

At this point Parish Councillors stated that they were unhappy that a local facility was being lost. County Cabinet met on 6th June and the final accounts position for 2018/19 was reported. There was a Budget overspend of £2m resulting in the total being £324m not £322m. This was taken from reserves. The major pressures are Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care including SEND and higher needs spending. Higher Needs spending overspent by £9m so actions are being considered on how to address this in 2019/20.

The Worcs Passenger Transport Strategy is now out for public consultation; from 14th June for 13 weeks. There will be hard copies available in public libraries and Tourist Information Centres in addition to the opportunity to take part on line.

LOCAL ISSUES:

VA Signs: I recall receiving an email from your Clerk, Mrs Whitehouse kindly prompting me, as requested, to consider contributing towards a couple of new VA signs. My apologies for the delay in responding. However, during a recent scheduled meeting with Mr Paul Green, Highways Engineer, he informed me that you have already now purchased the signs but must further seek to finance appropriate posts for the 4 or 5 locations intended.

Therefore, I have indicated to Paul, that if he could kindly advise as to the cost of installing the posts, I would consider how I could allocate towards this from my Divisional Funding; I have copied in this report to remind him accordingly."

A vote of thanks was recorded to Cllr. Hardiman for this report and local assistance.

8. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL:**

a) Previous planning applications –

19/0264/FULL SEVERN TRENT WATER SEVERN TRENT WATER LTD TRIMPLEY WATER TREATMENT WORKS Installation of a caustic dosing kiosk

At the last meeting the council were awaiting corrected plans before formal comment could be confirmed. Clerk had chased the planning officer for amended plans, in May and June, and had sent comment that previous plans had shown that STW owned a large section of Eymore Lane, above the WTW gate. Clerk had suggested that this was incorrect and was a matter for the Planning officer, Severn Trent, and the County Council Highways department to clarify, as it was not up to the Parish Council, who had merely brought this to the attention of the officer. Finally, an amended drawing was received on Thursday 11th July, and the Clerk had requested the officer to await the Parish Council's formal comment on Monday 15th July, but the officer refused to do this, (even though the delay was not of the Parish's making) stating that Severn Trent wished a decision to be issued on Friday 12th July. Clerk had e-mailed expressing disappointment at this decision but also confirming that the Parish Council would have had no objections to the caustic dosing kiosk itself, but also stating that the Parish Council should not be asked to comment on plans that were inaccurate.

19/0272/FULL 30 LOW HABBERLEY KIDDERMINSTER DY115RA Proposed single storey rear extension, replacement gates, front porch, bay windows and internal alterations
Approved

19/0311 CERTP - Single storey side extension at PAYNES COTTAGE, TRIMPLEY, BEWDLEY, DY121PP - *NOTE This is for information only and no comment from the Parish Council was required.*

b) New Planning applications: -

19/0369 Proposed open front porch at KEEPERS LODGE, SANDY LANE, KIDDERMINSTER, DY115QZ.

Comment: No objections and recommend approval.

19/0428 Proposed single storey side and rear extension and conversion of garage to habitable space at THE BUNGALOW, GREY GREEN FARM

(Councillor C. Grainger expressed a direct pecuniary interest in this matter and left the room but was invited to rejoin the meeting to discuss some technical details in the plans.)

Comment: The plan number quoted on the submitted plans is incorrect. It shows 19/0427, which refers to plans for the Safari Park. Clerk to ask if this please could be corrected. Meantime, the Parish Council would register a comment of "No objections and recommend approval."

c) Compliance Issues/Appeals

Easter Cottage – Awaiting appeal decision from the Planning Inspectorate at Bristol.

d) Local Plan Re-opening

Wyre Forest DC had advised that they were re-opening consultation on the Pre-submission, to shape the district for the period to 2036. Consultation open for six weeks from 2nd September to 14th October, and there will be drop-in sessions in Kidderminster, Stourport, Bewdley and Blakedown. Information would also be available on the district website

www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/local-plan-review

Responses received to the earlier consultation in November/December 2018 are still valid. Responses are only required if you desire to add to previous comments, withdraw them, or

make new comments on the proposed changes.

9. **Progress Reports and other Outstanding Items**

• **CCTV**

Clerk had still not received any forms for completion from the Wyre Forest Officers (Kathryn Underhill and Linda Draycott) who had promised these when they met with Cllrs. J Gammond and C Jordan in May. They had sent two sample Policies, which other parishes had drawn up regarding deployment of CCTV, but this was not what had been promised. When Clerk chased them by e-mail, they advised that Linda was away on holiday, and that they were still awaiting advice from Wyre Forest Legal department. Clerk advised that Cllr. Yarranton had asked that his views be made known to the Parish Council, that being that he requested legal representatives from the District Council should meet with the Parish Council to give detailed advice to all councillors, and following that a full vote should be taken with regard to whether the parish should deploy CCTV cameras. The issue really was that the cameras would be placed (for the large part) on privately owned ground (Severn Trent Car Park, Arley Estate Eymore Lane Car park, Trimpley Common) but where the public had free access. Also the cameras may be deployed in publicly owned places such as Mary Moors Layby, or other laybys and wide verges in the parish.

It was felt that this matter may take another 12 months to sort out to comply with all privacy aspects. District Officer Bob Beeston had advised that he had two old cameras that he could put up if the Parish Council provided "CCTV in operation" signs. These signs had been put up on the Common by Black Pools, but there was no information as to whether the cameras had been put up there by the District Council. It was stated by councillors that it was cheaper and easier for people to get rid of private rubbish, and less hassle (no licences to apply for) by tipping it in the country, and laid the problem firmly at the door of council regulations. Indeed, it was noted that flytipped rubbish at the layby at Mary Moors had asbestos in it, which was expensive to deal with. It was agreed that Councillors C. Jordan and J. Gammond would chase the District for the requisite forms for the parish to complete.

• **VA Signs** –

Clerk confirmed that she had received the grant funds into the bank for which she had applied of £5000 towards the purchase of these. Cllr Phillips had taken delivery and had met with the County Highways engineer to discuss siting of these, and new sites for possible deployment of the old sign. (see Cllr. Hardiman's report re funding if installation of new poles were required). Seven sites had been identified as being suitable, but Paul Green (County Engineer) had stated that due to the heavier weight of the new signs, the poles needed to be permanently fixed and concreted in to County requirements. Clerk to write to P Green and Cllr Hardiman re provision and erecting of the requisite poles.

Other matter with County Highways Engineer P. Green from meeting with Cllr. Phillips:

• **Signage near cutting in Hoarstone Lane**

Cllr Phillips again viewed this site with Mr. Green. Again, it was advised that they would not provide a "Road Narrows" sign, despite the fact that the rock cutting gave no leeway for escape from large on-coming traffic. An offer was made to put wires down across the road, but it was within a 60mph area anyway – but it was stated that this would give an indication of the speed of traffic in the area. Cllr. Phillips repeated the Parish Council's request for better signage. Clerk was requested to write to Mr. Green, thanking him again for viewing the site, and that we would like to see better signage – perhaps a sign saying "oncoming vehicles in the middle of the road". It was pointed out that GPS systems took traffic approaching from the north on the A442 – i.e. from Bridgnorth – through Trimpley, and accessing Bewdley via this very dangerous lane.

• **Broken Manhole cover near to Mount Pool between Wild Woods and Wassell Top** –

This had not been repaired since the verges had been cut. Clerk to report again to Paul Green as a danger to anyone accessing the verge.

• **Severn Trent River Bank Stabilisation/Construction works**

Clerk had contacted the project manager who had advised that the preferred route to Trimpley Reservoir was via Hoarstone Lane. Clerk had advised him that this route was "unsuitable for HGVs", and he had come back with a revised route via Low Habberley. However, Severn Trent would be closing the road from Low Habberley from 8th July, and the manager advised that the haulage of stone to the reservoir would not commence until 16th July – after the roadworks had been completed. Clerk (via the Newsletter) and Cllr. C. Gammond (via Trimpleywatch) had kept the public notified of traffic travelling through the villages.

With regard to the road closure – questions were asked as to whether the County Council could charge Severn Trent, as the road was closed for longer than it should have been.

Also Councillor Phillips had challenged a worker employed by the contractor, who was collecting signs following the closure, and had emptied a sandbag weight, and thrown the sack into the

ditch. Cllr. Phillips had made the man pick up the sack and dispose of it correctly.

- **Poor quality of the internet in Crundalls Lane / Lightmarsh Lane.**

Clerk had written to BT in Durham about the poor infrastructure in this area, causing poor telephone and internet connections. Having received no acknowledgment, she had followed this up with an email to the Chief Executive Officer of BT, and finally received a response, via Adam Langford at Openreach. She had been advised that an executive case (Ref C14498398) had been opened to look into the infrastructure in the area, and investigate the network as a whole. She had also been advised that upgrade to fibre broadband should take place in the area in 2019/20.

It was felt that the parish had now taken this as far as it could, but that it would strengthen the case if individuals logged problems/complaints themselves.

- **Bench and Noticeboard Restoration Work**

Local handyman Richard Betts had commenced work on these.

10. **Lengthsman, Footpath work & Litter collection & Footpath Clearance.**

Lengthsman had tabled an invoice/worksheet for footpath clearance (KF576) for £75, and an invoice/worksheet for Lengthsman work for £88.

Cllr. Green had reported litter on Habberley Lane and, indeed, all the way to Catchems End. Despite some of this being cleared, the situation was still unacceptable.

11. **Financial Reports –**

a) Payments –

Chq No. 1037 – Stocksigns – 2 x VA Signs - £7260

(Clerk had ensured that these were added to the Insurance cover – giving an estimated cover of £10,000 for 3 VA Signs and poles. She had managed to get the premium charge of an extra £41.90 waived for this year – but this will be reflected in next year's premium).

Chq No. 1038 - HMRC – Clerk's PAYE - £69.60

Chq No. 1039 – E. Whitehouse – Clerk's expenses - £109.33

Chq No. 1040 – S. Archer – Footpath Clearance Work (Footpath A/c) - £75

Chq No. 1041 – S. Archer – Lengthsman Work £88

b) Audit – Clerk advised that the period for The Exercise of Public Rights in connection with the Governance, Accountability and Accounts of the Parish Council (AGAR) – which ran from beginning of June to 12th July had now expired, and no representations or queries had been made by the public in respect of the Audit. The Audit was therefore now considered complete.

12. **Worcestershire CALC Reports and Notices**

Training at Trimpley V. Hall – 22nd July. Clerk had arranged local training – specifically for new local Parish Councillors – and CALC had advised that they had 15 sign up for this already. It was hoped that several councillors from this parish council would also attend, if they were able. Clerk had arranged to invoice CALC for use of the Village Hall, and when payment was received, then the Parish Council would pay the Village Hall for the room hire, together with an extra hiring for the interviews recently conducted.

Survey of Councillors' opinions, and Clerk's opinions – Clerk had completed and sent in the Clerk's survey, and encouraged councillors to complete the survey for councillors. The CALC link had been forwarded to the by e-mail.

CALC Talk on Adult Social Care – Councillor Yarranton stated that he would ask if CALC could arrange a talk on this topic.

13. **County and District and other Correspondence -**

Worcestershire Passenger Transport Strategy – Clerk had included a link in the newsletter.

Outdoor Film Screening – 27th July – Brintons Park – Clerk gave brief details.

14. **Road Accidents** - None noted.

15. **Other Matters**

Item for October Newsletter (as suggested by Cllr. Yarranton). In December, KFPC (as all parishes) would have been in existence for 125 years, and Clerk was researching some details to put in an article in the October edition. Clerk asked if Councillors may have any input for this.

16. **Date of Next Meeting –** confirmed as **19th August 2019 at 7.30p.m**

Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m. Cllr. Chris Jordan gave apologies in advance.

Chairman :