

Charlton Cllr ELIZABETH EYRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT May 2022

County Issues

£1.2million pot to help decarbonise public sector buildings across Worcestershire

Got a local highway problem? Before you go on Worcestershire's portal and report the problem why not ask the parish clerk if the parish lengthsman could tackle it. The term 'lengthsman' dates to the 1800. It refers to workers responsible for keeping a particular length of road neat and tidy. The modern role of Parish Lengthsman was reintroduced by Worcestershire County Council to give communities more say in how their local area is maintained. This financial year Broadway is benefitting from a small share of £75,000 extra funding allocated by Worcestershire County Council, across 184 parishes, to pay for the Parish Lengthsmen. The lengthsman does those important smaller jobs for the Parish: ditch and drain clearing, the smaller sections of hedge cutting on the highway, sign cleaning, clearing of gully gates, digging out of blocked gullies on smaller roads where safe to do so -not the faster roads, removal of vegetation, hand gritting of footways/carriageways using County Council grit bins, siding out encroachment of grass onto verges, all sorts of basic maintenance work on footways and highways prioritised by the local parish.

Worcestershire's Health and Well-being Board brings together all the organisations responsible for improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities across Worcestershire. Its members include elected councillors and officers from County and district councils, representatives from Worcestershire Children First, local NHS organisations, the local voluntary and community sector, Healthwatch Worcestershire, and West Mercia Police. It also has a range of sub-groups that focus on specific age groups or geographical areas such as the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and Health Improvement Group. The Health and Well-being Board and its Health and Wellbeing Strategy set the strategic direction for many other strategies, forums, and committees across the Integrated Care System, working with partners to achieve better health and wellbeing for Worcestershire. Its Chairman is Cllr Karen May from Bromsgrove kmay@worcestershire.gov.uk

Worcestershire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee alongside Healthwatch is responsible for scrutinising services relating to local NHS bodies and health services. Its Chairman is Cllr Brandon Clayton from Redditch bclayton1@worcestershire.gov.uk Currently this committee is looking at Health delivery in GP surgeries. Any concerns please email Brandon.

Supporting Ukraine Council leaders across the county have pledged to welcome Ukrainian guests with a 'One Worcestershire' approach, confirmed by a joint statement by Worcestershire County Council and the six District/Borough Councils. They are working together with local communities, using their experience of supporting refugees over the last few years, to ensure the county can offer the best experience to those arriving from Ukraine. Details from central Government have started to be shared on the number of sponsors for 'Homes for Ukraine' and the potential numbers of Ukrainian guests that will be welcomed into Worcestershire. Already several hundred sponsors have been matched to Ukrainian families on the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme, which means the county could be welcoming several hundred guests.

The role of the District/Borough Councils is to carry out checks on the suitability of the accommodation and the welfare of the Ukrainians. This includes providing emergency funding support for each person. The council will also help them to claim Universal Credit or other relevant benefits, if required as well as provide the £350 a month 'thank you' payment to sponsor households, helping Sponsor families to gain the relevant background checks and gathering and mobilising the wider support that may be needed for both sponsor families and guests when they arrive. They are also working to get the children into schools.

The already well-established Here2Help service run by the County Council is evolving to help organise and link up those wishing to offer help to those who may need help or advice. Here2Help will also become the hub for information when families start to arrive and therefore details of how to access support will be included in welcome packs that are being produced. Please encourage anyone who feels they can support in any way to go through Here2Help and fill out the 'offer of help' form.

There is specifically a request for those individuals, organisations or services who can provide practical/emotional support and translation support and are not already registered on the Community Services directory, to register online as soon as possible.

When the guests start to arrive, we will be working closely with them and their sponsor families to understand what additional support they may need in terms of donations from residents and businesses. Libraries in each district have also become hubs for residents to find trusted information about how they can help, access a wide variety of information and will also be locations where Ukrainian families can meet and use our services and we have increased our stock of books that will be useful for our Ukrainian guests.

Local Issues

Flooding resilience – work of the Parish Council. Parish clearing gravels either side of under bridge. **Clearing grit under the bridge – WCC 262**
Nov following visit the engineer confirmed that there is little or no silt under the bridge but there is some bed gravel that appears to have been

washed over from one side to the other, at the downstream end, leaving a small area of scouring on one side and a corresponding deposit on the other. This will be reprofiled as soon as consent can be gained from the E.A. However, it is not a cause for concern in the meantime. The County is only responsible for removing silt from the section of the stream directly under the bridge, not the upstream approach of the downstream section.

Emerging minerals Local Plan

- Delays due to the Planning Inspectorate capacity
- draft copy of the Inspectors' report with WCC for "fact checking"
- Some comments returned to the Planning Inspectorate.
- final report imminent, but no confirmed date from the Planning Inspectorate
- WCC anticipate progressing the Minerals Local Plan with the Inspectors' Report for consideration by Cabinet in May and Full Council in July, - caveat this may change if the Inspectors' Report is not received very soon.

Broadband my understanding is the project is now formally in

Robert has top-up funding, but vouchers should be used first

Asked - Enough signed up for fibre to premises – no more voucher needed?

Boston Lane and Haselor Lane scheme installed.

I add my rider, the state/age/updates of the equipment will still link to outcomes

Bight - Water leaking on road after new house changes, in cold weather ice 20mm thick, Visit by Barry and Richard Cerci – chasing next steps Blocked drains raised as advisory **1163**

Haselor Lane Accident – police matter but checked by Barry and Kieran for learning and damage

772 : Chalton Canada Bank Debris Parish Gang to clear remaining debris on verge and the Canada bank debris - requested.

1159/60 – Charlton Road /Hollies - The road surface is breaking up and the residue is being washed into the drains when it rains – advisory raised in March

1161 – long pothole road edge? not sure where and if Charlton Evesham?

Yew Tree Cottage on the Green to Cemetery why did WCC not claim for damage as across road and work needs doing. Advisory Aug 2018. Barry has found out that a request to try and claim damages was raised but abandoned through lack of information. Driver or vehicle details not supplied? RD has supplied information. WCC may be too late? If the claim cannot be pursued, then the repair will have to be paid for by WCC. Can WCC follow up on the claim if not what is the timescale for repair

Merry fields Meeting 15th March Closed work done

New Footway discussion – Dovecote to the Church – member enquiry #107 and 474

Dovecote Footway joining up with the footway outside the Church some years ago was not acceptable to WCC as they could only fit full-width footways and to do so would leave the road too narrow. Car's parking, car doors hitting the wall, the narrowness of the road are all issues. KH visited the site 7/10 listed wall between the Dovecote and the Church. There appears to be a missing old verge, now worn away. Parish Chairman and residents discussed with KH. Chasing Monday.

Request to Highways

- Who does verge belong to?
- Can there be a betterment of the verge either as a footway to the same width as the existing verge or with grass and appropriate reflective posts?

BB 31/12/2021 I've spoken with Kieran Hemstock who informs me that consideration was being given to parking restrictions at this location. These were not fully supported or desired. A suggestion of bollards was also not supported. I've raised a service request with the TIC Team to survey the possibility of a short section of a new footway from The Dovecote to the church. They will survey MARCH 2022 Service request number 1175296

Footway and road Maintenance - Tree roots also causing damage to the road and footway in 3 areas

- **The Dovecote**
- **Footway between Ryden Lane and The Dovecote** WCC 259 incl. the crescent shape.
- **Footway from Yew Tree Cottage, on The Green to Cemetery**

BB has been in contact with the WCC Footway Team who are beginning to list footway and siding out works for the future.

Given these areas are in the vicinity of the areas where the tree root work needs to be undertaken in Ryden Lane it would make sense if it was done at the same time.

The footway team has prepared a plan for footway resurfacing at The Green which will include the section near Ryden Lane that has been affected by tree roots. As soon as he has a quote, he will let us know.

Footway, B4084, siding out Hampton to Brook Lane about 2700 metres. Member enquiry # 49 Two sections being done from Pull in Cropthorne to wards Hampton and Fromm Hampton towards Cropthorne – this May

Haselor Lane Weight limit request not supported: Based on the data, Heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) accounted for 1.29% of total traffic. (HGVs are those vehicles over 7.5 tonnes). County Council policy for the consideration of weight limits is that HGV traffic must make up at least 5%+ of total traffic as this figure potentially indicates a significant 'rat running' issue. The average daily volume of vehicles using Haselor Lane was 1858. As a comparison, the average daily volume on 'C' classified roads in Worcestershire is 2829. **Based on the results a weight limit would not be considered appropriate.**

A46 – see attachments