

## CLERK'S INFORMATION SHEET FOR 9 JUNE 2022

- 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](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 Rawlison PCSO 07971 051480  
 Report a crime Police 101 Ext 7723802  
**March crime statistics from West Mercia police website**  
*Reported in Eardisland parish – x1 Antisocial behaviour, x2 Public order, x1 Criminal damage and arson, x1 Possession of weapon, x1 Bicycle theft, x1 Other theft, x1 Violence and sexual offences.* Pembridge – x2 Violence and sexual offences. No other information available.  
**Reporting an incident of bad/dangerous driving**, you can report it **at the time or soon after** online and upload a photo or video that includes the number plate details to <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/police-forces/west-mercia-police/areas/west-mercia/campaigns/campaigns/2019/operation-snap/>  
 If a road is blocked by such an incident, **you need to report it at the time to 101.**  
**New service launched by police** – We are delighted to launch Neighbourhood Matters, our brand new community messaging service. Through Neighbourhood Matters you can sign up for local police alerts; receive information about crime in your area, find out about drop-in sessions, answer surveys, and more. You can choose exactly what type of alert you want to receive and how you receive them, whether it be via text, email or phone call. Sign up now <https://neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>  
**Useful numbers**
- Victim Advice Line - 0800 952 3000
  - West Mercia Women's Aid Helpline (available to help all victims) - 0800 980 3331
  - Men's Advice Line - 0808 801 0327
  - The Mix (for under 25s) - 0808 808 4994
  - National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline - 0800 999 5428
  - Samaritans - 116 123
- How fire safe are you?**  
 Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFR) offer a FREE online Home Fire Safety Check. There are around 35,000 house fires and over 300 fire related deaths in Great Britain each year so this could play a vital part in helping our communities and HWFR are asking people to use it. You can access the Home Fire Safety Check on the [Safelincs website](http://www.safelincs.co.uk/). Individuals can request further information and self-refer for a free Home Fire Safety Visit by calling HWFR on 0800 032 1155.
- 4.2 Dear Residents,  
 Hope you are ready for the very special celebrations of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee this week. There are events being held all over the four days across our local parishes as we mark this historic event, reflecting on the past 70 years of peace and prosperity we have enjoyed, and also celebrating our local communities particularly coming through are recent challenges.  
 HM The Queen came to Shobdon Airfield in April 1976, having been at Hereford distributing Maundy money, as part of celebrations of the 1,300th anniversary of the founding of the Cathedral and diocese. The airfield is a regular host to aircrafts of the Queens flight during local royal visits and I think it the only part of my ward Her Majesty has actually set foot on - but I happy to be corrected.  
 As part of the local Jubilee celebrations Her Majesty's representative in Herefordshire Edward Harley will be carrying out a number of engagements in Pembridge on Thursday afternoon. Check your local village websites and community apps for local details, a tremendous amount of preparation and work has been undertaken so please support and enjoy.  
 There have been dramatic changes over the past 70 years in the life and work of our communities and the latest of these is the arrival of superfast broadband with the target for 99% of my ward having access to it by next May. Currently the installation of superfast broadband contract continues in the ward with Gigaclear in Eardisland and the Broxwood element of the Ameley builds progressing at a pace.  
 The Titley contact is also progressing but clearly given the huge area to be covered the design and build is more complex and has been quite problematic. The design phase at Knill and Nash are now completed and building should start soon and providing there are no problems completed in late summer early Autumn. Staunton-Stansbatch has been delayed but again should begin in summer with a later timetable for completion. It is difficult to estimate installing timing but viewing the road closures website is probably the most reliable.  
 Utility Contractors have to liaise with the local authority on any works and closures of highways; so linking onto this connection will give clear notice of expected timetables of installation.

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/roadworks> - link on the live incident maps and they will show red dots which if you click on show the road closure and may be a sounder indicator.

The Council currently has a planning application to expand the travellers site at Turnpike between Pembridge and Shobdon. Working proactively with the council and getting the emerging plans seen and discussed by local Parish councils I had some consensus of agreement. However behind our backs Herefordshire Council significantly altered the plans and submitted them without coming back. The result is a new configuration and entrance on the private highway which carries all Kingspan and Shobdon Industrial Estate HGVs and is a considerable safety issue. I believe that sensitive applications like this need openness and transparency and I'm afraid there seems to be culture in the authority which chooses to disrespect the communities and individuals it's should be serving.

This month I cover the recent visit to the ward of our Director of Economy and Environment, some positive news on the phosphate situation, concerns from our Children's services; highways; plus some local events I have visited, and the usual contact information interspersed with some photos I have taken of the recent splendid display of bluebells in our local woods.

Please forward this update to any residents in the ward who you think may be interested and copy me in . 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

Getting down to business

The recently appointed Director of Economy and Environment Ross Cook accepted my invitation to visit my ward and spend half a day with me going round discussing issues of concerns. Representatives of ten local businesses whose offices are based in my parishes and collectively they employ over 350 local people. Herefordshire Council targets businesses in the City and Market towns and I took the opportunity to demonstrate the level of economic activity in my parishes.

The representatives had strong messages to Ross Cook on recruitment, highways, housing, delays in planning and dealing with the phosphate issue which have had a significant impact on them with the rise in construction costs. One company before the phosphate building moratorium had 70% of its business in north Herefordshire - now its 70% outside meaning extra journeys time and difficulty in maintaining recruitment.

I did not invite my two largest employers Kingspan and Lynhales Nursing homes as they have very specific and targeted requirements, and several businesses were unable to attend.

It is easy to forget in a beautiful landscape like ours that our communities need business, jobs and housing for employees for a sustainable future.

Representatives from Whittern Farms, Pearl Lake & Arrow Bank Leisure parks, Burgoyne's, Corbett Farms, Jacques, Bulmer Paints, Lloyd Engineering, Connops, CXCS, and Tiger Helicopters

Also during the visit I took Ross to the Leen Farm where Chris and Richard Norman showed him the Dairy enterprise at milking time, Poultry units, AD process and viewed the river Arrow and discuss the measures taken to reduce phosphate in the local water courses and local wildlife and sustainable issues.

We also travelled around the parishes inspecting highway conditions, viewed the recent resurfacing in Titley, I pointed out the measures to reduce speeding in the villages and the recent transfer from Balfour back to the council of footpaths and rights of way. We viewed new developments in Lyonshall and the Royal George, Shobdon airfield and Industrial estate, and the Turnpike travellers site.

In Eardisland, flooding, renovation of the Staick House and the transfer of the ownership of the village car park from Herefordshire Council to the community.

As Ross has responsibility for tourism I also took him to Pembridge to see the Market hall and Belfry, Shobdon church but we didn't have time to walk to the Arches. I will be arranging another session aimed at tourism and sustainability later in the year. He joined the Council from Wolverhampton and was previously at Gloucester City council.

Phosphate planning permission freeze bringing to thaw

After nearly three years of a moratorium on granting permission for new houses in the Lugg catchment area, the council is establishing a process that will start to allow permissions to be given. Currently in the system there are over 2,200 house applications including 500 affordable awaiting determination in the Lugg catchment area and it is estimated the loss to local economy to date is in excess of 400 million, with Herefordshire Council missing out on additional council tax, loss of S106 developer funding and New Homes bonus from the Government.

Herefordshire Council is purchasing ground adjoining certain village sewage works in order to build reed beds to filter out the phosphate over 80 years in accordance with a scheme agreed with Natural England. It takes approximately 45 days for the water to flow through the beds and at the end the water is suitable to drink and has had 99% of the phosphate removed. The Council has purchased sites at Luston and Titley and is in the process of purchasing a third. Initial three million pound funding for this is coming from the Government via a grant from the Local Enterprise partnership and diversion of the New Homes Bonus.

Of the phosphate taken out the equivalent of 80% will then be offered to allow applications to be built. From now on any planning application will need to calculate the amount of phosphate it will use via an agreed process with Natural England and purchase a credit from the council. The existing applications in the system will be offered the opportunity on a first come – first served basis.

There will be variations in costs depending where you build. If you are building in Leominster where your property will link up to the existing system which has a phosphate stripping process already fitted you will pay probably only £3,500. But if you are building in a rural area where villages do not have such phosphate removal processes you will pay £10,400. There is much still to be worked on and potential for other independent schemes to be matured but thankfully there is some light clearly at the end of this tunnel.

As you know from my updates phosphates comes from two main sources – Agriculture and sewage outflows. It is important both sectors are active in limiting the levels of phosphate entering our water systems. I have and will continue to work proactively to ensure we get understanding and engagement by all businesses and communities into this problem.

#### Update on Children's care services

Many of you will have been shocked and concerned watching the BBC Panorama programme or listened to Radio 4 about Herefordshire Council's children care services. They identified long established poor practices and procedures involving many children and their families. Regrettably repeated lessons were not learned and their continues to be examples of poor practice even in the last 12 months.

Last year 1100 cases were reviewed with varying degrees of concerns identified. Nationally there is a huge problem with Children's services with a lack of social workers. As a result caseloads per worker increase, difficulties in recruitment mean more agency staff employed and recent high profile national cases such as Baby P in Coventry mean decisions on protection see higher removal of children from family homes.

Last year caseloads per social worker in Herefordshire were running at 40-50, in December were 20-25 with the target being 15. The council is working with Judge Plunkett and ensuring better prepared court papers. The Government are monitoring the quality and direction of the improvement plan, and the council has identified 11.2million additional funding for 2022/23 for the service.

Challenges remain like changing cultures and finding suitable qualified staff but we have to get it better. There are many sensitive issues and vulnerable children in our county and we have to ensure that correct decisions are taken regarding their safety and development.

#### HIGHWAYS

Despite the fact we are now into June the Annual Highway plan for 2022/23 has not been signed by HC and Balfour. I am awaiting some drainage measures in that plan including Curl bridge at Lyonshall and Heybridge subsidence in Broome lane Eardisland. I have requested an inspection of the Offa's Dyke's hump bridge which was installed last year and may need some warning to vehicles passing over it. I still await to hear about the Stop sign at Royal George junction and the damaged milestone in Shobdon.

The Gig Bridge is still closed and I am awaiting a report on if it can be repaired or needs to be replaced. The large quantity of debris trees still lying stuck in the river is a concern and needs to be removed before winter.

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

01432261800. <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes>

[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e3b2b34e/ttjzBlvlfEewR-](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e3b2b34e/ttjzBlvlfEewR-39NN73dA?u=https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole)

[39NN73dA?u=https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole](https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole)

#### Footpaths

[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/bfc12403/ZkrYKa-](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/bfc12403/ZkrYKa-OpU6QLbww4S9Nyw?u=https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prow-problem)

[OpU6QLbww4S9Nyw?u=https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prow-problem](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prow-problem).

[PROW@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:PROW@herefordshire.gov.uk) PROW No – 01432 383 550

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://link.edgepilot.com/s/f452e836/Hy5YWk\\_SgEGkleekL2ROFQ?u=https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/20](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/f452e836/Hy5YWk_SgEGkleekL2ROFQ?u=https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/20)

[0226/report a problem/98/fly tipping](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/20226/report-a-problem/98/fly-tipping)

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)

#### **Local Emergency Numbers**

Environment Agency: 0800 80 70 60 (24-hours) or visit [www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident](http://www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident)

Flood alerts: Floodline 0345 988 1188. Sign up online at [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings) to get Flood Warnings from the Environment Agency by phone, email or text message. If you live by a river or stream, keep a watch on current and expected water levels.

Power cut: Call 105 or visit [www.powercut105.com](http://www.powercut105.com)

BT phone line issues: [www.downdetector.co.uk/status/bt-british-telecom](http://www.downdetector.co.uk/status/bt-british-telecom)

Gas leak: 0800 111 999 or visit [www.wvutilities.co.uk/services/smell-gas](http://www.wvutilities.co.uk/services/smell-gas)

Welsh Water: 0800 052 0130 (Water emergencies) or 0800 085 3968 (Sewer emergencies) or visit [www.contact.dwrcymru.com/](http://www.contact.dwrcymru.com/)

Report a flooded road or highway obstruction – Balfour Beatty Living Places : **01432 26180**

#### 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.titley@pc@gmail.com](mailto:rachaeljones.titley@pc@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)

- 8.1 Work done in May: Strim and remove debris – footpath to church; Strim & remove debris – both sides on one-way road School Lane; Strim & remove debris – recreation ground ditch; Strim, hedge trim & remove debris – footpath to mound; Trim around and clean Road Signs throughout parish & clean up (Check for Nesting Birds); Strim visibility splays; Strim either side of village gates.  
Work due in June: Check Drain Tops and Grips through parish – Clear as required; Clean white lines – Clear as required; Strim either side of village gates.
- 8.10 Email received by web manager – individual who ‘works with some local accommodation in your area and I'm looking to enquire about the process of being featured on your useful links page’. Web manager requests input from PC. When website set up sponsorship was obtained and some local providers do have links/contact details on community website. To charge this individual could be problematic. More information would be required as to which local providers, if the PC wishes to allow this link at all.
- 8.11 Postal redirection will be required. As it is a business the rates are: Up to 3 Months - £216; up to 6 months - £321; up to 1 year - £519.
10. Correspondence – as follows:  
From and to parishioners
- Emails re dog fouling in play area
  - Email re Gigaclear contact
  - Emails re closure of Broome Lane
  - Emails re mowing
  - Email re flag flying
  - Emails re Jubilee bunting
  - Emails and phonecalls re mowing
- From other sources
- From Age UK – Training on Maintenance Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (MCST) for mild to moderate dementia – added as post on website
  - From police – Scam bulletin – added as post
  - From TGC – seminar for PCs
  - From Balfour Beatty (BB) – May update
  - From BB – next virtual meeting invitation
  - From Herefordshire Council – invitation to next Talk Parish meeting

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)