

CLERK'S INFORMATION SHEET FOR
EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 27 APRIL 2017

- 4.1 Safer Neighbourhood Teams work with local people and partners to identify, tackle and solve issues that matter to the community where you live. Your team: PC 3911 Jo ELLIS Mobile 07977 098394; PCSO 6115 Dick ALLFORD Mobile 07968 462523; PCSO 40067 David BODEN 07970 176814.
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
News/Appeals:
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>
- 4.2 Roger Phillips, Email: rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk
My apologies for not sending out an update last month but as many of you may know I have been looking after a relative and he passed away last month. Those of you who have deal with long term terminal care will know the impact it has and I have to say I found the last few months very draining. So if I replied late to you or missed something I hope you will understand. One of the most frequent comments you hear in Herefordshire over the past 30 years is “ when is Hereford going to get a by pass”. Well with the planning permission and national funding in place for the A49 to A465 (Abergavenny road), compulsory purchase orders underway and work scheduled to start in 2018; attention is now on the western bridge crossing and total link up with the A49.
Go on line or visit the Exhibition as advertised below. There is strong opposition to a by pass and diversion tactics of an eastern bridge but I believe the overwhelming majority want one. Now is the time to speak up!
Hereford Area Plan and Transportation Package Consultation Exhibition
The Courtyard Theatre April 4th ,5th , and 6th 11am – 7pm Or online: Herefordshire.gov.uk/HerefordConsultation
The Exhibition will then move to the Hereford Library from Tuesday 11th to Friday 19th May.
You will all have received your Council Tax bills for 2017/18 with additional information from Herefordshire Council on their website. The Bill includes Police, Fire and local Parish precepts set by your Parish Council.
The Parish precepts covers different responsibilities of each parish but some of the increases are due to the picking up some of the lengthsman work that the County Council is withdrawing from. The precepts for 2017/18 are Pembridge £24,000, Shobdon £17,500, Lyonshall £20,000, Eardisland £24,000 and Titley Group £7,500.
I have recently joined Facebook and Instagram so you can keep an eye on me. I posted four weeks ago a photograph of the potholes in Staunton having placed full milk bottles in them. Despite being reported on the 7th February according to the contract they have to deal with by the beginning of April and true to the contract they are being done next week.
I am requesting a rethink on the contract !
In this month`s update I have included the dates of the annual Parish meetings, and cover some of the lobbying and actions I have been involved with in recent weeks including Broadband.
As ever if I can be of any help please do not hesitate to contact
HAPPY EASTER
Roger
Annual Parish meetings
Pembridge – Village Hall Wednesday 12th April 7.30pm
Shobdon - Village Hall Monday 8th May 7 pm
Lyonshall - Village Hall Thursday 10th 7.30 pm
Eardisland - Village Hall Thursday 18th 7 pm
Titley Group – Titley Village Hall 9th May 7.30 pm
Planning
Last month I worked with Titley Parish Council and local residents at the planning committee to strengthen the grounds for refusal on a development in the village. The national planning rules are so in favour of the developers these days that some applicants and their agent do not consult or wish to co operate with communities on their proposals and that is a sad reflection of our times.
Last August working with Eardisland PC we managed to get the planning committee to refuse an application for 5 houses in the village on the floodplain. The applicant appealed against the decision to the Planning Inspectorate and the Inspector found in our favour. The Eardisland Neighbourhood Plan and our robust argument were critical in his determination. It truly showed the power of having a Neighbourhood Plan.
Lobbying
I have been involved in three areas of lobbying in recent weeks. Firstly I am pleased we have received notice of £998,000 for pothole repairs in 2017/18 from the Government and I have also lobbied for any compensation funding from Amey contractors be spent on our highways with Pembridge and Shobdon village resurfacing as a priority. I have responded to the consultation on School Funding and the continued poor support for rural schools including a sparcity factor of 0.08% for our village primary schools which in no away reflects the added costs of delivering rural education. I have been involved with a lobbying campaign to raise the concerns about the impact of social care costs on local government services. It is always a concern for me that everyone recognised the pressures in the NHS but not social care. If you do not invest in prevention services and social care then you have more acute illnesses and bed blocking.
Local Residential Care
I attended a recent presentation on care in Herefordshire . There are 2,000 residential care beds (not hospital) in Herefordshire with 85% of those, 1730 beds being for older people care. (Adults with longer term difficulties account for the 15%) Of the 1730 beds 54% are self funders - people who have over £23,500 of assets.

Herefordshire Council via their social care budget pays for 35% of all beds, NHS 7% and approx 5% are empty at any one time. In the Kington area there are 160 beds and in Leominster area 239 and self funders can pay upwards of £1000 per week. While the Council does negotiate a considerable discount the costs are still heavy on the budget. I am keeping a watching brief on the Council and NHS re negotiating of their contracts to Kington Court.

Broadband

The Council has had a contract with BT to deliver improved speeds of Broadband and many of you will have noticed the difference as the fibre has been installed to local cabinets. The power of BT in this market should never be underestimated and as many of my residents know they do seem to lack accountability. One recent local problem was only resolved by direct contact with the C.EX of BT. After weeks of frustration surprising the matter was resolved in a few hours.

There remains many places in my Parishes which are struggling to get a good service. I have been working with officers on two funding streams aimed at local businesses in hard to reach areas. The first of these roles out in April and the second which has identified one million pounds for Herefordshire comes from EU funding specific for rural areas will come online in June. Even with this money we can't solve all of the premise problems but in particular where there are clusters of businesses we should be able to get significant improvement. If you are one of those businesses please contact me.

HIGHWAYS

Despite having a mild winter with no snow, modest levels of frost and rain our roads are still in a bad state. The highways through Pembridge, Shobdon, Titley and Staunton are appalling and potholes and bad surfaces are so common place. A recent national news item highlighted the serious problem developing on our highways and in particular the C and unclassified highways which are never prioritised. I keep pressing locally and nationally but sometimes it does seem like a brick wall. While respecting the need to prioritise our vulnerable Adults and Children, our ordinary Highways must be seen also as important to the National Economy and social mobility.

Please report any problems on highways or footpaths using the links below or phone 01432261800.

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

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

Parish clerks contacts

Pembridge rebeccabissell.pembpc@gmail.com

Shobdon shobdonparishclerk@gmail.com

Lyonshall rebeccabissell.lpc@gmail.com

Eardisland eardislandclerk@gmail.com

Titley Group rachaeljones.titleypc@gmail.com;

If you want to discuss a planning matter please contact simon.rowles@herefordshire.gov.uk

If you a planning enforcement concern Debbie.Crowley@herefordshire.gov.uk

- 6.1 Lengthsman work in March – Clearing drain tops and gullies, clearing Lyme Lane ditch, Date of next drive-round is Tuesday 6 June at 9.00 meeting in village hall car park.
- 6.2 Footpath Officers – No report really as not much action recently.
- 6.4 Play area – A visual inspection shows no obvious faults.
- 6.5 EIB – The team have been hard at work over the last month and have received favourable feedback for the presentation of the flower borders. New patios have been laid outside of the front dovecote window on which a large planter has now been sited (courtesy of the shop) and at the rear of the dovecote, by the wooden arch, in readiness for a new donated bench, in memory of Greta Pennington. All public beds have received attention over the last few weeks and summer planting will take place towards the end of May. Over the next month it is hoped to create another new patio area opposite Rita's Tea Rooms, on which will be sited another sponsored public bench.
Litter Pick: This took place on 25th March when 13 adult volunteers and 5 children helped to clear up several miles over footpaths, verges and other public areas. It is pleasing to report that probably just half of 'usual' rubbish was collected, although disappointingly this included 20 dog 'poo' bags, discarded in to the hedgerows in School Lane.
- 6.7 Severn Waste and Awards for All applications submitted. Waiting for information from Dave Tristram re Rowlands Trust. Vegetation cleared as emergency to give access to Mayglothing to unblock village hall toilets. Vegetation now needs to be cleared from on top of septic tank as render being damaged.
- 6.8 All the necessary work, as outlined in my report in March, was carried out by Hugh Lowe and Andrew Thomas on Wednesday 12th April. There is nothing outstanding. (This is my non-expert view). Diana Palmer
- 6.9 Dog wardens have been contacted and will attend at relevant times when workload permits.
- 6.11 Extra threshold levels and datum point levels now received. Information now needs to go to parishioners on individual basis.
- 6.12 Email received:
I am emailing to request the use of Eardisland Recreation Ground by Eardisland Twinning Association on Sunday 28th May. This will be as part of the weekend to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the signing of the formal Twinning pact between Eardisland and La Vieille Lyre.
The Association is planning what we are terming a "mini fete", open to the community. Arrangements are still provisional, but are panning out as follows.
A pig roast has been booked and Patrick and Caroline will need to set this up in the morning of Sunday 28th May - we suggest using the grass area outside the emergency door by the children's play area. They have viewed the site with me and believe it to be suitable. For your information, Patrick and Caroline provided the pig roast for our own birthday celebrations last July and the physical set-up will be similar.

With some of the funds raised from recent social events, the Association is planning to offer complimentary pig roasts to as many parishioners as possible (exact number yet to be determined, but it will hopefully be around 80-100) on a first-come basis and a certain number, too, on a similar basis, to owners on the Caravan Site (possibly 20-25). Tickets for these complimentary meals are likely to be signed for and collected from the Community Shop/Caravan Site Reception from the beginning of May. There will also be pig roasts funded by the Association for all guests, hosts and other contributors to the weekend. The roasts are likely to be served from, say 1.00pm. For others who are on the Recreation Ground and who wish to purchase a pig roast, or if anyone would like a second roast, this is likely to be possible too. Vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available.

For soft and alcoholic drinks, the Bowls Club has agreed in principle to staff their bar and to open the club to those with appropriate footwear who want to "have a go". At the same time, we are thinking of organising an international "boules" match on the other side of the fence on the Recreation Ground.

The Leominster Morris have agreed to dance - hopefully on the Recreation Ground if the ground is dry and hard enough, if not, and if it is possible, on the tarmac outside the main door to the Village Hall.

The intention is to invite the community to bring picnics and join us on the Recreation Ground and also possibly any equipment they may have for "garden" games.

This mini fete is likely to last from lunchtime to mid-afternoon (late afternoon at the latest).

The Village Hall is booked for the whole weekend for the Twinning Association, so in the case of wet weather, people can bring their roasts inside to eat and the Morris could also, at a pinch, dance in the Hall. Fingers crossed that this won't be necessary.

The Hall will be used on the Saturday morning (27th) for the renewal ceremony and on Saturday night for the group meal. The French will probably arrive on Friday evening (26th) and depart on Monday morning (29th) from the car park in front of the Hall. If the weather is nice, it could be that people spill onto the Recreation Ground at any time over the weekend when the Hall is being used. Please would you check with the Parish Council that this would be in order?

I hope that the above gives sufficient information to the Parish Council to consider Eardisland Twinning Association's request to use the Recreation Ground, but if you require any further details, please do not hesitate to contact me.

9. Correspondence – received as follows:

- From parishioner – Letter re planning – forwarded to councillors
- From HC – Community Housing Fund event
- From HC – Flyer for Armed Forces Day