

BORDER GROUP PARISH COUNCIL WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT MARCH 2022

Apologies for once again being unable to attend your meeting. If there is anything arising from the meeting that you wish me to deal with, please don't hesitate to contact me. Although I am away, I am contactable via my email and will be continuing to deal with emails. I would wish to receive information on your view on planning applications.

I met with Tom, Clive and local residents as promised to discuss measures that could be taken to reduce speeding through Walford. The residents are really enthusiastic to get involved and I believe will be meeting on a regular basis. It was agreed that the triangle be planted up but that any planting must not affect visibility and must be carried out from the inner side of the triangle. Lee Fishwick has agreed that this is OK. The old illuminated signs are beyond repair and new signs have been ordered. I do not as yet have a delivery date. New larger Walford signs were suggested to include possibly "Welcome to Walford Please Drive Slowly" or something similar. It has been agreed that larger signs could be installed but this would have to be done through the Community Commissioning Toolkit. The signs can be larger than at present but not too large. If we can get a price from BB, I can look for funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner. Stef Harper has added Walford to the list of areas for radar van/motorbike but this will be infrequent. I am also pursuing the possibility of setting up a Speed Watch.

Lee Fishwick has contacted Severn Trent again with a Section 72 order to sort out the manhole cover once again at Adforton.

There has once again been reports of possible drug dealing but from a different source. I have discussed this with Stef who will speak to local residents in Adforton. This has to be dealt with sensitively.

There have been ongoing discussions with HC with regard to the closure of Buckton Lane and work to be carried out. It was initially not possible to close the Lane as Parsons Pole was also closed for investigations on the bridge and that would create an impossible situation for HGVs and agricultural vehicles. It has been agreed that as soon as Parsons Pole is complete Buckton Lane will be closed which should be on 7th March. It is hoped that work on Buckton Lane will commence shortly including work on Harley Lane and it is also likely that work will in the next few months take place on the oxbow area.

For those of you who took advantage of the "shop local" card a further £10 has been added to the card.

Could you please let me know the addresses of any properties which were flooded in the recent storms. Although Herefordshire is not in line for Bellwin money this time as insufficient properties were flooded, we need to keep a record of properties which are flooded on a regular basis and also for the first time. Only with such information will we have the evidence to fight for grant funding or flood prevention work in the future.

I have now been able to send to the clerk a copy of the Balfour Beatty Capital Annual Plan. As you will see there are no plans for any road resurfacing in Mortimer ward but there are a number of drainage projects. I hope that Border Group have submitted their grant drainage bid to Balfour Beatty.

A number of residents who own holiday lets etc have contacted me about offering accommodation to Ukrainian refugees. As a result of a NOM unanimously agreed at Full Council recently HC will co-ordinate these offers. In the meantime, anyone who wishes to make such an offer should contact the leader direct on David.Hitchener@herefordshire.gov.uk.