

HWG REPORT 15TH FEBRUARY 2021

- **Court Meadow – signage**

The issue of a road nameplate sign being placed at the junction of the A438 and Courtlands in Winforton was discussed some time ago. It was felt by residents of Court Meadow that a 'The Courtlands leading to Court Meadow and The Paddocks' sign would be advantageous in assisting visitors, delivery drivers and emergency services. Mr Joe Grice, BBLP Highways, has inspected the site and supports this view. We now have confirmation the proposed costs of supply and installation, which is minimal, and this, along with who is liable for it will be discussed at the next HWG meeting.

- **Restricted Byway – Winforton to Redgates**

A report of a tree partly blocking the Restricted Byway at Redgates had been received which was subsequently resolved by the landowner at no cost to the PC. It is noted that there is still a considerable amount of work to be undertaken to bring the northern end of this byway up to a standard required by statute. Mr Charlie Richardson, one-time resident of Winforton, has instigated proceedings formally requesting HC ensure this work is carried out. Until this complaint is resolved, HC has declined to discuss the issue further.

- **SID output**

The new SIDs have now spent a month in both Winforton and Eardisley. Anecdotal evidence suggests that when drivers spot the red frowning face displayed before their excessive speed they invariably slow down. The data downloaded suggests that the vast majority of drivers, approx. 80%, are within five miles an hour of the signed speed limit. Within a few months it should be possible to analyse the figures to determine any speeding hotspots in terms of specific days and times. An extract from the collected SID data will be published monthly on the website.

- **Potential acquisition of additional SIDs**

The possibility of purchasing additional SIDs for permanent deployment has been discussed. While generally in agreement with this initiative, the HWG felt that before recommending such an action more research will need to be done vis a vis legality of deployment and as to if there is a justifiable need for permanent SIDs. The HWG will report on this issue in a few months but not before sufficient traffic information has been collated once traffic returns to former levels.

- **Damage to Hobby Lyons Bridge**

A resident reported damage to the safety barrier at Hobby Lyons Bridge. This has now been logged on the BBLP on-line reporting system. Repair work is scheduled to be carried out between 8h-17th March when the road will be closed. It is suggested that more needs to be done to get the message out that these issues do not need to be actioned exclusively by the PC. All residents are encouraged to report them directly to BBLP, either on-line or by telephone.

- **Flooding - Hobby Lyons**

Flooding at Hobby Lyons Bridge has been raised again by a resident. Steve Whittall once more has inspected the water course in that area and cleared a minimal amount of debris that had built up. The resident was informed, and the point made, that access to the gateways is on private land and if there is concern EGPC will liaise directly with the landowner.

- **Flooded Road – Woods Eaves**

There is a dip in the road at Woods Eaves that is continuously subject to flooding. It is thought that a quick fix may be gained by replacing the drainage pipe at this location which a resident is happy to undertake. The only cost involved will be minimal, in effect the purchase of the pipe if required.

- **Historical Flood Relief**

The Clerk contacted the Environment Agency, Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty to request information of the Eardisley Flood Relief scheme that was authorised in 2012 but was not implemented. The EA has quoted Covid-19 exemption from the usual timeframes for response to enquiries and we still await information from them. HC passed the matter to BBLP who replied that this matter pre-dated their contract. The Clerk has requested further clarification, including the fact BBLP mentioned a new flood alleviation request from Eardisley was raised in 2020, and is awaiting a decision. BBLP confirmed their drainage team would visit Hobby Lyons Bridge and the waterway at the bridge in central Eardisley to carry out inspections as soon as priorities permit. The Clerk has requested feedback when this happens.

- **Lengthsman Scheme/P3 Scheme – Registration**

We have once again registered for the Lengthsman/P3 Scheme. Although there is no funding at present if monies do become available registration may enable us to access it.

Agenda Points

- **Potential purchase of footpath furniture**

The stock of kissing gates purchased last year have now been deployed to great advantage. The PC are requested to purchase five or six more, funding dependent, for installation in the coming financial year. Research suggests it is most cost effective to purchase gates from BBLP, who have quoted £451.94 per gate including delivery. £75.32 of this is VAT which can be reclaimed. This compares very favourably with other suppliers whose prices tend to be higher and do not include delivery charges.

- **Road Condition – North Eardisley**

The ongoing issue of excessive road noise at the Northern end of Eardisley has been discussed again. Residents, the PC and our Ward Councillor have previously engaged with BBLP on this matter but with somewhat mixed results. While a site visit by BBLP has been undertaken fairly recently, with the result that a couple of potholes were filled, this has done little to alleviate the situation. It is suggested that a firmer stance be taken, by the PC, in requesting a full consultation be undertaken, involving BBLP, the PC and concerned residents to determine the extent of the problem over a more protracted period rather than a short site visit.

- **Drop Kerb - Eardisley resident's concern**

Residents living on Church Road in Eardisley have long reported that, since the resurfacing of the road through the village, during heavy rain their properties are experiencing flooding water runoff breaching the drop kerbs. This is thought to be because of the raising of the road surface in respect to the drop kerbs which were already in situ. Although this issue has been previously raised to the relevant BBLP department, via the Locality Steward, it is suggested that it be raised once again with a view to improving the lot of those living with this issue.

- **Locality Steward Briefing**

Below are the recent points reported by our Locality Steward in respect of the Parish

- Carriageway potholes have been filled in the following areas: C1072 from New House to Knowle Farm, C1072 from A438 to New House, Cefn Road, C1185 from Brobury Stud to Lilac Cottage, C1080 Track South of Pennsylvania Lyonshall, C1079 from A480 to Meadows Farm & The Caeau to County Boundary Road.
- Temporary road closure signs have been put out and removed on the A438 from Kinley Lane to C1185
- The verge has been pulled back to the carriageway on the Lane from Bromage Farm Broxwood.
- Illegal signs have been taken down on the A4111 Eardisley to Willersley Road.
- PROW materials have been delivered for footpath WW11, EE6 & EE7.
- Fly tipping has been collected on the C1073 from C1072 to Welshwood Farm Access.
- New verge markers have been installed on the C1080 Track South of Pennsylvania Lyonshall.
- Carriageway potholes have been filled in the following areas: Brynafal Bridge Court Road & A438 from Greenacre to Powys Boundary.
- A hanging tree limb has been removed from the C1072 from New House to Knowle Farm.
- New finger posts have been installed on footpath AM2 & WW9

Residents are encouraged to report any defects which need looking at **INCLUDING EMERGENCIES** by telephone on 01432 261800 or for non-emergency defects, by logging on the Herefordshire Council website where all defects will be dealt with in a timely manner.