

CLERK'S INFORMATION SHEET FOR MAY 2023

- 8.1 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 Rawlingson PCSO 07971 051480
 Report a crime Police 101 Ext 7723802
Crime statistics from West Mercia police website
February - Eardisland parish 0: Pembridge 2 x anti-social behaviour, 1 x violence and sexual offence: Shobdon 1 x anti-social behaviour 1 x burglary, 1 x violence and sexual offence: Monkland 1 x burglary.
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.

- 8.2 Dear Residents
 A Big thank you to all those of you who took the time to go and vote at the local elections and especially to those who supported me to be returned as your local representative for another four years. Such a level of support strengthens my resolve to continue to work for you all and was particularly appreciated after my recent months of health issues.
 Tomorrow will be the Coronation of the King and Queen and I will be visiting many local events over the next few days .
 I enclosed my annual report for the Parish Annual meetings for your information and despite what I was told the work on the Pembridge 20 mph speed roundels has been delayed – so ignore the previous reference to 9th and 10th being closed – apparently later in the month !

ANNUAL REPORT TO ARROW WARD PARISHES

The delivery of services as a small rural unitary council over a large geographical area is a challenge. The most significant part of the Council's expenditure and council tax is spent on Adult and Children's care services . During the last 12 months the poor performance in Children care services had reached a point where the Government appointed a commissioner to oversee it, and establish an improvement plan. This remains the biggest challenge to Herefordshire Council; as its statutory responsibility to look after the most vulnerable children has huge live changing consequences for individuals. The improvement of this service will require a more stable supported workforce, larger levels of investment and co operation from all partners.
 Nationally and locally the increasing demands of a maturing population are placing pressures on our Adult care services and as the recent census results showed Herefordshire has a higher percentage of over 60s. Although many of these will be self funders and care costs will not be picked up the council, nonetheless it puts pressure on the care service capacity. Although additional funding for care was given to local authority budgets by HMG we still await longer term national proposals on the adult care service.

Herefordshire has over 2,000 miles of public highways and their maintenance is a challenge. There remains for me concerns on the delivery of the highway contract with Balfour Beatty- the councils contractors- on timing and quality of pothole repairs . This year the council took back its Public Rights of Way service but struggled to deliver an effective service for footpaths. Highways is the number one concern on the doorsteps in the ward and I will pick up post election how the extra £2.5 million allocated to Herefordshire in the Chancellor's budget in March is spent. In the meantime the reporting of highway conditions quickly is important.
<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/report-problems-road>

It will be four years this summer since any new house planning applications have been granted in the river Lugg catchment area which includes all our parishes and 40% of the County. After spending over 3 million pound eventually a wetland scheme at Luston has been opened and two other sites purchased. A small number of houses will now be able to be built but there is a waiting list of 2,000 homes in the planning pipeline. The condition of our rivers is an issue and we need to work on improvement and solutions. While a lot of attention has been given to the Agricultural sectors contribution, attention must not be removed from Welsh Water and village sewage works where the higher point source of phosphate is found. The Go Wild in the Curl project ran for six years indicated a reduction in phosphate by 20% but rather than building on the project was dismissed by too many with other agendas. I am supportive of private applications to reduce phosphate and ring fence for their development and believe we should look more openly at phosphate trading and not just controlled by the council. The Lugg catchment is one of many areas with environmental constraints and we must work; learn with and from these others. The impact on our local construction sector has been significant and there are longer term pressures on local housing market building particular on affordable homes.

Despite the freeze on house building the planning department has been problematic for many residents and businesses applying for permission. Lack of staff and expert capacity has created many delays which are frustrating and in inflationary times very expensive. Improvement in performance is essential. The enforcement team carry out regular checks on referrals but there are concerns on a spreading practice of ignoring planning rules.

The expansion of the Travellers Turnpike site remains a concern. The disgraceful manner in which having consulted on plans Herefordshire Council altered them without reference to the community, parish council or myself demonstrates the lack of openness and transparency we have had to endure over the last four years. In these changing times the site lacks sustainability and the new proposed entrance onto the Kingspan private highway with access to the Shobdon Industrial estate increases real risks.

As your local representative I work with officers and colleagues to support the delivery of our services at all levels. In particular I Chair the Rural Services Network which is a lobby group of rural authorities and organisations in England that campaign for and evidence the particular pressures and costs of providing services across a large geographical area. This year we received an increase in our Rural Services Delivery Grant worth over 6 million pounds to Herefordshire.

The Jubilee celebrations last June highlighted the strong community character that exists in our parishes . I congratulate and thank the various organisations and individuals in the ward who arrange activities from one off events, some of a considerable scale, to regular events who do so much for residents wellbeing throughout the year. During the year I arranged my annual summit of our Parish clerks, planning officers, Community Support Officer and Balfour steward. In June I organised a meeting with 10 local businesses and the new Director of Economy and Place – these business alone employ nearly 300 people in the ward. In autumn I held a meeting with the local police chiefs which was attended by over 50 residents and businesses.

I attend as many Parish Council meetings and various ward events as I can during the year, contribute to parish newsletters and some household deliveries. I send out a monthly update by email and would urge residents to sign up to these which keep you updated regularly on Council and local issues.

My thanks to all those of you who have supported me during the last twelve months with a particular mention of my Parish Clerks. I believe in working as a team for strengthening our communities, and improving our social, economic and environmental wellbeing.

It remains a pleasure and privilege to represent you all

ROGER

Potholes - 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-39NN73dA?u=https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole>

Footpaths

<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>.

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/200226/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

Local Emergency Numbers

Environment Agency: 0800 80 70 60 (24-hours) or visit 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 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

BT phone line issues: www.downdetector.co.uk/status/bt-british-telecom

Gas leak: 0800 111 999 or visit 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/

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

PARISH CONTACTS

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

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

Titley Group rachaeljones.titleypc@gmail.com

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

If you have a planning enforcement concern mttansley@herefordshire.gov.uk

- 12.1. Works due in May - Strim and remove debris - footpath to church. Strim and remove debris - both sides on one way road School Lane. Strim and 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.
Works due in June - Check drain tops and grips through parish - clear as required. Clean white lines - clear as required. Strim and remove debris - Lyme Lane ditch. Strim either side of village gates.

14. Correspondence – as follows:

From and to parishioners

- Emails re Coronation

From other sources

- From HC – Talk Parish/Community
- From HC - Planning
- From HC - Elections

Debbie Cottam – Parish Clerk

Westgate, Eardisland, Herefordshire HR6 9AR Tel: 07799 826779 Email: parish.clerk@eardisland-pc.gov.uk