

LINDRIDGE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

9th May 2016

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

- **Tescos in Tenbury**

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

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

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

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

Shropshire council will supervise the widening of the splay at the junction of the A456 and Teme Street, to allow a separate left turn lane at the junction. This work will proceed later this month after the Western Power Distribution work is complete that requires the current traffic light system

- **Eastham Bridge**

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

The width will be the same as with the original, meaning there will be no footway or pedestrian refuges. This means that the bridge can be built immediately without planning permission under permitted development, and avoid the long process of an environmental impact assessment.

- **Careers Fair at THOA**

On Tuesday of last week, I was pleased to be able to attend the Careers Fair at Tenbury High Ormiston Academy. There were over 40 companies and colleges seeking to give advice to pupils and many of them attended. It was encouraging to speak to many of the exhibitors and find that young people have a good appreciation of the alternative training opportunities for those not wishing to, or not suited to, going to university. I would like to thank Caroline Palethorpe and the Tenbury school staff for their help in putting on this event that should become a regular fixture.

Congratulations also to Helena Baxter, of HP Consultancy and Training, for winning an award recognising her work helping young people looking for training, at the Annual Meeting of the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership last Friday.

Yesterday, I spent the day at Tenbury High tomorrow and congratulated Adrian Price and his staff for achieving such brilliant results in GCSEs this summer: 72% achieving 5 A* to C including English and Mathematics, a huge improvement over the last three years.

- **Liaison officers**

Recognising the importance of the condition of the highways, the County Council has decided to increase the number of liaison officers from four to five. As a result Gerry Brienza has been redeployed to cover all of Wychavon and Malvern Hills will now be the territory of Roy Fullee. My colleagues and I are disappointed to lose Gerry after some years of excellent service but I am sure Roy will prove his equal and I look forward to showing him around his new area in my Division.

You may wish to raise the question of speeding in Eardiston with Roy at some stage, to see what can be done, wither through the Safer Roads Partnership or by extra road markings and signs.

- **Divisional Fund**

I was pleased to be able to use a little of the Divisional Fund, made up of Council Tax contributions, to help put on the Careers Fair. Please get in touch if you know of other potential proposals and let others know of the fund's existence, so the money can be best spent in service of the community.

Cllr Ken Pollock
Martley
Worcester
WR6 6QA
09.11.16