

I am a member of the Cabinet Team as ‘Cabinet Support for Health & Wellbeing’ as of 1st August.

This will be in addition to my role as the Ward Councillor for Kerne Bridge. I will be supporting Cllr Felicity Norman: Cabinet member for Children & Families and Cllr Pauline Crockett: Cabinet member for Adults & Wellbeing. This role draws on my ‘pre-Herefordshire life experience’: a senior public health practitioner and planner, community development/management consultant for local, national & pan-European charities/consortia and being a central government Think Tank Adviser.

Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor Parish (G&WB)

- **TRO 77:** the TRO to reduce the speed limits in Goodrich remains at no. 77 (out of 112) and I have received **complaints from local businesses and residents about cars parking blocking the road near Kerne Bridge**. These issues are not in isolation because over the past 12 months, I have been having many conversations with many different Herefordshire Council Officers, Directors, Cabinet members and BBLP about inappropriate parking in certain areas in the ward and this area will be added to the list.

Re: speed restrictions: the central government provided addition funds to the local authorities in May 2020 for Covid-19 measures (temporary traffic regulation orders = TTROs) to encourage walking and cycling, which includes putting 20mph speed limits being put in place (refer to the Leaders Report). Sadly, Tranche 1 is predominantly focused on the city and it is expected that Tranche 2 will be focused on market towns. At the Extraordinary Full Council on Tuesday 4th August, because there are so many complaints about these measures in the city, I asked that they give them to my ward because – “we want them” and alerted Councillors to the outstanding TRO 77 request (which was made on 15th June 2014 and was incorporated into the programme in January 2015). My statement has been followed up by an e-mail.

Since May 2020, I have been many demands for TTROs in my ward because - and especially since lockdown has lifted - the number of visitors and tourists into the ward has significantly increased as has antisocial behaviour (including littering) and irresponsible parking. TTROs in key areas (including Goodrich, Leys Hill Junction and Whitchurch) would help support local businesses and improve the lives/safety of residents, visitors and tourists.

For interest: Leys Hill Junction Group is considering non-legislative measures to reduce speed using the Community Commissioning Model (see WPC report below)

- **C1258:** surveys have been carried out by BBLP to identify future works to support/prevent erosion of the road next to the river bank
- **Outstanding:** investigating ‘whose’ responsibility is it to clean up area near the bridge of A40 Highways England); on-going conversations with a local resident re: SEN transport; awaiting legal response to a Private Rights of Way issue in Goodrich
- **My full report** includes what I am doing in the other Parishes and in Herefordshire Council: please go to: www.wagpc.org.uk and click on the link to ‘Ward Councillor’

Walford Parish (WPC)

- **WA1:** Thanks to Cllrs Evans and Drummond for their involvement/liasing with key stakeholders. The path and footbridge have been reinstated

- **BBLP funding for drains:** WPC has missed out on funding because its Lengthsman Scheme isn't currently registered with BBLP. However, with flooding in recent memory, is there a willingness in the WPC to register its Lengthsman Scheme with BBLP to obtain future funding and/or to have a proactive approach to clearing storm drains and ditches through a 'Drains and Ditches Project' by a) identifying drains and ditches on a Parish map, b) creating a scheduled work programme and writing to local householders and landowners to clear riparian ditches before BBLP cleans out the drains/gullies (through a local communication strategy?) and c) linking this work programme/project to the Resilience Strategy/Plan to mitigate flooding in the Parish? I am discussing this point at the Environmental Working Group in August because this proposal has been activated by e-mails received from residents (points 6, 7 & 8b). Since the WPC mtg on the 29th July, I have since received another complaint about blocked drains on Walford Road.
- **Feedback on specific planning applications where WPC objected:** a) **201303 BBQ shelter:** I requested Landscape Officer report and b) **P201554/J Felling of Yew Tree:** I queried the Officer and his manager for not including WPC comments, writing a report before the decision date and for no delegated decision. I received an explanation from the Officer's Manager on those three points including reassurance that "... evidence submitted as part of the application that there was sufficient evidence to suggest the tree was diseased and in decline. He has requested planting of a replacement yew tree".
- **Leys Hill Junction (speed restriction of 20mph):** I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr Bill Cansdale's involvement in leading this project. BBLP is involved and advising us on a way forward. I have been pursuing a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order to ensure the safety of local residents and those visiting the area when accessing the canoe launch, Kerne Bridge and local businesses such as B&B, pub, canoe companies etc via the road and associated footpaths (including permissive footpaths)
- **Environmental Health (EH) has been involved in the parish.** No breach was found and no further action will be taken by EH Officers. This is a sensitive issue for all concerned and consequently, I do not want to discuss the details in public
- **Water leak on Deepdene (HC BBLP & WW).** Welsh Water has fixed the main leak on the road. However, there is water running at the side of Yew Tree Cottage that is coming from a spring and a blocked ditch/drain in front of Bramble Cottage
- **Blocked drain on top of Howle Hill (corner of Church Lane):** WPC Lengthsman wasn't able to clear the drain. Thanks to Cllr Cole for informing BBLP because they have managed to clear the blockage. After talking to the BBLP Locality Steward on 20th July, we are awaiting a heavy rainfall to see impact of those works.
- **Conversations and communications with residents:** a) outstanding **HGV sign on Howle Hill** – another large vehicle travelled to the top end of Church Lane and as it was unable to manoeuvre. Consequently, it needed to access/turn using a local household driveway. A complaint has been sent to the WPC from the householder; b) follow-up on **flooding of local property;** c) **horse drawn carriages** racing towards The Dam/turning down towards Suff Lodge
- **Kerne Bridge Launch – Access to Toilets:** I've been informed by Herefordshire Council Officers that a Risk Assessment will be carried out on the toilets to identify liabilities. Once

these liabilities (if any are identified), would WPC be willing to consider taking on the liability because Riversea Holdings is taking on many responsibilities re: cleaning, cost of electricity and water etc? This issue has been raised by Officers and residents because there is a possible environmental health risk if toilet facilities are not provided whilst a mobile food unit provides drinks and food on site

- **Outstanding:**
 - Increase in dog litter on Howle Hill (awaiting information from Parish Council on costs). Update: since June 2020, I have received no further complaints on dog litter in the Parish
 - HGV sign on Howle Hill at the top of Church Lane (see point 8)
 - Formal Complaint re: accident on WA39 (awaiting 'what constitutes a safe bridleway surface' from a group of local horse riders and British Horse Society)
 - Closure of WA50 (this is being picked up by BBLP in September)
 - Kerne Bridge Launch site (recycling/ecological responsibilities in contract)
 - Water running down Deepdene (see point 6)
 - WA25 Bridge (Cllr Evans)

Whitchurch and Ganarew Parish

- **Drains and ditches:** BBLP has checked, and where possible cleared drains and ditches at the junction of slip road at Ganarew/ junction on A40 and another junction opposite Woods of Whitchurch. However, waiting for Highways England to 'do their bit' (see outstanding)
- **Communications** from residents about **acid smoke from the Stoney Hill Industrial Estate:** I have escalated to Environmental Health and **demolition of blue asbestos Nissan huts @ Brookside:** Health & Safety Executive have been notified
- **Talk Community Hub:** members of the Parish Council met Karen Stanton, the Talk Community Hubs Project Manager for South and West Herefordshire. A Hub will enable the local community to draw down key funds and hands-on support to enable local people and businesses (eg. Keeping the Community Connected Project). For more information: <https://www.wisherefordshire.org/keeping-well-staying-healthy/how-to-become-a-talk-community-hub/>.

Outstanding:

- **Speed restrictions/parents worried about children walking/cycling to Memorial Hall from Ridgeway via Llangrove Road;**
- **animal welfare/puppy farming concerns at a property in Whitchurch + Monmouth Recycling facilities being closed to Herefordshire residents;**
- **Highway England matters:** chasing up flooding in heavy rain on slip road at Ganarew/ junction on A40 and another junction opposite Woods of Whitchurch;
- **'Keeping the Community Connected Project'** with the Good Neighbours Scheme to enable vulnerable/self-isolating to connect to their immediate local community through the internet re: access to food, essential supplies, health & social care, car share scheme etc.

Across the Three Parishes

- Having continued conversations/correspondence with BBLP, Highways and Transport, and Highways England re: flooding, drains, potholes, road surfacing and footpaths/bridleways across the ward
- Commenting on every planning application in the Parish and investigating those where the Parish Council and/or residents have expressed concerns
- Connectivity – continue to walk and cycle across the three Parishes. Identifying issues and notifying the appropriate Parish Council, Footpaths Officer, BBLP PROW Team Leader and BBLP Locality Steward

Herefordshire Council (HC):

1. See updates from the Leader, individual Cabinet members and the attached report from the CEO on Covid-19 situation in Herefordshire
2. E-Committee, e-Council and e-Cabinet meetings are working well and will continue until Sept. Because of my new role on Cabinet, I have stepped down from the Planning & Regulatory Committee but remain on the Audit & Governance Committee, AONB Joint Advisory Committee, Health & Wellbeing Board Covid-19 Working Group and Re-thinking Governance Working Group plus, when necessary, sit on the Standards Panel + Sub-licensing Panel