

## SEDGEBERROW PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY** held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present Cllr's Mrs M Pratt (Chairman), Mrs S Morris (Parish) Mr R Hunt (Parish), Mr J De Paris (Parish), Mr C Devereaux-Little (Parish), Mrs E Eyre (County). Ms J Shields (Clerk), Mr M Parker (SESEME), Mr M Kelly and Martin Rowe (County Council Officers), Mr J Williamson (ICG), Mr I Cameron (A46 petition), 37 Sedgeberrow and 1 Hinton on the Green residents,

### **1. Welcome and introductions.**

The chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr M Pratt, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr A Stow (Parish) and Cllr G Mackison District).

### **2. Approval of the Minutes of the last Annual Parish Assembly on 3rd March 2016.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016, were agreed as a true record and signed.

### **3. Chairman's Annual Report.**

The Chairman gave her annual report. Enc.

### **4. County Councillor's Report.**

Cllr E Eyre gave a report. Enc.

### **5. District Councillor's Report**

Was read by the clerk. Enc.

### **6. Local Police Report.**

Was read by Mr R Hunt. Enc.

### **7. Presentation from Worcestershire County Council Transport Strategy Team.**

A presentation plus a Q and A session was held, which was very informative.

### **8. Other Reports/Updates**

#### a) A46 Access Petition.

Mr Ian Cameron spoke about his frustration with the lack anything being done regarding the North side junction of Sedgeberrow with the A46. He presented his petition to Cllr Eyre. Cllr Eyre is working with Highway's England to get a short term solution.

#### b) Sedgeberrow Sustainable and Manageable Energy (SeSaME). Enc

#### c) Isbourne Catchment Group. Enc.

#### d) New Homes Bonus. Enc.

The meeting agreed to the three proposal being part of the application.

Parishioners were asked to nominate the one they felt the most important.

**9. Any other matters raised by Electors, preferably reported to the Chairman prior to the Meeting.**

Q. The surface dressing of Main Street has left a pooling of water when it rains.

A. This should be reported to Worcestershire highways.

[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report\\_it](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it)

Q. The telephone box looks terrible.

A. The paint has been donated by Mr Thomas and it is to be painted in the better weather.

Fly Tipping – Should be reported to Wychavon.

<http://swict.malvern hills.gov.uk/flytipwdc/>

Q. Can there be a footway to connect the bus stop with Churchill.

A. This has been asked for on many occasions the latest being in January as part of 7M being invested in rural footway.

The chairman made the meeting aware of various items for consultation and information leaflets.

SEDGEBERROW PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – WEDNESDAY 8th MARCH 2017

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017

The Parish Council held 6 meetings during the year, with up to 15 minutes being allowed at each meeting for village residents to ask questions and raise issues for future consideration.

The village War Memorial has been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest with a Grade II listing and was featured in the May edition of Britain at War magazine.

The Jubilee Play Area had an annual inspection by the Children's Play Advisory Service and received a good report. The very old swings have now been removed and replaced with new swings that comply with modern standards. £2,000 of the cost being provided from the New Homes Bonus allocation.

A litter pick around the village took place in September and the bursary of £200 awarded by the Parish Council was shared between SeSaME and the Flood Group. Grateful thanks go to all who took part for doing such a good job.

The Parish Council accounts for 2015/16 have been audited by Grant Thornton on behalf of the Audit Commission, and an unqualified audit opinion given. The Parish Council has raised a precept for 2017/18 of £10,600, which includes a Government Council Tax Support Grant of £547. This results in a slight increase of 47p to the Parish Council portion of the Council Tax charge for a Band D property.

The Parish Council contributed towards Rate Relief for the Queen's Head. A donation was made to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and a poppy wreath laid at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of village residents. The Parish Council has given a donation of £1,000 to the Isbourne Catchment Group towards the study undertaken by the University of Gloucestershire. Donations of £1,000 each have been given to the Village Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council towards the upkeep of Glebe Meadow and the Churchyard. The Parish Council covered the cost of the hire of the village hall for the Queen's 90th Birthday celebration and for the hire of the tables and chairs for the Street Party.

There has been an annual review of the Parish Council's Financial Regulations, Risk Assessments and Insurance Requirements.

The Parish Council has arranged for the Notice Board to be re-varnished and for the Bus Shelter to be repaired and re-painted. The Telephone Kiosk is to be cleaned and re-painted when the weather is more suitable.

Many highway matters have been dealt with during the year, these include HGVs passing through the village, speeding, a traffic count, possible weight restrictions, possible white village entrance gates to calm traffic, the access onto the A46, overhanging trees and hedges, also potholes and blocked highway drains. Cheltenham Road and Main Street have received a surface dressing and

Sandfield Lane has been patched. A 30mph roundel has been painted on the highway at the entrance into Winchcombe Road.

The Parish Council has been pleased to appoint Paul Mahony as Footpath Warden for the village, but someone is still required to operate the portable pole mounted Vehicle Activated Speed Sign.

The Parish Council has continued with the County Council Lengthsman Scheme and Martin Woodhouse has been contracted as the village Lengthsman to deal with highway and footway problems. Grass cutting in the Jubilee Play Area and around the War Memorial has been carried out by Neil Waters of New Look Solutions. Martin and Neil are thanked for their work in the village during the year. Thanks also go to all the village residents who have kept the verges and areas in front of their properties in a tidy and attractive condition.

SeSaME was nominated by the Parish Council for the 2016 Wychavon Intelligently Green Awards and at the Awards Ceremony at Pershore College, SeSaME was announced winner of the Community Group category and at the end of the ceremony it was announced as the overall winner of 2016.

The Parish Council is investigating the possibility of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan to cover any future building development and to register the Queen's Head as an Asset of Community Value. Also, following the closure of the village shop, the Parish Council is looking at the possibility of opening a community shop.

A new Transparency Code has come into force and the Parish Council has complied with this code by publishing its Agenda, Minutes and Financial Statements on the 'Sedgeberrow' page of the County Council website. Regular reports have also been published in Sedgeberrow Post and on the Sedgeberrow website.

The Parish Council has dealt with a variety of correspondence, complaints and enquiries over the year and has responded to several consultations and reviews. The Parish Council has also been consulted on the following Planning Applications:  
(List attached)

In the 2016 Wychavon Parish Games the village entered only 2 events, these were - Angling and Cross Country. The Angling team were successful in winning the contest and have regained the trophy. Sedgeberrow finished up in 20th place out of 27 parishes and thanks go to everyone who took part and supported the village. It is hoped that village residents will consider entering more events in this year's Games.

During the year, Parish Councillors have attended various events, meetings and training sessions. These include County Association of Local Council Meetings, Wychavon Sport Meetings, Worcestershire Parish Conference, Police Meetings, Flood Warden Meetings, SWDP Briefings, a Clean Green and Safe Places Event and New Councillor Training.

I would like to thank the representatives that have been appointed by the Parish Council for all that they have done for the village during the year, and to thank our County Councillor, Liz Eyre, and our

District Councillor, George Mackison, for attending the Parish Council meetings and providing reports, and for the help and support that they have given to the Parish Council during the year.

Finally, I thank my fellow Councillors and Parish Clerk, Jackie Shields, for their help, support and friendship during the year.

**SEDGEBERROW PARISH COUNCIL**  
**PLANNING APPLICATIONS 2016-2017**

<b>CASE NUMBER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>DECISION</b>
W/15/02836/CU	Sandfield Farm Sandfield Lane	Temporary change of use of yard from agriculture to mixed agriculture B1 and B8 (retrospective)	Pending decision
W/15/02838/PN	Hill View Nurseries Sandfield Lane	Erection of proposed multi span poly tunnels, single poly tunnels and glass housing	Approved 13/04/2016
W/16/00484/PP	Springfield House 91 Main Street	Proposed lounge extension and first floor ensuite	Approved 11/04/2016
W/16/00569/RM	Land off Winchcombe Road	Erection of 8 properties with access and landscaping. As approved under W/15/02155/RM without compliance with Condition 5 (approved drawings)	Refused 22/04/2016
W/16/00524/GP D	12 Main Street	Notification for Prior Approval for proposed change of use of Grocery Store (A2) to 1-bedroom flat (C3)	Refused 28/04/2016
W/16/00630/PP	Closebourne 47 Winchcombe Road	Stable block consisting of 2 stables, tack room and hay store	Withdrawn 14/04/2016
W/16/00608/PP	The Frickles 107 Main Street	First storey room above study	Approved 27/04/2016
W/16/00862/PP	16 Cheltenham Road	First floor side extension and single storey side extension	Approved 02/06/2016
W/16/01002/PN	Closebourne 47 Winchcombe Road	Stable block consisting of 2 stables, tack room and hay store. For equestrian use	Approved 10/06/2016
W/16/01012/CU	Sandfield Farm Sandfield Lane	Change of use of part field for siting of log cabins for use as farm class-room. Change of use of woodland to mixed forestry and educational use and farm staff rest facilities	Approved 11/08/2016
W/16/01334/LUE	Sandfield Farm Sandfield Lane	Lawful Development Certificate for use of an area of land as commercial storage and distribution	Withdrawn 04/08/2016
W/16/01351/AB	Sandfield Farm Sandfield Lane	Application for Prior Notification to erect agricultural shed for fodder,	Withdrawn 20/06/2016

		straw and fertiliser	
W/16/01461/RM	Land off Winchcombe Road	8 new dwellings as approved under W/13/0200/OU and W/15/02155/RM without compliance with Condition 5 (change list of approved plans)	Approved 01/08/2016
W/16/01666/PN	Sandfield Farm Sandfield Lane	Proposed general purpose agricultural storage building	Approved 24/08/2016
W/16/01682/PP	50 Main Street	Demolition of part of dwelling and side timber framed sheds, construction of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension and car port. Addition of front block paving	Approved 07/10/2016
W/16/01907/PP	13 Cheltenham Road	Rear extension to house and conservatory	Approved 29/09/2016
W/16/02000/PP	Wilmar 9 Winchcombe Road	Erection of first floor extension	Approved 28/10/2016
W/16/01890/PP	The Dairy Sandfield Barn	Single storey side extension	Approved 26/10/2016
W/16/02041/PN	West End House Barn Lane	Construction of timber stables and haybarn	Approved 09/11/2016
W/16/02520/PN	Adj. Closebourne 47 Winchcombe Road	1 no. two bed live/work lodge	Withdrawn 03/01/2017
W/16/02458/PN	West End House Barn Lane	Construction of 1 detached single storey bungalow	Approved 14/02/2017
W/16/02772/PP	3 The Yard	Proposed 1.1/2 storey extension to the rear of a grade 2 listed building and replacement of existing 3 bay car port	Refused 01/03/2017
W/16/02773/LB	3 The Yard	Proposed 1.1/2 storey extension to the rear of a grade 2 listed building and replacement of existing 3 bay car port	Refused 01/03/2017

## County Council

Sedgeberrow March 2017 – Annual report.

It's been an enormously busy year. Social media, texting, emails means the role of a County Councillor is now almost 24/7.

On occasions I am sorting out housing or social care issues, parking or planning enforcement for residents. Late at night it's the concerns of younger people for their elderly residents and care issues that are dominant.

I keep the electorate and parishes updated through Facebook, by attending Parish Council meetings and emailing residents. Sometimes I use the very helpful local magazine run by Mike Parker. I understand my reports go on the parish website.

Key issues at the moment are

Flooding: I gave a good portion of my divisional budget to help match fund the EA's contribution so the investigations in to the Isbourne catchment area could go ahead.

A46 – see my submission to the transport strategy group which covers LTP4 requests and issues outside the scope of the LTP4

Any Questions?

This month's news from County Council

The County Council is about to move into the purdah period. As a result of this activity in terms of Council meetings is focussed on the induction for the new council post elections 4th May

Key activities are

- Response to the LTP4 consultation – see copy attached – any further points? Please only strategic points.
- Improving scrutiny and feeding into a DCLG enquiry re Scrutiny
- Parkway contractor chosen. Next month will share Worcestershire's amazing ambition in terms of railways with you.

The Boundary Commission for England

It has recently carried out a consultation on initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituency boundaries. Nearly 20,000 responses were received as part of the consultation.

The next stage of the review will see all those representations published, which will take place on Tuesday, 28 February 2017. People will then have four weeks to comment on them, with the deadline for responses Monday 27 March 2017.

All representations will be published on the commission's website at [www.bce2018.org.uk](http://www.bce2018.org.uk). The commission would like to encourage people to take the time to see what others have said about the initial proposals, and add their views. Following the secondary consultation, the commission will be considering all representations received from both consultations, and will consider whether any revisions are needed. If they decide to revise the proposals, they will consult on the revised boundaries. Any such consultation will happen towards the end of 2017, or in early 2018. For more information on this please contact Elaine Dicks, Deputy Returning Officer and Electoral Services Manager on 01386 565162 or email [elaine.dicks@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.dicks@wychavon.gov.uk).

#### Latest economic summary

The February 2017 edition of the Worcestershire Monthly County Economic Summary has been published. The claimant count for those aged 18-64 has decreased in Wychavon by 10 since last month and currently stands at 635. This is a decrease of 40 from 12 months ago. The claimant count rate is 0.9% of the 16-64 population. This is the lowest across Worcestershire (Worcestershire 1.2%, West Midlands 2.3% and England 1.8%). The number of 18-24 year old claimants is 135 – a rate of 1.7% of this particular group of the population (Worcestershire 2.2%, West Midlands 3.2% and England 2.5%). This figure is down 5 from January's report and identical to the figure recorded 12 months ago

#### Other issue - White Gates

I understand that Sedgeberrow is as most other parish council in my division (7) buying the cheaper white gates which will be easier to clean. Gerry Brienza has had conversations about locations so I have passed to your parish a share of my Locally Determined Fund monies to pay for the installation of the white village gates. This equates to £678.57. Please note if there are any monies remaining after the purchase of the village gates this should be used to supplement the lengthsman scheme.



District Council

Sedgeberrow March 2017 – Annual report.

I have been looking back over my reports for the whole of last year to try to pick out the significant things which have happened.

March 2016 saw the culmination of 9 years of work on the SWDP passed by the inspector and I reported the 2016 council tax increase of £5 for a band D household and the intention of the boundary commission to reduce the number of parliamentary seats by 50 and try to make all the constituencies about the same sort of size. The preliminary thoughts were to combine our local area into Mid Worcestershire.

April 2016 saw the introduction of 'webcasting' council meetings and we had the first election of the year for the Police and crime commissioner on May 5th - won by John Campion. We also had the Intelligently Green awards with a representative of one of my Parishes winning – Mike Parker for his Sesame oil buying group.

June 2016 saw the EU Referendum 52% to 48% to leave the EU. Wychavon had a turnout of 90% and voted 44 thousand to 32 thousand to leave.

I again had a stand at the Great Comberton Flower show to give residents a chance to raise concerns with me. Apart from the weather, it was a good event.

There were 2 by-elections in September in Wychavon both won by Conservatives with good majorities.

October saw the eagerly awaited report on enforcement – lots of good ideas were in the report. There will be an annual review on improvement. Sadly I don't see much improvement yet. The Pershore Plum festival won an award in the 'Best Festival' category for the fourth time. Broadband continued to be rolled out, but in November it was announced that the Severn Waste Environmental Fund was to close in April 2017 because of the transfer of residual waste from the waste site at Throckmorton to the waste to energy plant at Hartlebury.

In January Wychavon was placed third nationally in the Halifax 'quality of life' survey behind Winchester and the Orkney Isles.

February saw the change to the Planning application website.

Which brings us to March – a whole year gone.

Wychavon has voted for a 1.99% increase in the Wychavon element of the Council tax for a band 'D' household and there has been a massive increase in the Council Tax base. Caused by the enormous number of new houses being built in the District. County Council elections will take place in May 2017. The next District Council elections are not for another 2 years. Later this year the refuse collection providers will change from Foccsa to Serco, so you might see some small changes in the way the service is delivered – without affecting the excellent service which the District delivers to residents.

Any Questions?

## Annual Police Report 2016-17

The last 12 months has continued to be busy throughout our policing area which extends from Whittington, Upton Snodsbury and Dormston in the north to Bredon and Beckford in the south. We have carried out active engagement within our policing area in the form of monthly police surgeries and local parish events. The whole team remain committed to tackling all levels of crime throughout the area including rural crime and poaching and providing security advice and support to victims and vulnerable residents.

This report is based using the recorded crime figures between 08/03/16 and 08/03/17 the comparison is relating to the corresponding dates in 2015/16.

Overall the police recorded **111** incidents that were reported by members of the public this is compared to **100** incidents reported the previous year.

Of the 111 incidents the Parish had **30** recordable crimes (incidents where a specific offence has occurred) this was in comparison to **29** recordable crimes the previous year.

The breakdown of offences is as follows:

	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
<b>Burglary Dwellings</b>	2	2
<b>Burglary Other</b>	2	4
<b>Theft</b>	1	0
<b>Criminal Damage</b>	3	2
<b>Assaults</b>	2	4
<b>Theft of motor vehicle</b>	1	0
<b>Theft from motor vehicle</b>	1	0
<b>Other vehicle crime</b>	0	1
<b>Other Offences</b>	16	16

(Includes mostly domestic related incidents)

Overall the figures show a steady but low crime rate for the past few years however the area has seen a slight increase in thefts from outbuildings and sheds. We have continued with increased patrols in the area and have issued security advice.

The figures clearly present the picture that Sedgeberrow and the surrounding area is still a safe place to both live and work, however we all have a responsibility to ensure we maintain this.

On behalf of the team and myself I should like to offer my thanks to the Parish Council for all its help over the last 12 months. I would also like to say thank you to the Parish as a whole for its continued support of the local policing team and for the numerous calls we have received relating to suspicious activity, all we ask is that you continue to do this.

**Pershore Rural North and South Local Policing Team**

Non-emergency phone number: 101

## **SeSaME Report to the Annual Parish Assembly. 8/3/17**

### **Sedgeberrow Sustainable and Manageable Energy**

#### **An Update.**

The nationwide reduction in the potential for sustainable development, as described at last year's Parish Assembly, has continued as we leave 2016. It means that the significantly reduced demand in the renewable energy sector has led to the firm that installed solar panels and air source heating for the Village Hall, and solar panels on the School, to have ceased trading.

The Big80Million Solar Farm at Willersey, "created to share the financial, environmental and social benefits of solar energy with as many people in the UK as possible" has been obliged to return members investment bonds and sell off all its interests. Local investors were receiving 7%. The Solar Farm blamed "cancelled subsidies, one of several dramatic and unforeseen changes that the Government pushed through in record time to dismantle clean energy policies across the board."

Sedgeberrow has been fortunate. Though now the excellent support from County and District councils that led to at least 20 old houses in Sedgeberrow being better insulated – lowering their carbon footprint and their heating bills – no longer benefits from much central funding. In our 2013 Home Energy Survey 48 villagers had expressed a desire for solar electric and 41 external wall insulation, so there is still much to do

There is the possibility of a boiler scrappage scheme though. The information gathered in our Home Energy Survey shows at least 25 boilers over 15 years old and 44 households looking for improvement with a new boiler. That should highlight the need for villagers to benefit, though the heaters are very likely to be fossil fuel orientated.

The possibility of a 7 seat electric community bus has not been abandoned, and we would hope that, when a firm and feasible proposal has been drafted, New Homes Bonus money may still be available.

With 229 members over 12 villages and potentially increased membership the Oil Buying Club continues to benefit those involved, both with prices and the dividend for various village initiatives.

#### **Current new possibilities**

a) Renewed interest in a bulk LPG buying group has revealed one viable possibility that could lead to some savings, though unlikely to introduce the fully competitive scenario that it deserves. We should do what we can, as burning natural gas is being given a priority over renewables and will be with us for a few more decades.

b) Meanwhile its local initiatives that will be needed to reduce our carbon footprint.

SeSaME has identified funding to organise a group of 8 -10 villagers, enabling them to get together with other people, plus two trained convenors, to support each other in exploring how they can personally reduce their carbon footprint.

c) Developing a community owned renewable energy project as a sustainable income source, as we once explored now faces so many centrally imposed hurdles that efforts are best spent informing local energy users of successful best practice, in anticipation of inevitable future change

d) We should seek to challenge any changes to the 2008 Climate Change Act that means local authorities in England can no longer require code levels 4, 5 or 6 as part of the conditions imposed on planning permissions. With current pressure on villages to accept

increased house building, the least that locals should expect for the future is not only low carbon properties, but ones that are low cost to run.

c) Meanwhile a Yorkshire village is the testing ground for a new technology billed as a way to help renewable power, stymie energy price rises and aid the local power grid.

Villagers will have a home battery installed as part of a trial to see if they can make solar power more valuable to homeowners and less painful for grid managers.

British-engineered batteries will be fitted in homes with solar panels on their roofs with generated energy stored at low demand times and sold for a profit to the grid at peak times. Something to follow closely as potential for a future project here.

Mike Parker, SeSaME (658 words)

### **ICG Parish Assembly report 08/03/17**

The Isbourne Catchment Group (ICG) goes from strength to strength.

2016 was a pivotal year for ICG. The year we moved from kite flying, (recognising that there were some sceptics over our proposals), to undertaking and delivering research that supported our assumptions about controlling future flood risk through Natural Flood Management (NFM).

A term that has attracted significant public and governmental support as a way of alleviating flood risk.

Key highlights from the last year

- Successful conclusion to our EA matched funding challenge resulting in £20k with thanks to the parish Council and Liz Eyres at WCC
- Appointment of Uni of Glos to carry out & deliver the research –sample diagrams and extracts from the report quoted/illustrated
- Beginnings of next steps eg Toddington catchment walk looking for potential Natural Flood Management opportunities
- Linked to the Carrant Brook catchment initiative with FWAG (Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group) – a funded project

Now that we have a credible empirical base and we better understand the hydrology we can start to take action in the catchment

So what have we planned for the forthcoming year?

Very much a multi-agency, multi-pronged approach.

- Work with the Environment Agency to secure funding. EA have secured £750k for NFM across the Worcestershire Avon tributaries – Badsey, Bretforton, Littleton, Merrybrook and Isbourne subject to business cases for interventions. The Isbourne is probably the greatest challenge but ICG perceived as a key partner
- Attempt to secure a project manager cross boundary eg based in Wychavon but work with Tewkesbury – most of the Isbourne catchment is in Tewkesbury Borough Council and interventions in the upper reaches of the catchment will have the most beneficial impact
- Explore an early win – opportunities at Toddington Manor with the Environment Agency and Historic England given its designation as protected parkland
- Liaise with FWAG who will prioritise the large estates as this may be where we can have the biggest impact – Sudeley, Stanway, Toddington and Dumbleton – so covering the Isbourne, Langley & Beesmoor brooks

- Planning an AGM – potentially in June in Winchcombe. Winchcombe being the central point of the catchment. Further details to follow but please attend as we will be able to give a lot more detail than this evening.
- Awareness raising – get more people and parishes to sign up. Winchcombe Town Council recently endorsed our approach. The effectiveness of the group is about strength in numbers so don't forget if you support what we are trying to do to reduce flood risk – sign up at <http://www.isbournecatchment.org.uk> or alternatively contact a committee member who will add your name to our membership base.

New Homes Bonus – 8 March 2107

What is NHB?

Introduced in 2011 this is a fund paid by Government to Worcester County Council and Wychavon District Council. It is designed to ensure that the economic benefits of housing growth is returned to councils where growth is taking place. Wychavon has so far had over £2m.

How much has Sedgberrow got in their pot?

There is approximately £ 12,000 in the Sedgberrow pot now available for drawdown after 1 April. Some funds have already been used in past years for example on a Defibrillator and new swings for the Main Street play park.

How have we consulted villagers about using these funds?

This has been mainly via articles in the Village Post magazine – where the responses have been largely via emails or from direct contact with village organisations eg the Village Hall committee and the Parochial Church Council.

The main themes emerging are interestingly, but not surprisingly, the same as those that were being requested in the Parish Plan of 2009 which had been a widely distributed consultation process in which more than 63% of Sedgberrow households responded.

What were the responses?

The key themes coming forward can be lumped together as:

Sports Facilities for all age groups,  
Better outdoor play facilities for children – in particular in Glebe Meadow, Winchcombe Road.

A daytime facility with kitchen facilities for Meetings, a Parent and Toddler group, Coffee mornings, activities to support the elderly and help prevent isolation. A village shop. The most likely contender is an adaptation of the Vestry at the Church – which the PCC plans to convert to a Community Day Room.

Safer and more pleasant village streets to walk through – to encourage folk to walk about the village without the risk of being blown over by an HGV. This is a fundamentally key element in delivering the Playground facilities and Community dayroom I have just

described. We need our children and grand children to be able to walk safely to the Play areas. We need to have the pavements safe enough for the elderly and disabled to be able to walk to the meeting room.

How do we plan to move forward?

We have therefore established a Community Project that covers those 3 themes. We know that the funds available are only going to cover part of what we want to do but they still represent an important first Community Led step.

We have appointed Champions for each of the themes all of whom are present this evening.

They are:-

Collette Malin, Cheryl Pope and Chris Devereux for the Glebe Meadow upgrade  
Roger Horton and Ivor Davies of the PCC for the Community Day Room  
and  
Sue Beasley and Judy Smith for the Traffic Calming and village beautifications aspects.

Between us we are writing the application to Wychavon District Council which we will also get Parish Council approval for. The timing is tight as the Wychavon Localism Panel meets to approve plans on 3 April.

BUT – the most important first step is that we ask those Sedgberrow residents in the audience to show their support for this way forward. So I am going to ask for a show of hands for your approval please.

How you can become involved should you wish.

I am circulating a Clip board for anyone who wishes to be kept in the loop about the NHB project – and who may want to become involved – even better. We are also going to be serving coffees afterwards for folks that want to stay and ask more questions.