

### Did you know ...?

The **Wye Valley AONB Management Plan (2021-2026)** is a document you can refer to when making representations on planning applications. [https://www.wyevalleyaonb.org.uk/?attachment\\_id=1868](https://www.wyevalleyaonb.org.uk/?attachment_id=1868)

**Children's and Families (C&F):** There is significant change taking place within the Directorate from the recent judgement from Mr Justice Keehan including the employment of an Interim Director and additional Assistant Director to focus on safeguarding practice. The findings revealed in the judgement have been shocking and upsetting for all concerned. Details of the judgement can be found via the Council's website (Full Council Extraordinary meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> April).

**Councillors need to be physically present in meetings as from the 7<sup>th</sup> May:** parish councillors and Herefordshire Councillors in England are to be physically present in meetings in order to vote. This ruling is not equal across all elected members as it excludes MPs. A significant number of Herefordshire Councillors have raised their concerns with MPs (incl. central government advisers) and the Local Government Association that this ruling contravenes current Coronavirus Restrictions (which have been put in place to protect public health) and the Equality Act 2010. Herefordshire Council is asking for legislation that allows for hybrid meetings. Further information: <https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/lga-responds-high-court-judgement-holding-online-and-hybrid-council-meetings>)

### Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor Parish (G&WB)

- **Correspondence with/from residents:** i) surface flooding on B4229, ii) rubbish not being collected in Symonds Yat East, iii) queries on individual planning and enforcement, iv) land boundaries/responsibilities on safety issues
- **Outstanding:**
  - B4229 – **still** awaiting report from BBLP
  - Speeding traffic in and around Goodrich
  - S106 (**still** waiting for it to go on the website to see allocation)  
<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/local-plan-1/section-106-planning-obligations/3?documentId=928&categoryId=200185>)
  - TRO 77 (85)
  - C1258 - it's on the public realm worksheet for 2021/22 😊
  - awaiting legal response to a Private Rights of Way issue in Goodrich
- My full report is published on [www.wagpc.org.uk](http://www.wagpc.org.uk) - click on the link to 'Ward Councillor'

### Walford Parish (WPC)

- **Correspondence from residents:** i) concerns on specific planning applications and queries about enforcement, ii) flooding and BBLP (lack of engagement), iii) lack of information on (parish council) candidates; iv) mobile home/caravan occupancy
- **Outstanding:**
  - Highways:

- Unsuitable for HGVs signs
- Leys Hill Junction
- WA50 (enforcement)
- WA25 bridge
- Pavement from Mill Race to Church
- Low frequency hum
- Awaiting WPC's response on:
  - Speeding in Walford – update on the community project to train local volunteers to detect/monitor speeding?
  - Kerne Bridge Launch site (recycling/ecological responsibilities in contract)
- Member of the **Flooding Sub-Group** (linked to the Parish Council's Safety & Environmental Working Group)

#### Whitchurch and Ganarew Parish

- **Correspondence with/from residents:** i) poor state of BOATs and byways; ii) WC1, iii) update on footpath to school, iv) queries on planning applications and enforcement
- **Outstanding:**
  - Poor state of carriageways on The Doward
  - Speed and traffic restrictions - parents worried about children walking/cycling to Memorial Hall from Ridgeway via Llangrove Road;
  - Highway England matters: awaiting action on flooding in heavy rain on slip road at Ganarew/ junction on A40 and another junction opposite Woods of Whitchurch
  - C1257

#### 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 + continuing to walk and cycle across the three Parishes.
- Commenting on every planning application in the Parish and investigating those where the Parish Council and/or residents have expressed concerns
- Being a Facilitator/Advocate for parish residents/Clerks/Parish Councillors and raising/following through issues to the appropriate Officers in Herefordshire Council

#### Herefordshire Council (HC):

1. **Paul Walker, the new Chief Executive** is in post.
2. Carrying out my role as **Proxy Councillor** for a planning application in Linton parish

3. **Covid:** there is an automated **Herefordshire-focused dashboard** to give local residents a quick and easy way to access the latest picture of Herefordshire statistics on Covid:

<https://understanding.herefordshire.gov.uk/health/covid-19-weekly-summary/>

4. Attached is the **monthly Newsletter from the Leader** which outlines updates from individual Cabinet members
5. E-Committee, e-Council and e-Cabinet meetings are working well and will continue – hopefully as a hybrid - for the foreseeable future. In addition to my ward work - my **current portfolios include** Cabinet Support for Children’s & Families (children experiencing care/Voice of the Child/Corporate Parenting) and Adults & Communities (public health, talk community, food sustainability); Devolution (parish councils); Audit & Governance; Rethinking Governance (planning); Wye Valley AONB Joint Advisory Committee.