

Bredenbury Group Parish Council

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Wednesday 28th April 2021

1. The Chairman welcomed those attending and thanked them for their interest.
2. No apologies received.
3. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 23rd April 2019. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes and they were to be signed by the Chairman in accordance with social distancing.
4. No matters arising
5. **Chairman's Report**

This report covers all three parishes in the group. In addition, as the Annual Parish Meeting was cancelled last year the report also covers some of the major events for that period.

Covid-19

- The Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council set up the Bredenbury Action Group to support local residents who were shielding during the pandemic. We are very grateful for a group of local residents who took on the challenge of becoming support shoppers in order to collect food, medications and other essential items.

Neighbourhood Plan

- All Steering group minutes and associated papers are available on the Parish Council Website.
- The plan was progressed through Regulations 14 & 16 with associated consultation and submitted to examination by the Independent Examiner who recommended that the plan be taken forward to referendum
- Unfortunately, due to regulations arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, the referendum which had been scheduled to take place in May 2020 was postponed and will now take place on 6th May 2021
- The steering group has continued to meet remotely and has worked diligently in recent months to motivate a high turnout at the forthcoming election.
- The Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of the Parish Council and the entire community for the continued efforts and support of the Steering Group throughout this period.

Road Safety

- The TRO to reduce the speed limit along Harp/Rowden Lane outside the school and along Valley View had now progressed through consultation and is now awaiting final approval from Herefordshire Council
- Horse and Rider warning signs have been deployed along both Rowden & Wacton Lanes. A third of the costs of these signs was met through a generous donation from 2 members of the local community.
- A school warning sign was installed on Rowden Lane to warn traffic approaching the school along this route.
- The undergrowth and overhanging trees on the A44 between Bredenbury School and Brockington Lane have been cut back to improve visibility and to avoid the need for high sided vehicles to travel in the centre of the carriageway.
- Pavements have been cleared both along the area where the overhanging trees have been cut back and along the length of the pavement between Grendon Firs and the Three Pines Garage
- The Parish Council has actively engaged to report road surface defects in a timely manner and arranged for repairs to be carried out.

Crime Prevention

- The Parish Council, supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner arranged for all local residents to be offered individual Smartwater kits. In addition, warning signs have been erected throughout the 3 parishes as a deterrent.

Lengthsman

- The Parish Council have appointed a Lengthsman to assist with repairs and improvements on minor roads and public rights of way.

Defibrillator

- The Parish Council contributed towards the costs of replacement batteries for the defibrillator sited outside the Barneby Inn. Part of these costs were also supported by customers of the Barneby Inn.

Noticeboards

- Thanks to a very generous gesture from a local resident, replacement Parish Council notice boards were supplied and have been erected alongside Bredenbury School and at Grendon Firs.

Parish Council Membership

- During the last year, Sam Sayce resigned from the Parish Council and as a result, Alex Gerrard was co-opted as a Parish Councillor representing the Wacton Parish.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to our Parish Clerk, Vicky Hancock for her expert knowledge and guidance, to all members of the Parish Council for their continued efforts and finally, to our Ward Councillor John Harrington, who despite the many demands on his time has always found time to offer his support and advice.

6. The Chairman invited members of the public to raise any matters of interest. Two members of the public commented on the new community car park at the church saying it was good to see it completed and well used. The school had been approached by the PCC and offered staff parking there to ease congestion outside the school. They haven't taken up the offer so far, Cllr Gwynn to bring this up at the next Governor's meeting. Bredenbury Primary School has been receiving some very positive comments and it all looks vibrant and well cared for. There had recently been a positive report in the Hereford Times regarding the Ofsted monitoring visit made before Easter.

As there was no further business the Annual Parish Meeting closed at 6.54pm.