<u>Westbury and Yockleton News</u>letter

Issue 216 - July 2020

News items for the Newsletter should go to the Editor, Rita Waters, Dingley Dell, Westbury, Shrewsbury SY5 9QX Tel: 01743 884434, email: newsletter.editor.wy@gmail.com

Business adverts and any new businesses wishing to place adverts should also contact the Editor preferably by email. Items for inclusion in the Newsletter must reach me by : for the August 2020 edition : 9am Monday, 27 July 2020 and for the September 2020 edition : 9am Monday, 24 August 2020.

Westbury Village Hall

Westbury Parish Council : Due to the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 virus, Westbury Parish Council meetings are subject to change and - until further notice - will be held remotely using "Zoom" software to conduct meetings. The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Thursday, 9 July 2020. Should any member of the public wish to join the meeting, it is requested that they first contact the Parish Clerk by email: Mrs Sarah-Jane Smith, Clerk and RFO : <clerkwypc@aol.co.uk>.

Westbury WI : Due to the Covid-19 virus, all future meetings and events have been postponed until further notice. For more information call Jill Jones (01743 884414) or Cilla Perry (01743 884950) or Beryl Johnson (01743 884950).

Westbury Bowls Club : As usual, will be closed for the summer months but - depending upon restrictions caused by the Covid-19 virus - will hopefully start again in September. For more information, call Dave Williams (01743 884553).

Westbury Photography Club: Due to restrictions caused by the Covid-19 virus, the Club will not be meeting again until advised by the Government that it will be safe to do so. For more information please email Robert Williams : (robertwilliams6@mac.com).

Hall Hire : Due to the Covid-19 virus, the village hall will not be available for bookings until further notice. For more information, please contact Bella 07707639124 (Mobile) (Voice/Text) or email : childsbella@icloud.com

Westbury Youth Club : The "physical" Youth Club has closed; however - conscious that the Covid-19 virus situation is putting a huge strain on everyone, Lee and Hayley are keeping in touch with the young people and will run a "virtual" Youth Club, which is being advertised through their Facebook page. For further information, call Richard Parkes, Chief Executive Officer, Shropshire Youth Association. Tel: 01743 730005 or 07710095802 (Mobile).

Westbury Exercise Group : Due to the Covid-19 virus, all future meetings have been postponed until further For more information please contact : notice. rmorris73@gmail.com.

Long Mountain CoE Primary School : Due to the Covid-19 virus situation, the School and Pre-School are only open for the children of NHS staff and other key workers until further notice. For more information, please contact Long Mountain CoE Primary School on 01743 891320.

West Shropshire Flower Club : Due to the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 virus, all future meetings have been cancelled until further notice. For more information call Liz Dawson (01938 570235) or visit: info@brimford.co.uk.

Yockleton Victory Hall

Yockleton W I : Due to the Covid-19 virus situation, future meetings have had to be cancelled until further notice. For more information, please contact Daphne Goodwin (01743 884524).

Rea Valley Young Farmers Club : Quite apart from the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 virus, it has been decided that no meetings of this Club will take place in future. For more information, please contact Rebecca Beckett on 07528 944632.

Refuse and Recycling Services in July 2020

Wednesdays 1st and 15th and 29th- Refuse

Wednesdays 8th and 22nd-Green and Recycling

Household Re-Cycling Centres

Although I advised in the June 2020 Newsletter, that Shropshire Council had re-opened all five of their Household Recycling Centres, at the moment it is not clear from their website whether or not the Guidance Notes and Specific Site Rules are still in operation. So, before deciding to visit, best to check their website :

> https://shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-andrubbish/household-recycling-centres

Editor

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West Mercia Police

Now that Westbury Post Office has closed and Police Surgeries are no longer held there, much of the information contained in the Newsletters produced by the Shrewsbury Rural West and District's Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) based at Pontesbury Police Station, will be of interest to residents of Westbury, Yockleton and surrounding hamlets and can be viewed on the Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter website: wylocalnews.co.uk or, to view issues of these SNT Newsletters and to view the Police Events Calendar, please follow the link below :

https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/2993/Team-Calendar-and-Events?amonth=2&ayear=2018&submit=Go

NB : If the Police are attending any events in Westbury, these will be added to their Calendar.

Anti-Social Behaviour

0345 678 9020 is the Dedicated Reporting Line for Anti-Social Behaviour operated by Shropshire Council in partnership with a number of agencies including the Police. Please use this number to report any anti-social behaviour. All calls are recorded and followed up by the agencies involved.

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Your local Safer Neighbourhood Team members are Inspector Saf Ali and Sgt Rebecca Thomas. Joe Bradley continues as my right hand man and Police Volunteer Arthur Jones is still opening Pontesbury Police Station on Wednesday evenings between 4.00pm and 7.00pm, should you need to attend for for any issue. We have a sign that we put outside the Station if there is an officer on the premises, so - if anyone is passing and wants advice - please call in.

If anyone requires a "home" visit or wants to discuss anything, please just ring me : PC Cookson on 101 Ext 66645 or use my

Work Mobile : 07814 042410 (Duty Hours)

or email us via:shrewsburyrw.sent@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

If you need **to report any crime**, please call West Mercia on the 101 number or report anything anonymously through :

Crimestoppers on 0800555111.

Please do not email to report a crime. Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress, or when life is in danger. For none emergencies please call 101.

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Disclaimer

The Editor reserves the right to cut, edit or refuse to publish any contribution and does not necessarily endorse opinions expressed by the contributors. Whilst care has been taken in compiling the Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter, no liability can be accepted whatsoever for any errors, inaccuracies or omissions, or for any matter in any other way connected with or arising out of the publication of the Newsletter.

Police Matters

For reasons that are beyond explanation, Westbury and Yockleton are having a slight reprieve from the over-night thefts at the moment. Please remain vigilant because there is no pattern to the thefts and they could easily re-start. Recently, Shropshire Police have had some arrests of two different groups of people, neither of whom were from Shropshire. Whether they are just the offenders who collect the goods and transport them out of the county after someone else has stolen them, remains unclear at the moment.

There is a National Seat Belt Campaign running for two weeks, and which started on 29 June, so please ensure you are all safely restrained and - following complaints from locals - there will be some Speed Enforcement checks being conducted in both Westbury and Yockleton over the next two months.

Stay safe and please get in touch with any questions or concerns.

Please continue to lock up outbuildings and report any sightings via 101 and also via some of the excellent community Facebook pages to alert your neighbours that they are about.

I am still working as usual and if you would like me to have a walk around your property to give security advice, please get in touch. I can manage to shout over two metres but I am missing my usual cups of tea, which would be a pre-requisite for a visit!

As always, keep garages, sheds and outbuildings locked and - if possible - alarmed. Simple battery powered alarms have improved and noise is always a good deterrent if a thief has managed to get into your "Lock Up". Quad bikes and push bikes continue to be popular amongst thieves, so both need chaining up/bolting down.

Security marking can help recover stolen items and there are a number of options available. Please remain vigilant and ensure everything gets locked all the time - not just last thing at night. Keep in touch with your neighbours by telephone and - for those who use social media - post strange vehicles and unusual events. Neighbourhood Watch is nothing complicated or formal. It's just keeping an eye out, but also letting others know including me - if you have the registration numbers of vehicles that don't look or feel right. It doesn't matter if it is via Facebook, WhatsApp or a text message. Email me and Joe Bradley via :

shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

If you have outside lights and security lights, make sure they are working. Any garden ornaments of value or interest need to be well secured, as do power tools and garden equipment, as they remain a desirable item for opportunist night-time thieves.

Please be aware of any unusual callers to your house or area, even those who may make themselves look legitimate by offering gardening services or asking for directions. Always try

Continued overleaf.

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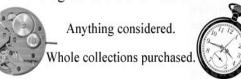
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Police Matters continued ...

and make a note of vehicle registration numbers or anything distinctive about the vehicle and callers. The "What's on in Westbury" Facebook page is a great way to warn everyone quickly about anything suspicious and gives others the chance to be vigilant.

As stated above, please only contact the Police in an emergency - but we are available for all general advice via our mobile phones and email addresses.

P C Ross Cookson 1324 SNT Shrewsbury Rural West Police Wildlife Crime Officer Telephone : 101 Ext. 7704803 Work Mobile : 07814 042410 (Duty Hours) Group Mailbox: <u>shrewsburyre.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk</u> **Rural SNT based at:** Pontesbury Police Station, Minsterley Road, Pontesbury. SY5 0QH

The Vron Gate Show

Sadly it appears to have been the right decision to cancel the Vron Gate Show as the country is only just starting to unlock and mass group gatherings are not recommended. We were disappointed to hear that The Minsterley Show had also been cancelled but, appreciating the amount of work and expense which goes into setting up our Show, it was understandable that they have also had to cancel - here's looking forward to a great 2021 season !

Sabrina Mobile Library : 2020

Unfortunately the Mobile Library Service has now been cancelled until further notice. To keep up-to-date with our service delivery over the coming months, please follow us on Twitter.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Shropshire Libraries Team: *libraries@shropshire.gov.uk*.

Sioned Baldwin Team Librarian (Mon/Weds/Thurs) Library Development Team Shropshire Council, The Annexe, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury. SY2 6ND





A Thought from the Rector of St Mary's

In the Old Testament, God charges us with the following seemingly simple command, recorded in Micah chapter 6:8

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

But what does it mean, do we sometimes misunderstand it ?

Mercy is something we receive but we are not 'owed'; if we are indeed owed it, then it is no longer mercy.

Justice is something to which we have a 'right' or obligation; that doesn't mean that we always receive it and it may of course work against us - justice is something that we get in return for the error of our ways.

The word used in the Bible for mercy is the Hebrew word Hesed, which has a deeper meaning, it suggests God's steadfast love. A love that perseveres through the toughest of trials.

Hence, the Bible teaches us that God loves us so much, despite our failings that we are 'saved' by the all-powerful mercy of God – in other words we deserve a just punishment but we actually receive mercy. In that way, we can be truly humble – for there is nothing for us to boast in.

Lord, sometimes life is tough, sometimes it is hard to do the right thing, but we pray that you will give us your strength to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly, every day. AMEN

If you would like some fellowship in this time of lock down, please email the Rector : davidmosswwy@gmail.com

We have plenty of people who are available just to chat on the phone, or you can join us at our :

Coffee Morning on Zoom at 10:30 am every Wednesday

We have around a dozen to fifteen attendees normally and just 'chat'

Then of-course at 10:30 am every Sunday we have a full Sunday Service on Zoom

ALL WELCOME

Revd. David Moss Rector for the Parishes of Westbury, Worthen and Yockleton Email : <davidmosswwy@gmail.com>

Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter Covid-19 Virus

As stated in my April, May and June 2020 Newsletters, each month - and for many years - 530 copies of the Newsletter have been delivered house-to-house in Westbury, Yockleton and surrounding communities by our team of 20 volunteer distributors.

Understandably, in these extraordinary times, our volunteers are unable to continue. All monthly editions are now only available for viewing or downloading via our new website .

www.wylocalnews.co.uk

Alternatively, if you visit the website and **REGISTER** by giving your email address, future copies of the Newsletter will be automatically downloaded to your email inbox every month, at no charge to you. Furthermore, this will allow you to print off copies of the Newsletter for any neighbours or friends who may not have a computer.

Editor

Application Reference	Applicant/Agent	Date	Proposal	Status
20/02477/FUL	Mr and Mrs S and K Parkhurst and Mulholland 2 Hermitage Close, Westbury Shrewsbury SY5 9QL	25 June 2020	Alterations to front elevation in association with garage conversion.	Pending Consideration
20/02204/TCA	Mrs Judith Jones The Post Office, Westbury SY5 9QX and Mr David Middleton 5 Barnyard Close Westbury, Shrewsbury. SY5 9DF	9 June 2020	To crown reduce to approximately 25ft after - 40% 1 No Silver Birch (A) and 1 No Copper Beech to allow light into both properties within Westbury Conservation Area.	Pending Consideration
20/02188/TCA	Mr Robert Davies 17 Jubilee Mews, Westbury Shrewsbury. SY5 9EZ	5 June 2020	Fell 1 No Tree (See Plan) within Westbury Conservation Area. Tree too large for small rear garden, roots likely to damage building footings and foundations.	Pending Consideration
20/02074/AGR	Mr Paul Williams Bank House Farm, Yockleton Shrewsbury. SY5 9PH Agent : Halls Holdings Ltd Bowmen Way, Battlefield Shrewsbury. SY4 3DR	29 May 2020	Proposed erection of building to be used as a grain store and sprayer washdown area. Land at Yockleton Growers Ltd, Yockleton, Shropshire. SY5 9PQ. Land on same site as six existing broiler poultry sheds, biomass building and grain drying building.	Pending Consideration
20/02033/AMP	Mr Myles Thomas, T C Thomas & Son, Manor Farm, Stoney Stretton, Yockleton, Shrewsbury. SY5 9PZ Agent:: Mr Paul Middleton Roger Parry & Partners, Hogstow Hall, Minsterley, Shrewsbury SY5 0HZ.	27 May 2020	Non Material Amendment for the building to be made smaller and for the ridge line to run north-west to south-east to planning permission 19/04188/FUL. Erection of grain store/Manor Farm, Stoney Stretton, Shrewsbury. SY5 9PZ	<u>Granted</u>
20/01996/FUL	Mr Malcolm Ellis Rose Cottage, Winnington Green, Middletown, Welshpool. SY21 8DN	26 May 2020	Erection of one replacement dwelling in- cluding first floor balcony, detached dou- ble garage and repositioning of vehicular access following demolition of existing buildings. Change of use of land to domes- tic garden land (revised description).	Pending Consideration
20/01715/FUL	Mr Kenneth Davis The Pebbles, Marche Lane, Halfway House, Shrewsbury SY5 9DE Agent:: Mrs Charlene Sussums- Lewis, Carter Jonas LLP, Canon Court North, Abbey Lawn Shrewsbury. SY2 5DE	11 May 2020	To develop a Single Plot Exception Site for a three-bed dwelling with detached garage within the existing grounds of "The Pebbles", Marche Lane, Halfway House, Shrewsbury SY5 9DE with associ- ated hard-standing curtilage, access and connection to required services. The ac- cess, parking and turning areas can all be accommodated within the curtilage of the Site. The proposed dwelling will be a sep- arate entity to The Pebbles.	Pending Consideration

Shropshire Council Planning Applications

Application **Applicant/Agent Proposal** Date Status Reference 20/01795/FUL Mr Kevin Heede 7 May 2020 Fell 6 No Leylandii Conifers within Consent By Westbury Conservation Area. Fell because Right - Trees Brookside Vennington Road of excessive shading and of low amenity Westbury value. Known to grow huge over time and SY5 9RB wrong for this location. To be replaced with native Holly, Hazel and Crab Apple Trees 20/01785/PMBPA Mr Wes Morris 6 May 2020 Application for prior approval under Part 3, Pending Top House Farm, Vron Gate Class Q of the Town and Country Planning Consideration Westbury. SY5 9RQ (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for the change of use of barn Agent:: Mr Gerallt Davies, conversion to two residential units and Roger Parry & Partners associated works from agriculture to 1 Berriew Street residential use at Top House Farm Welshpool. SY21 7SQ Vron Gate, Westbury. SY5 9RQ 15 April 2020 20/01526/OUT Mr J Morris Outline application for the erection of 1 No Pending New build dwelling and detached garage to Wallop Hill Farm, Rowley Consideration Westbury. SY5 9RZ include improvements to existing means of access from public highway. Agent:: Mr Simon White, Batch Wallop Hill Farm, Rowley, Valley Design, Lentiago, Westbury. SY5 9RZ Sandford Avenue, Church Stretton. SY6 7AE 9 April 2020 20/01480/AGR PF and MJ Williams & Son Proposed lean-to steel framed building to Withdrawn Bank House Farm, Yockleton be used for a sprayer washdown area. Shrewsbury. SY5 9PH Land at Yockleton Growers Ltd, Yockleton. SY5 9PQ Agent : Hall Holdings Ltd Bowmen Way, Battlefield, Shrewsbury. SY4 3DR 20/01267/FUL 30 March 2020 Mr and Mrs Christopher Graham-Replacement of flat roof; fenestration and Granted Fielding, Primrose Cottage, doors, new French windows; removal of Station Road, Westbury. former Post Office awning, internal altera-SY5 9QX tions and insertion of canopy roof light, new fencing and entrance gates. Agent:: Derek E Tomley B4387 Station Road, Westbury. SY5 9QX Corner House, Worthen. SY5 9HW 27 March 2020 20/01322/FUL Mr Winston Carron Non-Material Amendment to previously Granted Greenlands approved planning permission 19/04192/FUL. Erection of extension to Yockleton create first floor: Greenlands, Yockleton. Shrewsbury SY5 9PQ. B4386 from Yockleton 30mph SY5 9PQ start to Ford Heath junction 20/01217/FUL Mr David Moss 18 March 2020 Reduce height by 40% of linear group of Pending The Rectory Holly, Hawthorn with a few young self set **Consideration** Westbury. SY5 9QX Ash trees running adjacent to road and up to Church entrance to Rectory Gates Agent:: Rob Petri within Westbury Conservation Area. Kiwi Tree Services Consent by Right - Trees to reduce height The Beeches, Westbury. by 40% to encourage lower growth and SY5 9QX privacy to The Rectory. Page 9

Shropshire Council Planning Applications

Application Reference	Applicant/Agent	Date	Proposal	Status
20/01283	Mr Tom Halliday Whitton Grange, Whitton Near Westbury. SY5 9RD Agent: Mr A S Rowland Architectural Services Barratts Hill, Broseley Shropshire. TF12 5NJ	19 March 2020	Proposed Discharge of Conditions 3. Joinery details 4. Roof window 5. Roof construction and 6 external materials application 18/05785/FUL. Erection of two storey side extension and internal alterations at The White House, Whitton Cottages, Whitton, Near Westbury. SY5 9RD	<u>Granted</u>
20/1150/AGR	Mr W Onions W Onions & Sons, Lower House Farm c/o Hogstow Hall, Minsterley, Shrewsbury. SY5 0HZ Agent : Mr P Middleton Roger Parry & Partners LLP Hogstow Hall	16 March 2020	Erection of an agricultural building at Lower House Farm, Stoney Stretton, Yockleton. SY5 9PZ	<u>Planning</u> <u>Permission</u> <u>Required</u>
20/00893/FUL	Agent : Mr Jason Curran AIP Architects Ltd Lunesdale C, Upton Magna Business Park Shrewsbury. SY4 4TT	6 March 2020	Erection of single storey garage and UPVC porch addition to the new build three bedroom bungalow, in material to match the current build. 2 Cureton Close, Westbury. SY5 9FE	Pending Consideration
20/00484/TCA	Mr Peter Carden St Mary's Church Westbury SY5 9QX Agent: : Mr Robert Petri Kiwi Tree Services The Beeches, Westbury Shrewsbury. SY5 9QX	3 February 2020	To fell 1 No Wild Cherry and 1 No Haw thorn tree within Westbury Conservation area situated on avenue leading to Church. Requesting permission to fell both trees. Parish Council wish to open up Avenue to reveal more of Church. Cherry is asymmetrical due to lopping off branches some years back. The Hawthorn is relatively	<u>Consent by</u> <u>Right - Trees</u>
20/00894/FUL	Mr Stephen Penrose Seven Stars, Vrongate, Westbury SY5 9RQ Agent : Neil Jones S J Roberts Construction Ltd Lowfield Marton SY21 8JX	2 March 2020	Conversion of three attached outbuildings into residential annexe to accommodate elderly family members to live on site with family. Two buildings have an existing planning approval for conversion and have been partly finished. This appli cation seeks to include the third building whilst keeping the car port.	<u>Granted</u>
20/00692/FUL	Mr Andrew Griffiths C/o Agent : Sophie Moore Berrys, Beech House, Anchorage Avenue Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury. SY2 6FG	24 February 2020	Increase in the number of touring caravan pitches by 17 (total of 42 pitches). Erection of Manager's dwelling; application under Section 73aA of the Town & Country Planning Act for the retrospective installation of otter proof boundary fencing on land north west of Westley House Farm, Hem Lane, Horsebridge,	Pending Consideration
20/00758/FUL	Mr V Kerswell C/o Hogstow Hall, Minsterley SY5 0HZ Agent : Mr P Middleton Roger Parry & Partners LLP Hogstow Hall	21 February 2020	Conversion of traditional barn building into a single residential dwelling; installation of septic tank at Wallop Hall, Westbury. SY5 9RU.	Pending Consideration

Shropshire Council Planning Applications



The Breidden

Restaurant - Pub - Take-Away

Just wanted to share a good experience with other Newsletter readers.

As we all know, because of the Covid 19 Lockdown, all Restaurants in our area have closed for sit-in dining. I looked on-line for a Takeaway and found the Breidden restaurant in Middletown which is local to our area. They provide professional quality restaurant food as a Take-Away.

I decided to give it a try. Since then, my Wife, Son and I have had several excellent meals and have never been disappointed. I can thoroughly recommend "The Breidden" for great food.

The Breidden's 24 hour online ordering system works well for planning meals ahead of time, because they can be pre-ordered at any time of the day or night from their huge On-Line Menu - and then collected. See : www.thebreidden.co.uk for full details of their menu, including photos of the many delicious dishes available.

Newsletter Subscriber

DRAFT LOCAL PLAN REVIEW CHALLENGE TO WESTBURY'S CURRENT "OPEN COUNTRYSIDE PLANNING POLICY STATUS"

Once again, Shropshire Council's Planning Officers are challenging Westbury's current "Open Countryside Planning Policy Status" which was previously agreed under the "Site Allocations and Management of Development" document (SAMDev) at their meeting in June 2010, although this matter has been raised, fully discussed and agreed many times since 2006. At the Public Meeting held on 22 June 2010, the stated County-wide target of 8,500 homes with 6,500 in the town of Shrewsbury was thought to be overstated. Of the 66 Westbury parishioners present at that meeting or sending in statements, 28 wanted no development in Westbury and 19 wanted some development - but just infill type. No persons wanted any significant development and there were no requests for new enterprise areas or similar. That meeting did not want Westbury or Yockleton designated as a "Hub" or "Cluster", nor did it want Development Boundaries scrapped. It was also noted that some properties in both Hinwood Road and Station Road, Westbury were already "overloaded" for flooding and water ingress to properties - so far as insurance costs were concerned - and that still applies today.

The last time this matter was discussed was in September 2018 when Westbury Parish Council and Ed Potter, our Unitary Councillor, called a Public Meeting re the "Preferred Scale and Distribution of Development" - as part of "Shropshire Council's Local Plan Review" and I was asked to include a Notice of that meeting in the September 2018 Westbury and Yockleton Newsletter - which I did. That Public Meeting was very well attended by local residents and the matter of Westbury becoming a "Hub" was once again discussed/considered at length. A vote was taken and Westbury residents and Westbury Parish Councillors strongly objected to Westbury being designated with "Hub" status, so the proposal was overwhelmingly rejected and Westbury's "Open Countryside Planning Policy Status" was retained.

On 10 June 2020 Shropshire Council Planning Policy Officers met representatives of Westbury Parish Council Continued overleaf and Unitary Councillor Ed Potter, after the "Points Allocation" for Westbury village becoming a "Community Hub" (allowing development) in the Local Plan Review was challenged by a Housing Development Company. Following this challenge, Shropshire Council has accepted that - within "comfortable walking distance of the village" - there is a business with five or more employees, thus adding 5 points to the "village score" resulting in Westbury qualifying for "Hub" status. However, that business is located on the B4387 - a 40mph road - which contains numerous blind bends, multiple access points, no street lighting and no pedestrian pavement. It is therefore not a safe road and certainly does not qualify for or justify the score of 5 points recently allocated by Shropshire Council

Once again, this score of 5 points was challenged by Westbury Parish Council and our Unitary Councillor Ed Potter; however, Shropshire Council Planning Officers insist the scoring is accurate but - if not accepted - can be challenged at the Inspection stage. This would be after the Public Consultation which is likely to be in mid-July and run for eight weeks.

Also the Shropshire Council Planning Officer's statement that there is a Chemist or Pharmacy in Westbury is misleading and not true. Our local GP Practice certainly dispenses medication to those Westbury residents registered with Westbury Medical Centre but - in Westbury village - there is certainly no Pharmacy or Chemist shop (as defined in the English Dictionary) which residents of Westbury who do <u>not</u> use the surgery (of whom I am advised there are a very large percentage) can access. In my personal opinion, to award 3 points for a facility which is not valid is - to say the least - thoroughly dishonest.

NB It should be noted that the "points" allocation stated on Shropshire Council's website is not the allocation which the Planning Officer is using because it includes St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Westbury which closed in July 2017 and the petrol station which no longer exists, having closed very many years ago. So the website appears to be very much out of date.

Another significant issue which has been raised is the sustainability of the "Outreach Post Office" in Westbury which is only hosted by Nigel Farr as a goodwill community gesture, with no formal lease agreement. So there is already local speculation that the Outreach Post Office might not resume in Westbury. In any event, this service has been suspended since the Covid-19 "Lock Down" began but - to date - there has been no guarantee from Royal Mail as to whether this service might resume. Having a Post Office - either permanently or as an Outreach service - carries 4 points. Therefore, without the Post Office, the allocation of points for Westbury Village would drop below the required "Hub" threshold of 48 points. Shropshire Council has asked that further investigation be carried out as to the long term viability of the Outreach Post Office service in Westbury and that information be provided to the Planning Officer before a decision is made.

There are currently no Planning Applications lodged with Shropshire Council for any large scale housing developments in Westbury, although I have heard from local gossip that some Housing Developers intend to submit planning applications as soon as they have the "green light" to do so. There is a lot of speculation as to the location of sites in and around the village which have been promoted for development.

Going forward there are some key points to remember :

If Westbury is included in the Draft Local Plan, which goes to Shropshire Council's Cabinet*** for approval for Public Consultation, all residents will have the opportunity to respond to the Consultation and make their views known. It is unlikely - in view of the present Covid 19 virus situation - that a Public Meeting will be held in Westbury, unless Government Guidance is relaxed.

***The date for this Cabinet meeting (previously arranged for Monday, 6 July 2020) has since been extended and will be held at 1.00pm on Monday, 20 July 2020

I have also been advised that a small number of Westbury residents would like to see some development in the village, so - if you would like your views considered - it is important to feed these into the Public Consultation from mid July onwards.

In this situation it is important that Westbury residents respond - either by letter or email - to Ed Potter, our Unitary Councillor who will pass on their comments or to Robert Macey, Shropshire Council's Cabinet member responsible

for Housing and Strategic Planning : Email: robert.macey@shropshire.gov.uk - or to submit their comments direct to Mr Macey.

Following the end of the Consultation - and if Westbury is still included in the Local plan, which goes before the Planning Inspectorate (an independent body) - Westbury Parish Council and residents will be able formally to challenge the allocation of housing for Westbury.

Having said that, I have recently been advised that when Ford village wanted only 28 dwellings, once their Planning Development Status was changed from "Open Countryside" to a "Hub" they ended up with over 100 new houses. Similarly when Nesscliffe village wanted no more than 20 to 25 houses, they too ended up with well over 100 additional properties, because applications were approved under what has been referred to as the "Slippage" of the Local Plan.

Please do log on to our Newsletter website as soon as possible to view Councillor Ed Potter's latest report - it's located here: https://wylocalnews.co.uk/articles and then submit your views to Councillor Robert Macey, at The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. SY2 6ND as this matter will now be considered by Cabinet on 20 July 2020.

Key dates

- Cabinet : 20 July 2020
- Consultation for at least eight weeks : July September 2020
- Opportunity for Council to make minor changes to plan : September December 2020
- Full Council decision to submit the Plan to Government for Examination : December 2020
- Submission and examination: January to December 2021
- Adoption: early 2022

Editor