

GREAT WITLEY AND HILLHAMPTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

9.11.16

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

1. Tesco's in Tenbury

You will all be aware of the rapid progress that Tesco's are making in the building of their supermarket. The frame is complete and the roof will be going on this week. The company is anxious to get the store open as soon as possible and their ideal timetable would see that happening at the end of February. It is not clear yet whether they intend to complete all their car park work and the refurbishment to the riverside path before the store opens.

We have been in communication over the Public Realm work that will run from the bridge to the Regal cinema. While they are keen to get on with this work, we have imposed an embargo until the start of the New Year, to see that there is no disruption to the Christmas trade and festivities.

It now seems likely that Tesco's will proceed with their section, and then WCC will fill in the gap from Crow Corner to the Regal, once the Tesco section is completed. That is subject to agreement as it may be that both sections could proceed at the same time without too much disruption.

Transport Regulation Orders (TROs) will cover the changes to parking and the bus stop and they involve a period of consultation with the police and the public.

Shropshire council will supervise the widening of the splay at the junction of the A456 and Teme Street, to allow a separate left turn lane at the junction.

2. VAS in Great Witley

I was very annoyed at the inadequate deployment of the VAS in the village, as part of the planning conditions on Bloors' developments. They were the wrong sort in the wrong places and seemed to be set to measure in the wrong units.

After consultation with MHDC and our highways people, a better scheme has been agreed. This will involve a solar powered installation on the north side of the A443 near the school warning sign for westbound traffic. There will be a solar powered sign to the east of the A451 turning, probably on the south side, and a third one near the layby opposite the Hundred House, both of these being for eastbound traffic.

All three will indicate that the 30mph limit has been exceeded, but will not show the actual speed of the traffic. It is expected that the battery powered machine that is deployed in rotation will be mounted on the A451 for westbound traffic, when it is the time for Great Witley.

3. Eastham Bridge

An artist's impression of the new Eastham Bridge has been published. The steel girders that support the carriageway will be unpainted and move to a subdued orange colour as it weathers, as with the Hoobrook Link road bridge in Kidderminster.