

*MINUTES  
of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
held at 5 Russell Square, High Street, Broadway,  
on Thursday, 12th December 2013, at 7.00 pm*

PRESENT: District Councillor B. Parmenter (from 7.35 pm), Councillor D. W. Folkes (Chairman), Councillors Dr. R. Clements, Miss D. Hardiman, Mrs. A. Locker, N. Robinson, Mrs. R. Rogers, Mrs. S. Stephenson, Mrs. J. Stock, J. Williams, Mrs. C. Wilson  
Also in attendance: PC Pegler/West Mercia Police, Evesham Journal, two representative of Broadway Trust, and one member of the public.

- (1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: County and District Councillor Mrs. Eyre, Councillor F. Penny
- (2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None
- (3) PRESENTATION OF BROADWAY COMMUNITY AWARD 2013: The recipient of the 2013 Community Award was Mr. Roger Bailey, the organiser of the annual Broadway Horticultural Show, and a cheque was presented to him by the Chairman for £100 which Mr. Bailey wished to be donated to Help the Heroes. His name will be added to the list of previous winners on the plaque which hangs in the Lifford Hall. Mr. Bailey thanked the Parish Council and said he was humbled and honoured to accept the award.
- (4) POLICE REPORT: PC Pegler reported that since the last meeting there had been ninety-six incidents in the Broadway area, ten of which resulted in crimes with the remainder being mainly anti-social behaviour. The crimes included one non-dwelling burglary, two house burglaries, six road traffic incidents (three on Fish Hill), and an increase in shoplifting mainly during the two late night shopping events. PC Pegler also reported that he and CSO Schoenrock had been very active in the village and would continue throughout the Christmas and New Year period. Councillor Dr. Clements reported that PC Pegler had recently visited Broadway First School and she wished to convey the thanks of the school to him as the visit was very informative and thoroughly enjoyed by all the children. There were no further comments and the Chairman thanked PC Pegler for his attendance.
- (5) MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24:10:13  
Proposed by Councillor Miss Hardiman, seconded by Councillor Miss Wilson, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013 were unanimously approved, and were duly signed and dated as a true record.
- (6) COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS: A copy of County Councillor Mrs. Eyre's report was circulated to all members, and included items on planning, new homes bonus, library, local highways and flooding issues, and bus

services. The Clerk highlighted the subject of flooding and had circulated to all councillors the latest update from the Environment Agency regarding the Badsey brook scheme.

There were no issues raised from councillors to be passed on to Councillor Mrs. Eyre.

(7) CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

The latest issue of PARISH MATTERS had been received, and items covered included Budget Consultation results, withdrawal of Food Waste collections, South Worcestershire Development Plan, available Grants, and Council Tax. A copy was circulated to all councillors with copies available in the Parish Council office.

The Parish Council was asked by the District Council to put forward a nomination for the annual Diamond Jubilee Community Recognition Award, and councillors were in agreement to nominate Mr. Roger Bailey, winner of the 2013 Community Award. The Clerk was instructed to forward the nomination before the closing date on 03:01:14

Mrs. Joan Parfitt, organiser of the Parish Games for Broadway, advised that Broadway was ninth overall out of a total of thirty-four parishes, and reported that at the annual presentation evening held in Ettington she was presented with the runners up trophy for the ladies darts tournament. Broadway was also semi-finalists in the Dominoes and third in the Bowls tournaments. Mrs. Parfitt advised that she would be willing to continue this role in 2014 if that was the wish of the Council. This offer was gratefully accepted and the Clerk was instructed to write a letter of thanks to Mrs. Parfitt notifying her of this decision.

Worcestershire and Gloucestershire County Councils issued an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to reduce the speed limit to 40 mph along Leamington Road from its junction with the Broadway by-pass to a point 122m south west of its junction with Field Lane, Willersey.

The County Council was proposing to save £3M currently invested in providing subsidised bus services across the county, and the matter was being consulted upon until 17:01:14. Members of the public were encouraged to participate in this consultation by completing a questionnaire available on the Worcestershire County Council website. Details were also available at the Parish Office. After discussion, the Parish Council instructed the Clerk to register its objection to this proposal.

The County Council submitted two options for the installation of yellow lines in Station Road, the first option being lines with 8.00 am to 6.00 pm restrictions on both sides of the road from the junction with Cheltenham Road to the access road to Ridgeway Farm, and the second option to extend the lines to the railway bridge. After discussion, the Parish Council agreed unanimously to Option 2, and the Clerk was instructed to advise the County Council of its decision accordingly.

The mowing contract was due for renewal and the Clerk was instructed to request tenders for this work after which the matter would be discussed by the Finance Working Group and recommendations made to the Council.

As instructed, the Clerk contacted the Fire Authorities and a public meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> January, at the Lygon Arms, commencing at 7.00 p.m. It was a priority that all residents wishing to oppose the closure of the fire station should complete the questionnaire on the website [www.hwfire.org.uk](http://www.hwfire.org.uk) or copies were available at the Parish Office. Alternatively, letters of objection could be sent to the fire authority at Worcester before the closing date of 10<sup>th</sup> January.

As previously agreed with the budget the following annual donations were made – Broadway Newsletter £500, Broadway Parochial Church Council towards the cost of the upkeep of the graveyard £1,000, Evesham and Pershore Neighbourhood Watch Association £100, Signpost £250, Broadway Tourist Information Centre £500, Evesham Volunteer Centre £500, and Wychavon Citizens' Advice Bureau £250.

(8) APPROVAL OF BUDGET: The Finance Working Group held a meeting on 03:12:13 at the Parish Office to review the proposed budget for 2014/2015. The Clerk fully explained the proposed figures and after discussion, and with some amendments, the Group wished to recommend approval. Copies of the budget were circulated to all councillors. Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Stephenson, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Stock, it was unanimously agreed to approve the budget.

Regarding the setting of the precept for 2014/2015, the proposed budget included an increase of £1,500 to the precept. The District Council had indicated it may be prudent to await the outcome of the decision on the Council Tax Base for 2014/2015, due to be approved at the District Council Executive Board meeting to be held on 07:01:14, prior to submitting the precept requirement of the parish to the District Council.

(9) REPORTS OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND GROUPS:

*Visitor Management Group* – a meeting was held on 04:12:13 when the following items were discussed:

Mr. Ed. Dursley from the County Council gave an update on signage throughout the village and concerns had been raised regarding the size of the new brown signs which depended on the number of letters and the speed limit of the road, and as both museums had long names the overall size required is correct. Consideration would be given to relocating the sign in Cheltenham Road to further back along the road, and it was suggested that the signs would appear less obtrusive once they had weathered and also with new growth of the hedgerows next spring.

Replacement of the signs in Cheltenham Road was being pursued and some de-cluttering of other signs had already taken place with updating/removal of further signs to take place over the coming months, together with new village entrance signs.

Updating of wooden finger posts and the installation of two new posts had been costed, and it was hoped to commence this work next spring.

It had been reported there was likely to be reductions in the number of toilet attendants, and it was agreed that this was an important issue and that alternative funding may need to be found if this service was to be maintained. Details of any changes would be forwarded to the Clerk when available.

The Tourist Information Centre had amended its opening hours on Sundays to 11.00am to 3pm in line with those of the Gordon Russell Design Museum which had proved to be very effective in increasing numbers.

The date of the next Visitor Management Group meeting will be held at the Parish Office commencing at 10.00 am on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**P.A.C.T** – a meeting was held on 03:12:13 at the Parish Office when there were no issues raised from the face-to-face surveys with residents. The Police reported that a number of business premises had been targeted by teams of shoplifters for high value merchandise, and in response the police were to maintain their presence and had also parked a police vehicle in the High Street to act as a deterrent. Although not a problem within Broadway it was highlighted that garages, garden sheds/outbuildings etc. should be securely locked and all tools and equipment forensically coded. The next meeting would be held on 18:03:14 at the Parish Office commencing at 7.00 pm.

**Finance Working Group** – the following matters were discussed at the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December :-

**Funding Applications:**

**The Bowling Club** had applied for funding to replace the ditch surrounds and the ditch fill, and for new scoreboards, at a total cost of approximately £4,000.00. Parish Council members had previously been invited to look at the facilities and proposed developments at the Club. It was proposed by Councillor Miss Hardiman, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rogers, and unanimously agreed, to recommend a grant of £1,500.00.

**The Cricket Club** was proposing improvements to the players' showers and wash and toilet areas in the pavilion at a cost of approximately £5,900.00. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Stock, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rogers, and unanimously agreed, to recommend a grant of £1,500.00.

Mr. Simon Williamson from **Broadway Arts Festival** made a short presentation updating the plans and budgetary figures for the event which would take place from 30:05:14 to 14:06:14. The Arts Festival had made a bursary available to local young people within the WR12 postcode and had given a grant of £500 each to four successful applicants during the year. It was proposed by Councillor Miss Hardiman, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Locker, and unanimously agreed, to a grant of £2,000.00 to cover the cost of the bursary awards, and £1,500.00 to cover the art competition.

**Other funding requests** had been received (a) to assist with the cost of resurfacing the footpath between Morris Road and Back Lane, and the footpath between Kennel Lane and the Veterinary Surgery, and (b) to assist with the enhancement of the wooden fingerposts around the village. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Stock, seconded by councillor Mrs. Rogers, and agreed with one abstention to recommend a grant of £500.00 each.

The Parish Council had previously agreed to restoration work to the War Memorial and had accepted a quotation from Allard & Son of £1,564.00. In order to complete this work in time for next year's celebrations of the centenary of the start of World War I. The Clerk asked if councillors were agreeable to fund the entire cost rather than await the grant from the War Memorial Trust which would cover fifty per cent of the cost. Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wilson, seconded by Councillor Robinson, it was unanimously agreed to fund the entire cost.

The Clerk advised the committee that the contract for the supply of electricity to the Parish Office was due for renewal. After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wilson, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Stock, and unanimously agreed, that the Clerk be authorised to undertake negotiations regarding a better price, or a change of supplier.

At a previous meeting of the Parish Council concerns were raised regarding the suggestion of a sandpit being installed in the Activity Park as a replacement for the balance beam and an alternative choice was required. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Stephenson, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rogers, and unanimously agreed, that as an alternative product a children's table and chairs be recommended which was within the budgeted figure.

As former Vice-Chairman/Councillor Haslam had resigned due to ill health, and as he was a signatory on the Bank account, it was recommended that the Chairman of the Finance Working Group, Councillor Mrs. Stephenson, be added as a signatory. Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Stock, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rogers, it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Mrs. Stephenson be named as a signatory to the Bank account.

A review of both the salaries of the Clerk and Assistant Clerk had been undertaken, and proposed by Councillor Mrs. Stock, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wilson, and carried unanimously, it was recommended that the salary of the Clerk be increased by one per cent as agreed by the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks, and the salary of the Assistant Clerk be increased by 50p per hour.

(10) PLANNING:

At the last meeting the Clerk was asked to follow up the withdrawn application regarding signage outside Luke's Restaurant in the High Street, and the Planning Department have advised that a new planning application is in the process of being submitted.

The Parish Council made representation at the Planning Committee meetings held at the District Council offices in Pershore regarding the applications relating to land at Leamington Road, Kingsdale Court and Springfield Lane. The outcome was that Leamington Road and Springfield Lane were deferred, but Kingsdale Court was approved.

Regarding the application for Leamington Road, the western half of the development site was originally shown in the Wychavon Strategic Flood Risk assessment as being a flood Zone 3B – the highest risk where no development should take place – but just prior to it going to committee the Environment Agency suddenly changed it to Zone 1 – the least risk. The Broadway Trust, in conjunction with the Springfield Lane Association, wish to obtain an independent report to review the flood zone assessments

and to receive advice on the risk of surface water run-off should either the Leamington Road and/or Averill Close sites be permitted. The conclusions of this report may have a heavy influence on the planning decision. An experienced consultant has been identified to carry out this report at a cost of £1,800 plus VAT, and after discussion it was unanimously agreed to meet this cost which would include a contribution from Broadway Trust.

**MEETING: 24:10:13**

**Applications W/13/02105/PP and W/13/02120/LB** **MR. A. DAKIN, Russell Court, Lower Green**  
Demolition of existing stone garden wall to be replaced with new hedge and erection of new garden arbour.

The Parish Council raised no objections to this application

**Application W/13/01921/PN-** **STYLE & CODRINGTON FAMILIES, land adj. to Springfield Cottage, Springfield Lane**  
Erection of five dwelling with landscaping, vehicular access and all associated works

After public consultation the planning committee wished to withdraw its original comments made on 14:10:13 and objected to this application for the following reasons - (a) the site is in the Broadway Conservation Area and is adjacent to the Cotswold Area of Natural Beauty; (b) this development would cause loss of views, open spaces, trees and hedges; (c) the site has also the potential to flood; (d) access to the site is via Springfield Lane which is a private road; (e) the entrance to Springfield Lane is at an increasingly busy junction with Back Lane which gives access to Budgens' supermarket and Lygon Arms Hotel, and exit from the Doctors' Surgery, and any increase in traffic would create more danger to the public.

**MEETING: 11:11:13**

**Application W/13/02159/PP** **MRS. D. THOMPSON, Rose Garth, Springfield Lane**  
Single storey rear extension

The Parish Council raised no objections to this application

**Application W/13/02212/CU** **MR. W. HALL, Barnfield Mill, Childswickham Road**  
New chalet park as approved under planning permission W/12/00841/ET but without compliance with Condition 10 requiring the mobile units to meet the definition of a caravan.

The Parish Council raise objections to Condition 10 being lifted and reiterate their comments forwarded to you on 08:12:08

**Application W/13/02224/PP** **MR. & MRS. THOMAS, 4 The Old Coach, High Street**  
New bay window to front elevation and replacement of window above.

The Parish Council raise no objections to this application

**Application W/13/01921/PN** **THE STYLE & CODRINGTON FAMILIES, land adj. to Springfield Cottage, Springfield Lane**  
Erection of five dwellings with landscaping, vehicular access and all associated works -

**Amendment:** reduction in site boundary and amended access  
The Parish Council raise objections to this application and wish to reiterate their comments made in a letter dated 28:10:13

**Application W/13/01671/PN** **REDROW HOMES MIDLANDS, land between Springfield Lane and Averill Close**  
Erection of seventy dwellings incorporating vehicular access from Averill Close, earthworks to facilitate surface water and foul water drainage, landscaping, car parking and other ancillary and enabling works. **Amendment:** site location plan and others

The Parish Council raised objections to this application and wish to reiterate their comments made following a planning meeting held on 23:09:13

## MEETING: 25:11:13

**Application W/13/01780/PN** MR. R. ALBUTT, land adjacent and Wjthybrook, Childswickham Road  
Demolish existing dwelling/carport/stables and erect replacement dwelling with garage and altered vehicular access, parking and turning area and replacement stables for private use  
The Parish Council raised no objections to this application although concerns were raised regarding the issue, of consistent flooding and foul water in this area

**Application C/13/02403/OL** WESTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION plc, land at Fish Hill  
Installation of new free-standing terminal pole plus upgrade overhead line between this pole and transformer pole, plus laying of underground cable.  
The Parish Council raised no objections to this application.

## Wychavon Approvals:

Application W/13/01962/PP – Mr. C. Lee, Three Ways, Springfield Lane  
Erection of wall to 1.85m high with five 2.1m high pillars – amendment to wall approved under application W/11/02575/PP  
Applications W/13/02120/LB and W/13/02105/PP – Mr. A. Dakin, Russell Court, Lower Green  
Demolition of existing stone garden wall to be replaced with new hedge and erection of new garden arbour (LB consent)  
Application W/13/02004/PP – Mr. B. Blundell, 8 Gordon Close  
Sunroom to rear  
Application W/13/01960/PN – Mr. & Mrs. Warren, Cherry Dene, Evesham Road  
Proposed replacement dwelling  
Application W/13/02159/PP – Mrs. D. Thompson, Rose Garth, Springfield Lane  
Single storey rear extension  
Application W/13/02224/PP – Mr. & Mrs. Thomas, 4 The Old Coach, High Street  
New bay window to front elevation and replacement of window above

## Wychavon Refusal:

Application W/13/02212/CU – Mr. W. Hall, Barnfield Mill, Childswickham Road  
New chalet park as approved under W/12/00841/ET but without compliance with Condition 6 (restricting the development to holiday use only).

## (11) SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS/RECEIPTS from 09:10:13 to 30:11:13

<i>Payments:</i>	verified by the Clerk together with two nominated signatories	<i>net of VAT</i>
Worcestershire County Council / pension contribution		424.90
Unicom / telephone-internet		63.92
Clarke Cross Builders / general maintenance		115.00
Colwyn Thomas / activity park maintenance		411.25
Abbey Forestry / tree maintenance		261.76
Royal British Legion / remembrance wreath		16.50
Cotswold Security / office security maintenance		89.00
K. Beasley / Clerk's salary / October		1,201.38
G. A. Tomkins / Asst. Clerk's salary – October		524.90
Orchard View Nurseries / plants for planters		36.00
GBD (Evesham) Limited / mowing contract		631.20
Wychavon District Council / refuse collection bin		97.20
Worcestershire County Council / pension contribution		424.90
Unicom / telephone, internet		57.33
Kompan Limited / activity park maintenance		108.35
Grassroots Garden Services / activity park maintenance		312.00
Cotswold Building Supplies / activity park maintenance		61.13
Vale Press Limited / office stationery		19.99
Worcestershire CALC / Clerks' gathering		10.00

Broadway Traders / annual donation	500.00
Broadway Communicaton Group / annual donation	500.00
Broadway Parochial Church Council / annual donation	1,000.00
Evesham and Pershore Neighbourhood Watch / annual donation	100.00
Signpost / annual donation	250.00
Broadway Tourist Information / annual donation	500.00
Evesham Volunteer Centre / annual donation	500.00
Wychavon Citizens' Advice Bureau / annual donation	250.00
Hentland / office fire extinguisher service	54.26
E-on / office electricity /	168.81
E-on / village green electricity	47.14
K. Beasley / Clerk's salary / October	1,201.38
G. A. Tomkins / Assistant Clerk's salary / October	467.80
Vale Press Limited / office stationery	30.00
Celwyn Thomas / activity park maintenance	192.50

**Receipts:**

Lloyds Bank / gross interest	4.29
Sketts & Co / donation re Broadfest	150.00
Worcestershire County Council / lengthsman scheme	160.00
Lloyds Bank / gross interest	5.21
Badsey/Childswickham Parish Councils / VAS sign insurance contribution	38.91
Cash / dog foul bags	25.00
Wychavon District council / Christmas lights grant	500.00
Broadway Tourist Information / contribution to signage project	250.00

**(12) COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:**

Councillor Mrs. Locker asked for thanks to be given to Mr. Graham Love from Broadway Trust for all his hard work and commitment regarding the recent planning applications. This was acknowledged by the Parish Council and on their behalf the Chairman thanked Mr. Love.

Councillor Robinson reported that the events sub-committee of the Traders' Association had recently met and had agreed to support the Italian Market next year which would be held on the first Bank Holiday in May. It is proposed to develop this into an Italian week-end with many more attractions throughout the village in support.

The Clerk asked Councillor Robinson, as Chairman of the Traders' Association, if the two late night shopping events were successful, and was informed that both events were well attended and well received.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40 pm and opened the PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION:

Mr. Peter Reading, who had retired from the Fire Service eight years ago following forty-three years service and had recently retired from Government as a Fire Safety Engineer advisor, had attended the meeting in order to report that he had been approached by the local fire station to assist with the objections to the proposed closure of Broadway Fire Station. His request for permission to present his views/comments to the Parish Council was granted by the Chairman.



He had not realised that the scale of changes which the Community Risk Management Plan had proposed were so severe and radical and never before could he remember such cuts, meaning that twenty three per cent of all front line first response units were being cut in one fell swoop equating to ten of the forty-three appliances in Hereford and Worcester.

He asked the Parish Council to support a formal letter of complaint he was writing to the Chief Fire Officer and Chairman of the Fire Authority stating that they had failed in their statutory duty to carry out a proper and meaningful consultation with the community and requesting that the Fire Authority extend its consultation period. He was also in contact with other fire stations proposed to be closed asking for similar support so that a much more open and transparent discussion could take place.

He referred to a previously commissioned report which stated that there were substantial savings to be made in "back office" so that "front line" services could be maintained, and a further suggestion was that fire authorities should merge and, therefore, back in the 1970's Hereford & Worcester should not just have combined together but joined with Warwickshire and Shropshire to form one larger fire authority. Similar merges had taken place in other areas of the country and it was evident, therefore, that such savings could be made.

In summary, to save the threat of risk to life and also to the wonderful and historic buildings located in Broadway, the need for a fire appliance in situ was paramount.

Research by Mr. Reading had showed that the Fire Authority had not delivered a single document to the residents of Broadway with no documents/questionnaire response forms in the library, doctors' surgery, or post office, and no consultations had been made with local villages such as Snowhill and Willersey. These were very serious matters and Mr. Reading felt that a wider and open discussion was required, and an examination made as to why the Fire Authority failed to take into account the recommendations of the previous reports.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Reading for his informative presentation and the Parish Council unanimously agreed to write a letter in support of his complaint to the Fire Authority.

Mr. Vincent of Broadway Trust confirmed that details regarding the closure would be circulated to all trust members in its Christmas letter.

The Chairman finally closed the meeting at 8.00 pm

*Date /Time Next Meeting: Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014, at 7.00 pm*

**Broadway Parish Council Report County and District Councillor Liz Eyre  
December 2013**

**Summary of the month**

**Planning:** Kingsdale Court application was disappointingly approved. However Leamington Road and Springfield Lane have both been deferred. I am lodging more objections on highway grounds to Springfield Cottages and responding re Leamington Road.

**S106** – monies for the benefit of the village have been approved, in principle, in relation to the Kingsdale Court application.

**New Homes Bonus** – The recent Chancellors announcement was a sigh of relief – no top slicing - councils get to keep their new homes bonus.

**Broadway Library.** A feasibility group is meeting. I am trying to clarify points for them and assist re fund raising.

**LOCAL HIGHWAY AND FLOODING ISSUES**

**Flooding:**

**New flood storage area in Broadway** – a meeting has taken place to update all parties. The proposed scheme, a flood storage area upstream of the Cheltenham Road, currently estimated to cost approximately £3 million will have its costs reviewed following the completion of detailed design in March 2014.

The Severn and Wye Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) showed their continued support for the scheme by providing indicative local levy funding for the next two years, although this will be confirmed in January 2014. They decided to commit further local levy money to the bid, £222,500 in 2014/15 and £222,500 in 2015/16, to maximise chances of receiving the national grant in aid money.

Fund raising is still continuing locally. Council is producing a newsletter to residents.

**Work in Progress:** Sewage and water quality issues with Severn Trent

**Culvert following meeting 8<sup>th</sup> October agreed action points:**

- DVD of 15/11/12 camera survey to National Trust.
- (County Council to construct manhole to allow camera access under NT land and to deal with the blockage under the verge: start January, complete manhole and remove blockage by March/April.
- County Council to assess the costs of alternatives to the existing culvert, namely a) an open ditch (b) twin 900 mm pipes parallel to existing culvert. Timescale: by March/April before next meeting March /April.

**Station Road proposal for yellow lines** Option 1 and 2 awaiting Council's decision

### **Working with traders on issues**

- Applications for Licences for tables and chairs on the highway
- Additional parking spaces between 6.00pm and 6.00am
- Broadband

For any proposal consultation would follow and the views of the Parish Council would be sought.

### **Oct request to the Parish Cllrs to rank small pieces of highway work needed – nothing received yet. Carriage way and footway repairs – delegated budget 2013/14 and 14/15**

I have around £1890 to spend this year and next. Could the parish council please identify and prioritise its small areas needing work in the light of the information below?

- footway reconstruction to 100m depth - 50 sq. m costs around £1700
- footway reconstruction to 250m depth - 50sq m costs around £1890
- carriageway reconstruction to 100m depth – 95sq m costs around £1700
- Carriageway reconstruction to 650m depth - 65 sq. m costs around £1700.

I have also asked officers for the planned works schedule for my Division.

### **Tight financial constraints**

Worcestershire County Council is considering a 1.9 per cent increase from April, adding around £29.49 to a band D household.

### **Bus Services**

Almost 88 bus services in county (43) routes are facing their bus subsidy being removed. With a £100 million saving plan over the next 3 years the subsidy of £3 million is unaffordable. This is the start of the process. There is a consultation. Please feed back to me any thoughts around any routes that affect you. It is worth noting only 20 per cent of bus services in Worcestershire are subsidised, 80 per cent are commercial. This link will lead you straight to the best site for a response: <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/transport-and-highways/transport-review.aspx>  
Let me have your views?

**Fire Service Consultation:** to bring to the attention of the Council that neither the MP nor myself have received any letters on this subject. I have received a few emails but no additional information from the service to present a case on their behalf.

### **Quality children centres**

Two popular children's centre in the Vale, the Orchard and Spring Vale Children's Centre in Evesham and the Blossom Vale Children's Centre in Pershore, have been rated 'good' in Worcestershire's first ever group Ofsted inspection. The group inspection, which also included WANDS Children's Centre in Droitwich, was one of only five nationally to achieve this grade since the inspection framework was introduced in April. Managed by Worcestershire County Council, the centres provide a range of activities and support services for families with young children.

**Homelessness** I am looking at the homeless provision beds and support in the County for Children and young people assuring myself reduction in funding will align stream of work rather than reduce services.

**Minerals Local Plan out for consultation:** please let me have your views.

**Xmas Parking** Measures to help traders at this time: Parking in short stay car parks in Evesham, Pershore and Broadway is free after 3pm, or 20p on selected festive dates.