from a charity and will make use of the funds to develop interactive platforms which will work alongside parish council websites. The locally focused platforms will encourage individual households on their journey towards zero carbon, whilst guiding and supporting the development and uptake of local zero carbon initiatives.

It will trial the project with Fownhope Parish Council in the Autumn / Winter of 2020. HGN will then coordinate with HALC to ensure good uptake for the website around Herefordshire - and then with NALC to extend the offer to parish councils around the UK. It plans to have the platform resource available for local use across Herefordshire by Spring 2021 and request: 'We hope your parish would like to be involved and we would be pleased if you could express your desire to do so as soon as possible in the coming weeks'.

8. Draft to introduce colour coding for each car park and different charging levels as follows:

Work & Stay

(long stay parking for Commuters, day or overnight visitors)

Hereford £1/hr, £5/day, on street pay & display - £1/30mins, £2/1hr, £4/2hrs

Ledbury, Leominster, Ross - £1 & £3

Kington – Free

Eat & Visit

(central parking for workers and visitors)

£1.40/hr, £7/day

£0.80/hr, £4/day

£0.50/hr, £2/day

Stop to Shop

(convenient parking for short stay visits)

£1.60/hr

£1/hr, £6/day

N/A

Various concessions on Sundays, Active Wednesdays, Evenings for Eating and Christmas Presents.

9. Correspondence – as follows:

From parishioners

- Phonecall re discharge from septic tank into river – followed up with EA, already in hand, discharge permit being re-issued to current owner and EA working with landowner to make sure discharge is as clean as possible
- Email in response to PC email that monitoring hedges and trees on Lyme Lane – will keep eye on issue over harvest; wanted to know why not had letter from PC – return email from Clerk explained that would be sent when agreed by Cllrs; also said husband thought PC owned the land
- Email re request to run exercise sessions on recreation ground – has own liability insurance, will be socially distanced etc – agreed
- Email requesting PC to ask for Gigaclear to be brought to parish earlier than planned 2021 date given by HC
- Complaint to Cllr re hedge by entrance to ED7
- Email re use of village hall carpark as overflow for village parking and parking along road through village when village busy with tourists, right down past bridge on Leominster side
- Email from EVHMC re hall drains – kitchen drain flowing very slowly, may be blocked – see 7.2 above
- Email to Vice Chair re issue with application 201651
- Email re overflowing bin (reported online) and broken post on gate on ED7 – walked through 3 fields and came to the gate by the little copse where they are 3 or 4 steps down to it, opened the gate and the gate and post came with them
- Letter re silt on south side of river opposite land owned by PC – see 7.3 above
- Email re hedge at entrance to ED7 – see 7.5 above
- Email re white stones and hedge on Broome Lane – see 7.5 above

From other sources

- From Environment Agency – re discharge into river, as above
- From Herefordshire Council (HC) – information sheet on Annual Canvass
- From Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority – Consultation on draft Community Risk Management Plan
- From Herefordshire Council (HC) – Free Stop online loan sharks training sessions
- From HC – summer activities on WISH website
- From HC – information on Carers' Leave consultation by government
- From Police and Crime Commissioner – annual survey
- From HALC – Information Corner and attachments
- From SLCC – Response to consultation on draft Model Code of Conduct
- From HC – transport strategy review update – moving into final phase of review
- From Locality Steward re footpath enquiry – passed to PFO
- From HC – car park charges review consultation
- From HC – Herefordshire Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) 2020 - Call for Sites
- From HC – local health guidance for village halls – forwarded to EVHMC

Alison Sutton – Parish Clerk

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