


**CLERK'S INFORMATION SHEET FOR
THE MEETING OF MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL ON 10 FEBRUARY 2020**

- 4.1 West Mercia Police Safer Neighbourhood Team – PS Gareth King, PC Bart McDonagh, PCSO Skye Jenkins

Get in touch

 **101** to talk to your local SNT/report a crime

 herefordrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

 www.westmercia.police.uk

 /  @HerefordCops

Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger. If you would prefer to report a crime anonymously please contact West Mercia CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111. For all non emergency reports please call 101. For all other enquiries please email herefordrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Recent alerts

Danger of potholes that are not visible in wet conditions as they are full of water. A pothole on the B4224 near Caple recently claimed 5 cars!

Visits to Sutton recently over speeding concerns – the police are out with radar guns.

- 8.1 No work in January as grit bin check cancelled by PC.

Response from Locality Steward to queries raised at PC mtg on 13 January:

1. C1120 near Old School House - flooding has been reported many times and 'Flood' boards have been put out - please can you confirm that this site has been passed to the Land Drainage team for some permanent solution to be found to the recurrent flooding –
2. C1125 at Small Ashes - flooding has been reported and 'Flood' boards have been put out - please can you confirm that this site has been passed to the Land Drainage team for some permanent solution to be found to the recurrent flooding
Points 1 and 2 have been passed to land drainage as system collapses are reported by jetting crews. Signage is on site at both locations to warn drivers of the standing water. The water by the old school house has receded over recent days but with the amount of rainfall over recent weeks water tables are very high which is exacerbating the problems.
3. Cutting grips - please can you confirm that Balfour Beatty (as Highways contractor) is responsible for the clearing and recutting of all the highway grips draining water from the highway to ditches, throughout the parish - and therefore the parish council do not need to commission the Lengthsman to recut grips – *Confirmed BB are responsible*
4. Reporting potholes for repair - I have been instructed to request that you provide a list of potholes you have reported for repair during your routine or other inspections and visits to the parish, with a timescale for repair for all defects reported. *I visit the Parish on numerous occasions throughout any given week and may report numerous defects on those inspections. It would not be an efficient use of my time to report on every defect I inspect. To put this in perspective I may log 200-300 defects on a driven annual inspection and these may all have different timescales for repair.*

Further email sent to BB contact point: The parish council appreciates Phil's time is limited. However we would now like to ask for someone in BB to provide statistics from your monitoring system which should be easily accessible. If the data that Phil collects is input to a system and is categorised by severity and thus time to complete, parish rather than exact location, and date recorded, simple analysis could be provided to each parish.

Currently the Clerk can spend a lot of time each week going onto the online pothole and road defect progress map each week and getting data such as: 'Job number 41227345, Type Potholes, Category Carriageway, Status In progress, Defect date 15/1/20, Completion date TBC'. However this does not tell the parish when the pothole is likely to be filled and additionally, the parish would have to be prepared to pay for her time each week to do this research.

Therefore we would appreciate your response with how quickly you can start to provide us with this weekly data for the parish, which should be easily retrievable from your logging system.

- 8.2
- 1) Awaiting reply from Marden Court Farm with regard to replacing last 2 stiles with gates on MR24 up to Sutton Walls and/or stile on MR45 Marden to Church
 - 2) The locked gate/stile/access issue on MR21 by chapel has been passed over to Phil Pankhurst the Balfour Beatty Locality Steward
 - 3) Still trying to track down owners of field for MR32 & 18A with regard to replacing stiles with gates
 - 4) Arranging to meet with manager at S&A Davies about way marking PROW more clearly and about ploughing over problems on MR22 and southern end of MR5
 - 5) I have sent a report on the feedback on PROW questionnaire to Marden News and Views for publication.

- 8.3 List of banners and requirements:

Current banners:

Quiz Night x2 – one held by group member, one by Clerk

Marden Family Race Night x1 – held by group member

Race Night x2 – held by Clerk, need overprint with new website

Table Top Sale x1 – held by Clerk

Superseded x3 – can be DIY painted on reverse – held by Clerk

Needed:

Race Night x1 – £25 for overprint – from 2019-20 budget

Marden Summer Fete x2 – new – £60 each – from 2020-21 budget, church requested to pay for one and PCC will consider at February meeting

VE Day 75 x2 and Italian Night x2 – use back of 4 and DIY paint

- 8.4 Maintenance required on parish notice boards:
- At end of Church Lane – post is loose and frame needs varnishing
 - Main bus stop by Rudge Grove – some new pinboard needed and frame needs varnishing
 - Burmarsh – frame needs varnishing
 - The Amberley – frame needs varnishing but suggest left as will be removed/re-sited when conversion of skittle alley done
 - The Vault – frame needs varnishing
 - Urdimmarsh at entrance to Urdimmarsh Farm – vegetation needs cutting back and frame needs varnishing
 - Kitten Gate by start of The Vern – vegetation needs cutting back and frame needs varnishing.

- 8.6 Request by WI for small system just for WI.
System suggested by PC – QTX QX15PA portable system with 2x handheld wireless microphones and integral USB/SD/FM media player, retractable trolley handle and rear wheels provide easy portability; mains or internal rechargeable battery - £215, from Astounded.com who take purchase orders and cheque payment from local government organisations.
Would be PC property for use by any parish organisation or event.



- 8.7 Complaint is under investigation by Community Protection team from Herefordshire Council Environmental Health Department. No information available at present.
- 8.9 BT box now set up as Marden PC Public Rights of Way Information Point:



- 8.10 Email received:
My name is Ian Archer and I'm The Courtyard Trust's Chief Executive & Artistic Director. I am contacting all of our Parish Councils to tell you about our exciting capital development of The Courtyard called **Transform The Yard** happening this Spring/Summer 2020 and to ask you to consider supporting it because the changes will enable our charity to serve Herefordshire's communities for many years to come. If you are Clerk to several Parish Councils, please could I ask that you share this information accordingly?
The Transform project, estimated at £1.5 million including £200k refit of the new areas (forming the Public Appeal), has been many years in the planning and is a truly unique and one-off opportunity to future proof this wonderful arts venue and charity for existing and future residents and visitors. With a strong emphasis on accessibility, more capacity in the Café Bar, adaptable new performance, rehearsal and social spaces, we will be able to offer new artistic and community projects, as well as generate additional income to protect our bottom line against rising costs. This, in turn, will help our charity protect existing ongoing community arts and education programmes so that future generations can access everything we love and enjoy about The Courtyard today!
Highlights of the project include:
- 1 a newly created multi-function performance and rehearsal space at first-floor level
 - 2 a retail space showcasing the best of the arts and crafts in Herefordshire and housing the Box Office
 - 3 an extended Café Bar and Mezzanine
 - 4 a new outdoor terrace at first-floor level, offering wonderful new spaces for everyone to enjoy
 - 5 a fully accessible new entrance
- To find out more about the project, please log onto www.courtyard.org.uk/transform-the-yard
I'd also like to emphasise that, during the 16-week build, it will be 'business as usual' as far as possible, with full programming in the evenings and films programmed in the Main House during daytimes, as well as classes and activities in other spaces and a Café Bar service whenever possible.
It would be fantastic to have the support of your Parish Council in whatever way possible eg with a donation from existing funds or via the latest Precept, just as so many did when The Courtyard was first built with amazing community support. There are four public donor levels: Principal Cast £10k+; Stage Manager £2,000; Core Creative £300+; 2020 Transform Club £20+. All supporters (at 2020 Transform Club level and above) will be able to include their name on a special donor

recognition wall within one of the new spaces. And there will be build completion events for donors/supporters in the late autumn, hopefully around late October/early November time.

8.12 Email from Bartestree with Lugwardine PC:

At a recent Planning Committee meeting (despite reassurances given at the review meeting on the 6th November 2019) Kevin Bishop advised that the Bartestree NDP carried "no weight" as it was over two years old. Subsequently, the relatively new, and possibly less experienced Planning Committee passed the controversial application for 8 dwellings, outside the settlement boundary despite the parishes already having exceeded their minimum housing targets until 2031. The Parish Council have submitted two formal complaints regarding this and the painfully non-existent efforts to review the Core Strategy. Should these complaints not be dealt with properly the PC intends taking the complaints to the ombudsman. We have outlined both complaints below and are asking if your parish would like to join us in complaining - firstly to HC and then to the Ombudsman - to add weight to the seriousness of the matter.

Differences in Bartestree with Lugwardine (BWL) NDP with Marden NDP – BWL NDP contains a policy on infill and windfall development and one on development in the countryside; Marden NDP does not have either and leaves proposed development in open countryside (ie. outside the settlement boundaries for Marden, Burmarsh, Litmarsh and The Vauld) to be considered against Herefordshire's Core Strategy and national policy.

9. HALC subscription for 2020-21 is £764.70 +VAT.

10. Currently the Clerk is not enrolled in a pension scheme as she did not meet the statutory figure requiring automatic enrolment and in addition, she would stated that she did not wish to take up the option of being enrolled in 2017 in a pensions scheme. The Clerk has now received notification about re-enrolment in a pension scheme due later this year. In the last quarter paid, the salary just reached the statutory figure requiring automatic enrolment in a pension scheme (due to large number of CF hours for the December event) but she would still have the right to opt out of any scheme, once she was formally enrolled – enrolment would involve finding a pension scheme, setting up systems and paperwork and contribution from the PC as well as the Clerk. As the Clerk still does not wish to be enrolled in a scheme, on the advice of The Pensions Regulator, the re-enrolment date has been postponed until after the next salary is paid, at which point it is very unlikely that the Clerk would meet the target figure for automatic enrolment. Thus saving the performance of having to set up a scheme and then opt out of it.

11. **Correspondence – significant items received as follows:**

From parishioners –

- Email offering to stand for co-option – advised process likely to be considered at March meeting

From other sources –

- From Herefordshire Council (HC) – Hereford Transport Package and South Wye Transport Package decision
- From Courtyard Theatre – request for donation
- From Bartestree with Lugwardine Group PC – re complaint about planning and NDPs
- From HC – re extinguishment of MR45A (part)
- From Pensions Regulator – re-enrolment and re-declaration duties – on advice of Pensions regulator, action postponed until after April salary paid
- From Herefordshire Hub – February newsletter
- From Keep Britain Tidy – Great British Spring Clean 20.3.20-13.4.20 – Freighter and litter pick on 25 April
- From HC – Letter re Hereford Transport Review – go to <https://travelinhereford.commonplace.is> to give your views

Alison Sutton – Parish Clerk.

Tel: 07789 322771. Email: parish.clerk@mardenherefordshire-pc.gov.uk

Marden Parish Clerk takes no responsibility for the accuracy of reports submitted for inclusion in this briefing sheet