

Little Birch Parish council

Ward member report, November 2017

Lack of minutes online

I have been informed by Mike Morley that the university minutes are once again not online & I have chased this up again. On a similar theme I'd like to appraise the LBPC that none of my ward Councillor reports have been posted on the parish website for over a year – would someone kindly look into this?

Planning committee

I was disappointed to read the minutes of the last LBPC meeting and see that Mike was unimpressed with my efforts at planning committee: 'did not assist JJ in his attempts.' I make every effort to assist people with their planning applications but clearly planning is highly procedural and rule driven, if a case falls outside the core strategy as this one did then there's very little I can say or do to change the planning decision.

Free late night parking in Hereford

Shoppers and visitors will be able to park for free in town and city centre car parks this Christmas in a bid to make Herefordshire a prime Christmas shopping destination.

Herefordshire Council car parks in Hereford city centre, including the Old Market and on-street pay & display, will be free for shoppers after 4pm for late night Christmas shopping on **Wednesday 22 and 29 November and 6, 13 and 20 December**. There will be a range of shops open late, including Maylord Orchards, the Old Market and High Town and the surrounding area.

City Link road

The long awaited city link road in Hereford will be opening in early December and I have forwarded a short video on traffic directions etc to the clerk. Despite what you might read there is no overspend! The expected final costs show an underspend against the business case that was submitted in 2015 for the Hereford Transport Package to the LEP growth fund that awarded the scheme a grant. With the transport hub and upgrades to Commercial road, Blueschool street and Newmarket street still to be developed, the scheme will come in under the £40.6 million that was agreed for the project.

Poppies coming to Hereford next Easter

We are honoured to have been awarded the 'weeping windows' poppy display next Easter. Details available from the link below. Volunteers will be sought nearer the time to help visitors.

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/news/article/410/poppies_weeping_window_coming_to_hereford

County's care homes rated best in West Midlands

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has revealed that Herefordshire is providing some of the best care for adults in the West Midlands.

The latest CQC inspection report shows that Herefordshire has the highest proportion of 'Good' or 'Outstanding' care homes and the second highest proportion of home care providers in the region.

Herefordshire has 29 nursing homes, providing specialist care for medical conditions such as dementia. The CQC has inspected all but one of these and rated 24 of them (86%) as being 'Good'. This means we have the **highest** proportion in the West Midlands.

DGH November 2017