

BORDER GROUP COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT OCT 2019

Firstly, I shall be unable to attend the November Parish Council meeting as I shall be away but I will let you have a report.

The issue relating to the erection of a mast in Paytoe Lane by Airband one of the broadband providers has been resolved.

Enforcement officers are dealing with the work taking place at Thatch Cottage but to date have been unable to make contact with the new owners.

I have contacted Paul Shipton Head of Balfour Beatty regarding the damaged grit bins and he is discussing this with the contractor as bins were also destroyed in Aymestrey. To date I have only been able to ascertain which bins in Aymestrey have been destroyed and therefore until I am advised as to the location of the bins in the Border Group parish apart from the one in Paytoe Lane which I believe has been replaced I have not been able to pursue this for you. Paul Shipton is somewhat puzzled as it is the same contractor that has been used for many years in Mortimer ward and this is the first year there has been a problem, perhaps it's a different driver, anyway they will seek financial reimbursement from the company.

There was a Parish Council Summit on Friday 20th September at 6.30 pm and I was delighted that two parishes were able to attend. I recognise however that 6.30 on a Friday is not a good time for many people. One of the items discussed was the review of Herefordshire Council's Local Plan and the possible knock on affect this might have on parish NDPs which are 2 years old or more. As Herefordshire does not have a 5-year land supply any NDP over 2 years old which has not been reviewed will still carry significant weight but not as much as those considered to be "up to date". If that land supply drops to 3 years or below then no NDP will be valid. There is a briefing for parish councils at **Shire Hall on Wednesday 6th November at 4.30 pm to update parishes and I would urge** Border Group Parish Council to attend as the review of the Core Strategy may well impact on housing numbers. The next Parish Summit is Thursday March 19th I do not yet have a time.

I spent a day with the Social workers dealing with issues relating to the safeguarding of children in Herefordshire. It is a very challenging job and most of the cases are extremely complex but very sad.

By the time your meeting takes place I believe a decision on the Hereford Bypass will have been taken and the signs are that the project will be stopped. The Local Enterprise Partnership who are providing some of the money for this project has given Herefordshire Council a deadline of 31st Oct. The LEP are meeting before the end of Oct at an emergency meeting to review the outcome of discussions with the DfT who were also providing significant funding. Obviously there are other authorities within the LEP just waiting for the project to be cancelled in order for one of their projects to get the money.