

Border Group Border Parish council A.G.M.

Chairman's report 21.5.19

The Parish Council has continued to provide services for the residents of the Border Group parishes under increasing pressure from budget cuts and reduced funding. To fund this service for the next twelve months it has been agreed to increase the precept and use existing reserves to ensure future provision. However in the long term extra funding will be needed to ensure a continuation of this service. The precept has been increased by a modest amount but this will need further scrutiny for future years.

After five years the Border Group now has a Neighbourhood plan in place after its adoption in December. The Parish Council is in debt to the residents who involved themselves in the formation of the plan and the many changes and directives that came from Herefordshire Council during those five years. Bill Bloxham is also to be thanked for his work and guidance through to completion. We now hope that Herefordshire Council will respect the wishes of the residents in future plans within the Border Group Parishes.

It is nice to report that progress has been made to try and help reduce the issue of speeding through our villages with the purchase of a S.I.D. We hope this will encourage transient and local drivers to respect the speed limits in the Border Group's villages and the safety of the residents.

The condition of some of the minor roads within the Parishes is still to be resolved but the use of the new Velociraptor has speeded up minor repairs to pot holes but the longer lengths of weathered and worn road surface will still need attention. Reeves Lane has now been repaired after much campaigning and logistical difficulties with its proximity to the Welsh border.

Ward Councillor Carol Gandy has worked hard on our behalf on many of the issues brought to the Parish Council which have varied from dog fouling to planning and I should like to thank her for this and her success in resolving the vast majority of our concerns.

I would also like to thank Maureen for her work, patience, determination and resolve as Clerk and RFO to the Border Group Parish Council.

Apologies for not being present at the A.G.M

Simon Whiteman

Chairman of Border Group Parish Council