

Bredenbury Group Parish Council

We held our first meeting of the new NDP Steering Group in March and have written and received replies from Herefordshire Council regarding our intention to renew our Plan. At first, we thought that there would be little support from Herefordshire as they are so engaged with having to redevelop their own Local Plan following the dramatic change on housing targets imposed by national government but their response has been very supportive. A council officer has been identified who will act as our point of contact and we have also identified other independent resources who will help us with the more technical aspects of our work.

At the same time, our Steering Group will start work on the initial phases of renewal. Our intention is to meet regularly and our meetings will be held in Bredenbury Village Hall. We will advertise the dates of our meetings on the Parish Council website www.bredenburygroup-pc.gov.uk as well as posting minutes and updates. Steering Group meetings are open to the public so if you want to come along to observe our meetings you would be welcome. I am also pleased to advise that in addition to those named last month, Ronnie Leighton, a member of our previous Steering group has kindly agreed to rejoin the team. On behalf of our Parish Council, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have volunteered to become part of the Steering Group. I am sure that their help on behalf of the entire community will prove to be invaluable.

Also, a big thank you to those who attended our Annual Parish Meeting in March where we were able to explain the background to our Neighbourhood Plan renewal as well as to answer questions from those in attendance. It is always very heartening to know that this essential work resonates with our community.

At the Parish Council meeting afterwards, two new councillors were unanimously co-opted so we are now back to full strength. Arthur "Geoff" Arnold will fill the vacancy for Bredenbury and Richard Bell will do the same for Wacton. I'd like to thank them for putting their names forward and welcome them to your Parish Council. We have also been able to appoint our new Lengthsman so there should be no delay in keeping up with our regular programme of work around the parishes. Finally, please don't forget that Parish Council meetings are open to the public and anyone wishing to come along will be welcome.

Recently, two pieces of additional work has been carried out by Balfour Beatty on the A44. The first was to clear the short length of pavement adjacent to the West Lodge of Bredenbury Court. The second was to clear the gullies across the verge opposite the Three Pines Garage where the road has flooded regularly in recent times. While this will help to clear the road during heavy rain, it has also made it more difficult to carry out hedge trimming. We are investigating the possibility to install pipes in the gullies so that they could be covered over to resolve this issue. Finally, we have renewed our request to have all pavements cleared from the corner outside Bredenbury School all the way to Grendon Firs. We have been told this is part of the scheduled programme but as yet, no date has been given. But we will keep up the pressure!

As always - *Our Place, Our Future!*

John Hulse – Chairman, Bredenbury Group Parish Council