

## **BORDER GROUP REPORT FEBRUARY 2018**

Mark Tansley has been out again to look at the Old Chapel at Adforton and is happy that the work is progressing. Some damage was done to roof tiles due to recent storm but this has now been dealt with. Will continue to monitor. He has advised Mark that he intends to submit an application shortly for a dwelling as per the pre-app discussions he had with the council a few years ago.

As requested I forwarded the Walford letter to Balfour Beatty and Sonya Morris of BB requested that a response to myself and Border Group PC be sent not later than February 8<sup>th</sup>. To date I have received no response so have chased this.

With regard to the matter of ditch clearance. I have some information from Paul Shipton with regard to this matter and the responsibility of land owners. I will bring information to the meeting.

I have forwarded to Mike Brookes the location of the replacement grit bins.

With regard to the SID purchase/rental I have spoken to the portfolio holder about reducing the cost of the assessment and am awaiting a response. There is some further information that I believe has a bearing on this and will mention at the meeting.

I have brought along to the meeting a welcome pack which has been produced by Leintwardine or new residents. I don't know whether Border Group would find it useful. It is where possible delivered to new residents and copies are placed in the village halls and pubs etc. It maybe something you have already tried in which case I apologise.

Two items I believe could be put on the website.

- Information on Healthwatch Herefordshire which is the public voice on health and social care. The leaflet is self explanatory.
- Information on the Herefordshire Library Home Delivery Service. This is a free service which delivers books, CDs and talking books to our more vulnerable parishioners. A maximum of 20 books and 12 CDs can be borrowed at any one time and can be delivered every 6 weeks.

Herefordshire Council set its capital and revenue budget last Friday and the Council Tax will rise by 4.9% which includes 2% which will be ring fenced for Adult Social Care. We are also putting an extra £2 million into Childrens Services to deal with the significant numbers of Looked After Children, those on Child Protection Plans and the need to increase our Early Help provision. At present we have just under 300 Looked After Children which is way above the average for a County of our population and of course this figure goes up and down weekly. Ideally we should be aiming at a figure closer to 80.

We have now received £5.5 million settlement from the Amey dispute and I am advised that a further £1 million is in the pipeline. I have been given assurances that this money will be spent on road resurfacing and maintenance and I will push for as much of that money as possible to be spent in Mortimer ward, particularly on our C & U roads.

The Council has published an overarching Single Enforcement & Prosecution Policy for all regulatory activities undertaken by or on behalf of Herefordshire Council, together with specific supplementary policies for

Parking Enforcement    Building Control Enforcement    Planning Enforcement    & Environmental Health Enforcement.

These documents can be found on the Council website.