**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**
Held as a virtual meeting via the internet at 7:15 pm on Tuesday 14th July 2020.

**In attendance**

Cllrs. Graham Clelland (Chairman), Cathryn Steward, Colin Clear, Chris Gear, Andy Attridge, Sylvia Matthews, Trevor Askew, Heath Jobes, Graham Taylor, and Matt Henson
**Also in attendance:** J Stedman (Clerk), Cllr Alistair Adams. Cllr Thomas Havemann-Mart and nine members of the public. Cllr Cathryn Steward hosted the virtual meeting and Cllr Graham Clelland (Chairman) Chaired the meeting

1. Apologies: were accepted form Cllr Jonathan Barnes,
2. Disclosures of Interests
 To declare and disclose any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items of business and to declare any other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature, if necessary.
**Disclosable Pecuniary;** None declared  **Other Interests**: None declared
* **Open forum**: The chairman adjourned the meeting for open forum
Summary of matters raise by the public in attendance:
	+ - A question was asked if the Sport & Recreation field can be used by anyone and is it necessary to book the field for private events such as Yoga classes and is there a website for event booking on the filed – the Chairman confirmed the field is free to use and no booking is required for small private use such as Yoga classes and an event website will be considered at a council meeting.
		- A resident asked for a feedback form to be included in the distribution of the play equipment questionnaire and the chairman confirmed it was not possible within the timescale set for the distribution. A further question asking for confirmation on the council election scheduled for next May as a government website stated election have been scheduled for May 2021. The Clerk confirmed this was not the case as the next council election is scheduled for May 2023. The Clerk’s confirmation was challenged by the resident who will investigate the matter further.
		- A request was received for traffic calming to be undertaken on Mickleton Lane as traffic approaching the village are not abiding to the 30-mph limit. The Chairman confirmed traffic calming for the area is a consideration in the planning application on Stratford Road Cllr Alistair Adams will request chicanes be install at the 30-mph limit on Mickleton Lane.

		**The Ward Members Reports are** appended to these minutes

		The Chairman closed open forum and reconvened the meeting at 7.50
1. **Minutes:** Council agreed the wording of the June 23rd ordinary meeting minutes and the Chairman to sign the minutes when convenient to do so
2. **Planning Applications**
	1. **20/01089/HP Location: 21 Brunel Way, Honeybourne, Description: Two storey rear extension, single storey side extension and conversion of part of existing garage to living accommodation. Applicant: Mr Philip Catherall**

**The council has no objection or comments on the application**

* 1. **20/01189/FUL Location: Honeybourne Village Hall, High Street, Honeybourne, Description of Proposal: Demolition of village hall and erection of 2no dwellings.**

**The council has no objection to the application, but request conditions are applied that all construction traffic must not park on or use the adjacent village green, park in School Street or on Bretforton Road.**

1. **Planning Matters**
	1. Members noted the review of the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP), Call for Sites inviting landowners and/or their agents/developers to submit land for a potential large-scale Country Park site.
	2. Members considered and agreed that the All Things Wild site be put forward as a Country Park site as the Worcestershire County Council have requested land for a country park. Clerk to action the request
2. **Audit:**
Council noted the external audit (AGAR) was emailed to PKF Littlejohn on 11th June and the statutory notices posted on all noticeboards on 11th June
3. **Finance:**
	1. Council approved the schedule of payments and receipts, Clerk to action the payments
	2. Council approved the first quarterly bank reconciliation, account balances and budgets as circulated by the Clerk.
	3. Members noted an invoice for the full year fees of £100.00 for Honeybourne Harriers Football club has been issued and paid. Resolved
	4. The Clerk report a FoI request has been received from a resident for full and detailed financial accounts for the last five years, the request is in progress.
4. **New play equipment**
5. Council agreed to adopt the play equipment group’s July 3rd meeting report.
6. The Clerk reported WDC has agreed to supply the 900 licensed postage envelopes for the returns of the questionnaire.
7. The Chairman confirmed the delivery of the Honeybourne Village News to all households in the parish would be completed by the Clerk as some outlying properties do not have the village news regularly delivered.
8. It was confirmed the distribution of the play equipment questionnaire would be by an insert in the Honeybourne Village News as agreed at the May council meeting.
9. Council agreed the final draft of the information letter and questionnaire for the public consultation with an additional statement confirming the questionnaire is an alternative to the March 21st public presentation which was cancelled due to Covid-19 regulations.
10. It was agreed the consultation period for the questionnaire will be a minimum of 21 days from the date of delivery.
11. **The Leys playing field and Sport &Recreation field**
	1. Council agreed to carrying out the suspended flail mowing of the overgrowth of brambles adjacent to the new play equipment site. To be carried out from the existing climbing frame to the PROW field access and mown back to the tree line. The mowing to be carried in August to conform with environmental regulations
	2. Council declined the option for re-opening of the Leys play equipment area in compliance with Covid-19 regulation as the requirements for sanitising the equipment are beyond practical achievement by the council. The closure notices and safety tape will be reinforced.
	3. Council considered the re-installation of the CCTV at the pavilion along with the report from Cllr Matt Henson: -

*Between Friday 22nd of May at 8pm and 4pm on the 24th of May the goals sited on the field were damaged with a repair cost of £140 plus 4 hours of my time repairing the nets. It has been reported to me that 6 youths on bikes entered the field via the gate on Bretforton Road, dragged the goals to the middle of the field and began climbing up them, ultimately tearing the nets. If CCTV was in operation, this could have been flagged to the police and the CCTV could have been used to prosecute. I am happy to complete the GDPR course and install a locked data box in the loft of the pavilion*Council agreed CCTV system should be re-activated and all necessary procedures undertaken to comply with GDPR regulations. Cllr Matt Henson to be the data controller for the CCTV data storage and usage and liaise with all necessary authorities. Clerk and Cllr Henson to action the re-activation.

* 1. The Clerk reported the storage of football equipment in the loft of the pavilion is now completed negating the need for the proposed storage container.
	2. The Clerk reported no quotations have been received for the repairs to the tarmac and kerbs on the basketball court. Four contractors were asked to quote, and none have responded.
	 Clerk to pursue the matter
	3. The Clerk reported the damaged bench on the Sport & Recreation field was beyond economical repair and instructed the Handyman to remove it as it was considered unsafe to use. Council agreed to consider a replacement bench and options will be offered at the next meeting.
	4. Members noted the receipt of the public liability insurance certificate from Mrs. Daniels for hot air ballooning taking place on the Sport & Recreation field.
	5. A request from Honeybourne Harriers to erect a sign at the entrance to the sports field was agreed by the council. It will be installed on the council’s land negating the need for planning approval.
1. **Pavilion Matters**
	1. The Clerk reported no progress on rectifying the lifted floor covering. The original floor fitters will be requested to offer a quotation to rectify the problem.
	Clerk to actions the works
	2. The Clerk reported on treating all water systems for legionella contamination following the four months shutdown and will instruct Cllr Matt Henson on the procedures to be undertaken as Honeybourne Harriers Football club wish to use the facilities.
2. **Council and** **Community Matters**
	1. Members agreed to the Parish Council having a bespoke Facebook page for council business. Cllr Matt Henson will set the page up and the Clerk will be the administrator of the page.
	2. Chairman reaffirmed to members the need to “Reply to All” when responses are required to circulated emails issued by the Clerk.
	3. Members considered not holding Parish Council meeting in August and agreed a meeting would be held if council business dictated a positive need for a meeting.
	4. Members agreed a letter of thanks be sent to Just Glaze who fitted a new window glass in the High Street kiosk free of charge.
	5. Members reaffirmed their support to the Wellington Preservation Group wishing to establish a museum at (or very close to) Honeybourne airfield and suggested they consider the All Things Wild site for their museum. Clerk to reply with the suggestion
3. **Village Hall:**
	1. Cllr Chris Gear reported the opening of the new Village Hall is expected by early August and Covid regulation will be applied to all users, issues with the Kitchen installation still exist. Chris will arrange a site visit for the Parish Council to inspect the facilities. The old Village Hall is now closed and in the ownership on the developer.
	2. The Clerk reported on the agreed installation of an electricity supply for the village Christmas tree near the Village Hall and a meeting with Sam Ryder, Dave Carrott, Graham Clelland and the Clerk to confirm the site for the village Christmas tree and re-landscaping the site for the tree to the carried out by the council in the autumn.
4. Highways: matters reported
	1. New highway matters to be reported to the County Council attention: - None
	2. The Clerk reported on actions following complaints regarding the alleged polluted ditch on High Street adjacent to the raised footpath. The Lengthsman was unable to remedy the problem and the ward members were inform of the problem and arranged for further inspection by environmental health officers. Further reports to be considered when available
	3. The Clerk reported on correspondence with the landowner of the verges in Dudley Road where he has agreed to pay 50% of the grounds maintenance costs by Friday 17th July to enable the maintenance to commence with the council’s contractors.
	4. Council agreed to letter to be sent to the Vicarage and the two next-door properties on Stratford Road requesting their boundary hedges are cut well back from the highway edge.
	5. The Chairman reported the request to Safer Road Partnership for the camera van to attend on Station Road was successful as the camera van has attend several times and early in the morning.
	6. Cllr Alistair Adams’s report on the delays for installation of the Zebra crossing on Station Road is appended to the minutes. It confirms Western Power Distribution are causing the delay in supplying the power to the required lighting. The installation is now scheduled for the spring of 2021. Members express their disappointment over the unexpected delays as the power supply issues should have been resolved at the design stages.
5. **Handyman & Lengthsman matters**
	1. The VAS has been re-activated after been put into storage while the Covid-19 Virus regulation are in place, reports will be available at the next meeting. Members requested the VAS is located in Mickleton Lane to assess traffic speed violations
	2. Works carried out by the Lengthsman in June and July
		1. Clear the ditch on High Street and the report back problems
		2. Replanting and watering the village planters
		3. Painting the cemetery gates
		4. PROW undergrowth clearance on 537B by the church
		5. PROW stile repairs on 507C by the railway bridge on buckle Street
	3. New jobs for the Lengthsman – none requested
6. **Public Rights of Way (PROW):**
	1. To consider actions for any reported PROW problems or issues.
		1. Clear the PROW off China Corner
		2. Check the gate latch on the PROW by Clun Forest Way
		3. Check and clear access to the PROW by Maple Close through to the field

The handyman to be requested to carry out the works

1. **Allotments**
	1. Council agreed to having the internal boundary hedges of the allotment site cut well back as requested by HAGA. Cutting to be carried out in August
	2. The Clerk reported on the hire of a skip for allotment clearance, the cost shared 50-50 with HAGA – paid in full by the Clerk and £93.75 received from HAGA
2. **Cemetery:**
	1. The interment of baby Pritchard-Conley Freya in cemetery plot 225A was noted
	2. The interment of ashes for T/L Brian Mitchell in the Garden of Remembrance plot 59 was noted
	3. The proposed restoration of the wooden gates at the access to St Ecgwin’s Church is in hand with the PCC who may make a grant request to the council to help with costs.
	4. Members considered a complaint from a resident of Stratford Road over the abundance of ash tree seedlings growing all over their back-garden area. After considering options to help resolve the problem it was agreed no action will be taken.
3. **Matters Raised by Members** for the next meeting agenda –
	1. **Cllr Graham Taylor –** review the hire charges for the Sport & Recreation field
	2. **Cllr Colin Clear –** clean up the derelict land by the Co-op shop– Chairman to request the responsibility information from the Co-op shop manager
4. **Meeting Dates:**
	1. The next council meeting is scheduled for August 11th via video link and if the amount of business is sufficient.
5. Exclusion of the Public from the Meeting. Council agreed the following resolution: -
	1. That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw
6. Council considered the necessary changes to the Clerks holiday and pay holiday arrangements for the future commencing in July 2020
It was agreed a full salary review would be appropriate to be considered at the next meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.10pm

Chairman Date

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Payments Authorised**  |  |  |  |
| **Cheque** |  |  | **Gross**  | **Net** |
| **Number** | **Payee** | **Details**  | **Payment**  | **Payment** |
| 1940 | Limebridge RS | Amenity maintenance contract  | 1242.00 | 1035.00 |
| 1940 | Limebridge RS | Amenity maintenance contract  | 1428.00 | 1190.00 |
| DD | British Gas | Electricity Pavilion  | 23.89 | 22.76 |
| 1941 | WDC | Bin emptying fee Gate Inn | 91.73 | 76.44 |
| 1942 | Building & Plumbing Supplies  | PROW signpost  | 9.41 | 7.84 |
| 1943 | J Stedman | Reimburse card payment for Zoom X2 | 28.78 | 23.98 |
| 1943 | J Stedman | Clerks salary and expenses  | \*\*\* | \*\*\* |
| 1943 | J Stedman | Skip hire for allotments  | 245.00 | 204.17 |
| 1944 | Cotswold line promotion group  | Membership renewal  | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| 1945 | HMRC | PAYE and Council NIC | 279.00 | 279.00 |
| 1946 | John Hyde  | Handyman Works  | 320.60 | 320.60 |
| 1947 | BHIB Ltd | Insurance renewal  | 1097.95 | 1097.95 |
| 1948 | British Gas | Electricity Pavilion  | 32.35 | 30.81 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **Receipts**  |  |  |
| **Banked** | **Received from**  | **Description** | **Amount**  |  |
| 12-Jun | Merstow Green  | Fees for plot 59  | 280.00 |  |
| 01-Jul | Village News bank account transfer  | VN funds all transferred to PC  | 454.00 |  |

**County Councillor Report - Honeybourne**

**Month: July 2020**

**Prepared by Alastair Adams**

**Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council**

Dear All,

Since my last report, the world is starting to get back to normal with shops and schools open, many people back at work, and more traffic on the roads.

I attach a colour newsletter from Worcestershire County Council which summaries the many things that have been done by the County Council during the Lockdown.

I also list the latest news announced in the last few days:-

* A "COVID summer school fund" is being set up by the government to help feed children during the holidays. Children eligible for free school meals in term time in England will get a six-week voucher.
* A total of 9 out of 10 schools in Worcestershire are now open daily to reception, year one, year six and year ten or twelve students, following the wider re-opening of schools throughout June. Attendance across the county’s schools has risen to 17.7% of the total proportion of children in school, higher than the national average of 15.6%.
* Positive feedback received from parents, teachers and pupils regarding the experience within schools since the re-opening.
* Pupils in years 10 and 12 in secondary schools, sixth form and further education colleges across the county returned last week. A limit of 25% of pupil numbers is in operation to ensure compliance with social distancing guidelines.
* Town centres continue to be busy as non-essential shops have begun to open. District Councils (working in partnership with the County Council) have measures in place to enable safe shopping accepting that people need to be responsible for their own actions
* Six of Worcestershire’s libraries are currently opened as from Saturday July 4th, in line with phase three of Central Government’s relaxing of lockdown restrictions.
* Testing: The Regional Testing Facility at Worcester Warriors can process approx. 600 tests per day. Capacity is managed within the Department for Health and Social Care system, with availability being released to meet demand as required. Review of “pop-up” locations underway as some of the locations re-open, e.g. West Midlands Safari Park.
* Face-to-face birth registrations by appointment resumed last week at four sites across Worcestershire; Worcester (County Hall), Bromsgrove, Redditch and Kidderminster. Over 700 registrations have already taken place and it is expected that the backlog will be cleared by the end of the week.
* 10 of the 11 Household Recycling Centres in Worcestershire are now open. As expected, these are extremely busy and therefore additional traffic management measures have been put in place.
* The level of infections in Care Homes in Worcestershire remains stable and in line with levels across the West Midlands. All staff and residents in Care Homes with positive cases of COVID-19 have been tested.
* Pressure continues to ease on the Acute Trust with the number of active cases and new admissions to hospitals still falling.
* The Test and Trace service is live. A team of Environmental Health Officers and Public Health Practitioners will provide this locally in Worcestershire
* Emergency PPE packs delivered to 190 schools, 135 nurseries and childminders and 14 children’s homes

**COVID-19 STATISTICS**

Official statistics and information are available on the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-track-coronavirus-cases>

The methodology for reporting positive cases changed on 2 July 2020 to remove duplicates within and across pillars 1 and 2, to ensure that a person who tests positive is only counted once. Numbers of lab-confirmed positive cases throughout this website now include those identified by testing in all settings (pillars 1 and 2).

Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 are different kinds of data taken from coronavirus testing. Swab tests for Covid-19 are carried out in hospitals and surgeries as well as in the community all the time.

Each pillar comes with specific coverage goals and a set purpose from one or several organisations:

* Pillar 1 data comes solely from the tests carried out in Public Health England (PHE) lab and NHS hospital settings.
* Pillar 2 tests come from out in the community, such as care homes.
* Some key statistics being:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Number Testing Positive in TOTAL in Worcestershire = 0.389% of the population** | **2334** |
| **Number Testing Positive in UK** | **283757** |



**WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION, HELP AND ADVICE ON COVID-19?**

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help>

or telephone **01905 768053**

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus>

NHS Website for information on Coronavirus

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Carers who support a family member or friend who require support should contact the Worcestershire Association of Carers on [www.carersworcs.org.uk](http://www.carersworcs.org.uk)

or call their Helpline 0300 012 4272.

## Financial support for you

If you are struggling financially then the advice is to make a claim for Universal Credit, Council Tax Support and other benefits you may be eligible for.

There is more information on the [coronavirus employments and benefits page.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MjQuMjA2MTUxNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy51bmRlcnN0YW5kaW5ndW5pdmVyc2FsY3JlZGl0Lmdvdi51ay9jb3JvbmF2aXJ1cy8ifQ.KXMq7P4Sc5nxqm033Ezm4aMGiSEm5HYItfekfKkABEA/br/77810792800-l)

## Help paying your Council Tax

If you are of working age and already receiving Council Tax Support you will get a one off reduction of up to £150. This will be applied automatically to your bill. New bills will be issued in the next few weeks.

You can apply online for [Council Tax Support](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MjQuMjA2MTUxNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy53eWNoYXZvbi5nb3YudWsvYmVuZWZpdHMtYW5kLWNvdW5jaWwtdGF4L2JlbmVmaXRzLWFkdmljZS9jb3VuY2lsLXRheC1zdXBwb3J0In0.q28o78z4EBeRgatCqFNQZIrhOZwgpf4XBpFmyDme5ZU/br/77810792800-l) if you are struggling to pay your bill.

More information is available on our [Benefits and Council Tax page](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MjQuMjA2MTUxNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy53eWNoYXZvbi5nb3YudWsvYmVuZWZpdHMtYW5kLWNvdW5jaWwtdGF4In0.OywZyjnuQE5tvO7LWWEiNz1unoo7bBUP9jPFsmMcOUM/br/77810792800-l).

Even if you are not eligible for Council Tax Support, you still may be able to defer your payments for a short period, or spread them over 12 months instead of ten.

Please contact the Council’s team by emailing Revenues@southworcestershirerevenues.gov.uk or call 03004 560560 to discuss your circumstances and they will do their best to help you.

## Help to find a job

If you have been made redundant, are facing redundancy or are looking for work then the [Worcestershire Jobs Match scheme](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MjQuMjA2MTUxNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5idXNpbmVzcy1jZW50cmFsLmNvLnVrL3dvcmNzam9icy8ifQ.bjNMiksiIvcLBW8yK_dpUljtE2JL4QVSzxZ6dB28ZhE/br/77810792800-l) can help. It has been created to help match businesses struggling to fill vacancies with individuals who have lost their jobs as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak.

We are also supporting the Pick for Britain campaign, to find thousands of workers to help support farmers to harvest fruit and vegetables and help feed the nation.

You can find out more about job opportunities available on our local farms, and other opportunities, on our [Local Job Oportunities page.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MjQuMjA2MTUxNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy53eWNoYXZvbi5nb3YudWsvYnVzaW5lc3MvbG9jYWwtam9iLW9wcG9ydHVuaXRpZXMifQ.wQcffJuN5QevQAyy7cBnavvPWJFI_d4M1MkhxlXEIkw/br/77810792800-l)

## Support for businesses

We have paid out support payments totalling more than £19million to 1,683 businesses. If you are a business and have yet to apply, find out if you are eligible and more information on our [Business Rates Reliefs page.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MjQuMjA2MTUxNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy53eWNoYXZvbi5nb3YudWsvYnVzaW5lc3MvYnVzaW5lc3MtcmF0ZXMvYnVzaW5lc3MtcmF0ZXMtcmVsaWVmcyJ9.DCzTG0WwikAWIdG4moDCMWlbokGcsltLewJUdJEAX2s/br/77810792800-l)

The Government’s furlough scheme is now open meaning businesses can apply for help to pay up to 80% of the wages of staff.

[www.businesssupport.gov.uk](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MjQuMjA2MTUxNTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwOi8vd3d3LmJ1c2luZXNzc3VwcG9ydC5nb3YudWsifQ.dfyuWkxy-Y5kEFP_Uf6qEYYIFn7Ws5qArvAOHsMN624/br/77810792800-l) has details of all the support available to businesses.

**Digital Libraries**

Nearly fifty thousand e-books, audio books and e-magazines (47,703) have been downloaded from Worcestershire County Council’s digital library service in the last three months. This is an increase of 100% on the same period last year. More than a thousand people have joined the library service as digital members since the beginning of the lockdown.

**Good News for Cycling**

It’s just been announced that Worcestershire County Council has been awarded £135,500 to support cycling and walking in the county.

The funding has been allocated from Phase1 of Central Government’s **Emergency Active Travel Fund**, and it will help support increased walking and cycling routes on a number of key commuter routes across the county.

**Highways:**

Worcestershire’s roads were kept safe for those vehicles who needed to travel during the Coronavirus lockdown as the road maintenance team continued to work as shown by the statistics below;-

1. Nearly 365 miles have been surface dressed as part of the yearly programme
2. Over 35,000 square metres of roads have been resurfaced.
3. Over 6,000 carriageway defects dealt with
4. Emptied over 8,000 gullies
5. Cut nearly 5,000 miles of grass verges

**Highway issues effecting Honeybourne;-**

1. **Double Yellow lines to be installed along High Street opposite Fancutts Garage/new development** . Agreed and waiting to be installed
2. **Honeybourne pedestrian crossing on Station Rd –**Up until early June the works were planned to begin in July/August. However, Western Power Distribution have informed the council that it will take 3-6 months to install the electricity. I have working with the council to see if we can get an improvement from WPD but they are blaming COVID and a backlog in work. Earliest date for works to begin looks now to be March 2021 as the anti-skid surfacing can not be laid in cold weather. Full report from Highways below at bottom of report.
3. **Flood Depth signs to be fitted to the bridges –**  all now installed.
4. **Ditch pollution - High Street Honeybourne –** reported to WRS
5. **Temporary Road Closure Shinehill Lane** – from 7/9/2020

To keep up to date on the roads affected see <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20602/roadworks_in_worcestershire>

Or look at the national roadworks website below, and type in Honeybourne in the top right box to search. [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org)

As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it>

Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

**Update on flooding**

Back in February I had a good meeting with the farmer upstream of the Gate to look at installing a flood plain on his land which I believe if built will stop the flooding at the Gate cross roads altogether. Following this meeting, I wrote to him, and he has replied and although he now seems less keen on building a flood plain on the area we first identified, he has agreed to *“pull a channel through the bund at brook flooding level and see what happens”* .

This is the bund or wall that Andrew Shorey must have built along the brook to prevent the brook flooding his land. By making a channel in this bund, then when the water in the brook rises, it will overflow and flood the bottom of his field /orchard. This may help considerably in flood situations. I will have further discussions with Mr Mansfield after the COVID-19 lockdown ends. I still feel some funding from the Parish Council may be required to compensate the farmer for the use of his land as a flood plain. I had organised another meeting last Thursday for the various Council officers, EA officials and others to meet in Pebworth and Honeybourne but it was postponed at the last minute. So it will be re-arranged again.

**County Council Divisional Fund**

* Offenham Cricket Club- grant request for a contribution of £500 towards a new mower – grant approved.

The new financial year has started at the County Council, so new Divisional grants are available. So any community organisation that needs a little support to buy equipment or some essential service can apply by contacting me.

**Your County Councillor, Alastair Adams can be contacted on** **adams.pebworth@gmail.com** **or mobile 07725 979 277 or** [**www.alastairadams.org**](http://www.alastairadams.org)

**Report on delay of Pedestrian Crossing**

Dear Mr Stedman,

Thank you for your email and the attached correspondence from Honeybourne Primary Academy.

Firstly may I take this opportunity to say that delays to schemes are disappointing, but more so schemes of this nature and are not a decision we take lightly.

I am currently away from the office so am unable to provide a detailed report. However, I shall provide a precis of the current position in relation to progress of the proposed crossing.

The crossing at Honeybourne is part of a wider programme to deliver six zebra crossings throughout the county. Honeybourne was programmed first for a July/August construction window.

Planning for this scheme commenced late February with Worcestershire County Council commissioning a detailed design, from this point events unfolded as follows:

**13-03-2020** -  Detailed crossing design produced

**13-03-2020** - Review of detailed design to enable commencement of lighting design

**15-03-2020** – Interim lighting design commenced which raised ecology issues and proposed too much lighting

**18-03-2020** - Lighting design challenged with a request to rescope the level of lighting

**25-03-2020** - Ecology assessment commissioned

**20-04-2020** - Ecology assessment report received

*The initial design identified a requirement to install new lighting over a greater length than originally anticipated. The design process highlighted that the junction between Station Road / Hight Street / Stratford Road would require lighting. This is due to its proximity to the proposed crossing and issues around the change in lighting levels between the two conflict areas, which would be generated as part of the scheme. We would therefore be required to install new lighting between the proposed crossing and the junction, at the junction and to the northbound approach to the junction.*

*This issue caused significant concern from both a residential and ecology perspective. Following an ecology survey in April it was established that there is of records of bats in the local area, including species that are known to be highly light intolerant (lesser horseshoe bat and brown long-eared bat).*

**01-05-2020** - Alternative lighting design proposed – **N.B We will still light the Zebra Crossing (incl. zig zags) but remove the requirement for the introduction of 5 seconds of approach lighting (from ILP Guidance Note PLG02) to the Zebra crossing. This ensures we move lighting away from the junction and do not impede on the sensitive nature of the brook at the cross roads. Most importantly this should not cause disturbance to Lesser Horseshoe Bats**.

**13-05-2020** - Detailed lighting design received with information that electrical connections are required – **N.B this is the first point it was feasible to make an approach to Western Power Distribution (WPD) as we cannot commission their service until we understand the levels of service we require. May I add that it is quite uncommon to come across a location without a suitable power source.**

**15-05-2020** - Advised that the specialist lighting columns to accommodate the ecology issues could not be sourced due to a supply issue following Covid19 manufacturing issue (approx. 16 week lead time)

**28-05-2020** - Confirmation of WPD turnaround time 3 – 6 months (usually 3 months but the impact of covid19 has significantly drawn this out) **N.B we have approached WPD for a specific date and expect a response this week**

**29-05-2020** – Decision to reschedule the delivery of the crossing.

**02-06-2020** – Tina emailed Cllr Adams to advise of decision and reason for delay: (regrettably this type of construction cannot be carried out during the winter months due to the risks of applying high friction surfacing(HFS) and associated lining.

At the earliest end of the scale WPD will not provide power until September, just as winter maintenance season commences. I have made enquires with our contractor in relation to the possibility of later construction, guidance from them states that high friction surfacing and associated lining is not advisable during the winter months. The reasons are as follows; to lay high friction surfacing requires relatively warm dry conditions to ensure correct curing and adhesion. Furthermore, lining of this extent requires dry weather conditions, and of course in winter season there is a risk of salt on the road which prevents the application of road markings.

Furthermore, we must ensure that we deliver this scheme with the greatest efficiency. The constrained carriageway widths at the crossing location  require a full road closure for the duration of construction. Therefore the risk of delays due to weather conditions pose a risk of extensive closure which is imperative we avoid.

I do hope that this information helps to keep the community informed. Should you require any further information I will be back in the office from July 20th and will be happy to help.

Kind regards,

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| **Tina McLaughlin** |
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**District Councillor Report-**

**Honeybourne Month: July 2020 Prepared by Thomas Havemann-Mart Honeybourne & Pebworth, Wychavon District Council** Dear All, I attach a colour newsletter from Wychavon District Council which summaries the districts recovery plan that puts the local economy at the core of what Wychavon is doing focusing on jobs and skills. To date £29 million has been paid out to businesses across the district in the form of coronavirus grants. Data released by Public Health England on 2 July showed there were 416 confirmed cases of coronavirus recorded in Wychavon District. This is a significant increase that has been caused by the addition of Pillar 2 test results to the data and does not mean there has been a significant spike in Covid-19 cases in our districts. Previously, the data only included Pillar 1 data – this is the result of swab tests done in Public Health England labs and NHS hospitals for those with a clinical need and health care workers. Pillar 2 data includes swab testing for the wider community. The number of cases in our districts, and Worcestershire as a whole, has been in decline over the past two weeks. The current rate is 318.8 cases per 100,000 of the population in Wychavon. This is significantly lower than Leicester where the rate is 1,034 per 100,000 population and has spiked in the last 7 days with no sign of any fall in levels. That is why Leicester is going into local lockdown. There is no need for that in Worcestershire currently. Rates are still higher than Public Health England would hope to see at this point in the pandemic, so we continue to promote the message to our residents to follow social distancing advice closely and to seek a test if they have symptoms. Pillar data is just one of many indicators Public Health England uses to predict where infection rates are rising significantly. To use the data on its own is not appropriate as it does not give a complete picture of what is happening locally. There were 3 further deaths from Covid-19 in Wychavon in the 7 days from 12 to 19 June, with 2 occurring in care homes and 1 in hospital. The total number of deaths in the district is now 105 with 48 occurring in care homes. The county has a local outbreak control programme. ***Reopening of district services*** The play areas in Wychavon reopened on the 4th of July, apart from Crown Meadow play area which is closed until 20 July as repairs are still being carried out due to flood damage. Signage has been installed reminding people to follow social distancing rules and an enhanced cleaning regime is in place. Hand sanitizer stations will be installed shortly. We are currently awaiting delivery from the manufacturer. From Tuesday 7th of July Wychavon will be offering face to face appointments for people who genuinely need them at the Civic Centre. Residents must call first to arrange this though and a face to face appointment will only be offered if it is genuinely needed and the customer cannot be supported another way. Worcestershire County Council is opening some libraries, including Evesham, from 4 July but not for general browsing, so Wychavon’s Customer Contact Centres will remain closed. The Civic Centre itself will remain closed to the public for now. ***Reopening of leisure centers*** *Gyms, indoor sports and indoor swimming pools can reopen from 25 July. Wychavon Leisure are putting preparations in place to make sure they are ready to reopen our leisure centers by this date. Droitwich Lido can reopen from 11 July but due to work needed to make it Covid-19 secure it won’t reopen until 1 August. The season will run until 13 September. Wychavon’s Executive Board has agreed to a subsidy of up to £55,000 for the Lido. This is because even when it does reopen, visitor numbers will only be about 1/6th of what they would normally allow on site to maintain social distancing. This will severely affect income and the subsidy will ensure the pool can make it through the summer with the hope of reopening normally in 2021.* ***Extension of certain planning permissions*** The Government has laid before Parliament proposals to extend time limits on planning permissions that have lapsed during the Coronavirus outbreak. If the bill receives royal assent, then planning permissions that have lapsed between 23 March and 31 December will automatically be extended to 1 April 2021 without the need to make an application to the local planning authority. There are also proposals extend those planning applications that were accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment or a Habitats Regulation Assessment. In such cases the applicant will have to submit an Additional Environmental Approval application, the purpose of this is to assess whether the EIA and HRA need to be updated. Such applications are not subject to publicity requirements Outline and Reserved matter planning permissions may also be extended in this way. It is likely to be implemented at the end of August or early September. ***Summary of Chancellor’s Summer Statement*** Below is a summary from the Local Government Association of the main points in the Chancellor’s Summer Economic Update. **Jobs Retention Bonus** – The Government will introduce a one-off payment of £1,000 to UK employers for every furloughed employee who remains continuously employed through to the end of January 2021. Employees must earn above the Lower Earnings Limit (£520 a month) on average between the end of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the end of January 2021. Payments will be made from February 2021. Further detail about the scheme will be announced by the end of July. **Kickstart Scheme** – A new ‘Kickstart Scheme’ will be introduced - a £2 billion fund to create six-month work placements aimed at those aged between 16 and 24 who are on Universal Credit and are deemed to be at risk of long-term unemployment. Funding available for each job will cover 100 per cent of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus the associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions. **New funding for National Careers Service** – An additional £32 million funding will be provided over the next two years for the National Careers Service so that 269,000 more people in England can receive personalised advice on training and work. **High quality traineeships for young people** – An additional £111 million will be provided this year for traineeships in England, to fund high quality work placements and training for 16-24-year olds. The Government will fund employers who provide trainees with work experience, at a rate of £1,000 per trainee. The Government will improve provision and expand eligibility for traineeships to those with Level 3 qualifications and below. **Payments for employers who hire new apprentices** – The Government will introduce a new payment of £2,000 to employers in England for each new apprentice they hire aged under 25, and a £1,500 payment for each new apprentice they hire aged 25 and over, from 1 August 2020 to 31 January 2021. These payments will be in addition to the existing £1,000 payment the Government already provides for new 16-18-year-old apprentices, and those aged under 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan – where that applies. **High value courses for school and college leavers** – £101 million will be provided for the 2020-21 academic year to give all 18-19-year olds in England the opportunity to study targeted high value Level 2 and 3 courses when there are not employment opportunities available to them. **Expanded Youth Offer** – The Government will expand and increase the intensive support offered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) in Great Britain to young jobseekers, to include all those aged 18-24 in the Intensive Work Search Group in Universal Credit. **Enhanced work search support** – The Government will provide £895 million to enhance work search support by doubling the number of work coaches in Jobcentre Plus before the end of the financial year across Great Britain. **Expansion of the Work and Health Programme** – Up to £95 million will be provided this year to expand the scope of the Work and Health Programme in Great Britain to introduce additional voluntary support in the autumn for those on benefits that have been unemployed for more than three months. This expansion will have no impact on the existing provision for those with illnesses or disabilities in England and Wales. **Job finding support service** –£40 million will be provided to fund private sector capacity to introduce a job finding support service in Great Britain in the autumn. This online, one-toone service is aimed at helping those who have been unemployed for less than three months increase their chances of finding employment. **Flexible Support Fund** – The Government will increase the funding for the Flexible Support Fund by £150 million in Great Britain, including to increase the capacity of the Rapid Response Service. It will also provide local support to claimants by removing barriers to work such as travel expenses for attending interviews. **New funding for sector-based work academies** – The Government will provide an additional £17 million this year to triple the number of sector-based work academy placements in England in order to provide vocational training and guaranteed interviews for more people, helping them gain the skills needed for the jobs available in their local area. **Eat Out to Help Out** – The Chancellor announced the introduction of the ‘Eat Out to Help Out scheme’ to encourage people to return to eating out. This will entitle every diner to a 50 per cent discount of up to £10 per head on their meal, at any participating restaurant, café, pub, or other eligible food service establishment. The discount can be used unlimited times and will be valid Monday to Wednesday on any eat-in meal (including on non-alcoholic drinks) for the entire month of August 2020 across the UK. Participating establishments will be fully reimbursed for the 50 per cent discount. **Temporary VAT cut for food and non-alcoholic drinks** – From 15 July 2020 to 12 January 2021, to support businesses and jobs in the hospitality sector, the reduced (5 per cent) rate of VAT will apply to supplies of food and non-alcoholic drinks from restaurants, pubs, bars, cafés and similar premises across the UK. Further guidance on the scope of this relief will be published by HMRC in the coming days. **Temporary VAT cut for accommodation and attractions** – From 15 July 2020 to 12 January 2021, to support businesses and jobs, the reduced (5 per cent) rate of VAT will apply to supplies of accommodation and admission to attractions across the UK. Further guidance on the scope of this relief will be published by HMRC in the coming days. **Temporary Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) cut** – The Government will temporarily increase the Nil Rate Band of Residential SDLT, in England and Northern Ireland, from £125,000 to £500,000. This will apply from 8 July 2020 until 31 March 2021 and cut the tax due for everyone who would have paid SDLT. **Green Homes Grant** – A £2 billion Green Homes Grant will be introduced, providing at least £2 for every £1 homeowners and landlords spend to make their homes more energy efficient, up to £5,000 per household. For those on the lowest incomes, the scheme will fully fund energy efficiency measures of up to £10,000 per household. In total this could support over 100,000 green jobs and help strengthen a supply chain that the Government hopes will help meet their target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The scheme aims to upgrade over 600,000 homes across England to save money on their energy bills. **Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme** – The Clean Growth Strategy set out the Government’s ambition to halve greenhouse gas emissions from the public sector by 2032. To help achieve this and support economic recovery, the Government will invest £1 billion over the next year in a Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme that will offer grants to public sector bodies, including schools and hospitals, to fund both energy efficiency and low carbon heat upgrades. **Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund** – The Government will establish a new Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund to help social landlords improve the least energy-efficient social rented homes, starting with a £50 million demonstrator project in 2020-21 to decarbonise social housing. This is intended to lower annual energy bills for low income households. ***£1.57 billion investment to protect cultural, arts and heritage institutions*** Britain’s arts, culture and heritage industries will receive a £1.57 billion rescue package to help weather the impact of coronavirus. Thousands of organisations across a range of sectors including the performing arts and theatres, heritage, historic palaces, museums, galleries, live music, and independent cinema will be able to access emergency grants and loans. The package includes: Decisions on awards will be made working alongside expert independent figures from the sector including the Arts Council England and other specialist bodies such as Historic England, National Lottery Heritage Fund, and the British Film Institute. Repayable finance will be issued on generous terms tailored for cultural institutions to ensure they are affordable. Further details will be set out when the scheme opens for applications in the coming weeks. The government is finalising guidance for a phased return of the performing arts sectors that will be published shortly. We await further details of how this financial package will benefit arts and cultural venues in our districts. ***Local lockdown arrangements*** The Government has set out is approach for controlling future local coronavirus outbreaks. This is made up of five principle components: • £1.15 billion support pot for cultural organisations in England delivered through a mix of grants and loans. This will be made up of £270 million of repayable finance and £880 million grants. • £100 million of targeted support for the national cultural institutions in England and the English Heritage Trust. • £120 million capital investment to restart construction on cultural infrastructure and for heritage construction projects in England which was paused due to the coronavirus pandemic. • The new funding will also mean an extra £188 million for the devolved administrations in Northern Ireland (£33 million), Scotland (£97 million) and Wales (£59 million). First, monitoring. Public Health England, working with the Joint Biosecurity Centre, will carefully examine data on the spread of the disease and people’s behaviour across the country. Second, engagement. If monitoring identifies local problems, NHS Test and Trace and PHE will work with the relevant local authority to develop a deeper understanding of the problem and identify solutions. Third, testing. Scaled-up testing at a local level, combined with contract tracing through NHS Test and Trace, can control the virus and thus avoid more stringent measures. Fourth, targeted restrictions. If the virus continues to spread, the Government will restrict activities at particular locations and close individual premises. Fifth, local lockdown. If the previous measures have not proven to be enough, the Government will introduce local lockdowns extending across whole communities. Local lockdowns will be carefully calibrated depending on the scientific and specific circumstances of each outbreak and the Government is continually exploring smarter means of containing the virus. ***Revitalising rural areas*** The Rural Services Network is seeking views on its Revitalising Rural: Realising the Vision campaign. They are looking for your views on what they should be asking the Government to do on several issues affecting rural areas. The consultation looks at a whole range of issues form digital connectivity to village schools and decarbonising rural communities. Read more about the vision here: https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/rsn-launches-revitalising-ruralconsultation Take part in the consultation here: https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/revitalising-rural ***Annual Canvass of Electors starts*** The Annual Canvass of Electors has started. We are legally required to do this to ensure the information we hold on the electoral register is accurate. To help limit the spread of Covid-19 we are trying to limit the use of door-to-door canvassers this year. We are sending information requests by email first, to people who have given us that information. During August and September we will then send postal forms. We are encouraging people to respond as quickly as possibly to confirm or amend their information online, by post, text, or phone. If we have to use door-to-door canvassers we will do so only as a last resort and will follow social distancing guidance at all times. ***Free psychological first aid training*** Public Health England is offering free psychological first aid training to help train you to support people during the Covid-19 outbreak. Psychological First Aid (PFA) is the globally recommended training for supporting people during emergencies and offers guidance on delivering psychosocial care in the immediate aftermath of the emergency event. On the course, you’ll explore the psychological impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and what you can do to help people cope. The course will teach you the key principles of giving psychological first aid in emergencies. Use the link below to register: Some news • Resettlement of refugees in Evesham has already hit its target with 142% of funding, having received £200 from us. • Evesham Community Prescription is halfway towards their target with backing of £200 from us to fund prescription delivery to the most vulnerable. • We’ve also given £200 to St Andrews Centre for environmental improvements to reduce running costs by 75%. • We have several organisations that are developing projects to bid for funding using the platform but have yet to launch.You will be able to see them here when they go live: https://www.spacehive.com/profile/wychavondistrictcouncil#funds ***Domestic abuse awareness campaign*** Wychavon will be promoting several domestic abuse awareness campaigns over the next few weeks in response to an increase in incidents of domestic abuse as a result of lockdown restrictions. The campaigns will focus on encouraging perpetrators to recognise their behaviour is unacceptable and to seek help. It will also remind victims that they have a right to leave their home if they are fleeing domestic violence, regardless of any lockdown restrictions, and where they can seek help. Kind regards, Tommy . **Your District Councillor, Thomas Havemann-Mart can be contacted on Thomas.Havemann-Mart@Wychavon.net or mobile 07817 873 054**