

KENTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

<u>Minutes of the Annual Meeting of</u> <u>Kentchurch Parish Council</u> <u>held at The Auction Rooms, Pontrilas</u> <u>on Wednesday 15th May 2019</u>

<u>No KPC/MW/080</u>

Present

Councillor Mrs Heather Adams Councillor Mr K John Chance Councillor Mr Trefor Edwards Councillor Mrs Jennifer Evans Councillor Mr John Pring

Clerk Mr M Walker

Also Present

Ward Councillor Mr Peter Jinman and one further member of the public

Prior to the opening of the Annual Parish Council Meeting all members completed their Notice of Registrable Interests Forms and signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor Forms

Meeting declared open at 8.20pm

1.0 Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman

Councillor Mr K John Chance having been elected unopposed to the post of **Chairman** duly signed the appropriate Acceptance of Office form.

Proposed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Seconded by Councillor Mr T Edwards

Councillor Mr J L Pring having been elected unopposed to the post of Vice - Chairman duly signed the appropriate Acceptance of Office form. Proposed by Councillor Mr K John Chance Seconded by Councillor Mr T Edwards

2.0 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Council Lengthsman/Contractor Mr Dave Roden

BBLP Locality Steward Mr Paul Norris and Representative from the Police not present

3.0 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

3.1 No declarations were made with regard to any items on the agenda

3.2 No written dispensations were received

4.0 <u>Minutes</u>

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council No KPC/MW/079 held on Wednesday 20th March 2018 were confirmed by majority as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5.0 Financial Report

5.1 To sign Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2018-2019 Part 2 Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2018-2019 Part 2 signed by the Chairman Councillor Mr K John Chance and Clerk

5.2 Parish Council to consider Annual Governance Statement Parish Council unanimously approved Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement signed by Chairman Councillor Mr K John Chance and Clerk



5.3 Clerk to present end of year Accounts for Ratification Unanimously approved and signed by Chairman Councillor Mr K John Chance and	Clerk
5.4 To sign Section 2 Accounting Statement 2018-2019 Unanimously approved and signed by Councillor Mr K John Chance and witnessed	by the Clerk
Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Annual Governance & Accountability Re (Exempt Authority) Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2019 Monday 17 th June 2019 – Friday 26 th July 2019	eturn
5.5 <u>Confirmation of Receipts</u> Western Power Wayleave Paying In Slip 100067 Herefordshire Council Precept 1 st payment 16/04/2019 reference 2646596	£3.06 £3,750.00
BACS Payment HMR&C VAT Claim 01/01/2018-31/03/2019 XTV126000105992 BACS Payment	£368.80
<u>Invoices for Payment</u> HMR&C 4 th 1/4 Payment January February March Cheque No 101000 P.S. Signa & Engraving Ltd Invoice No 0247	£156.00
R S Signs & Engraving Ltd Invoice No 9347 Defibrillator Signs {Reimbursement to Parish Clerk authorised payment}	£24.00
Cheque No 101004 Clerk's Salary April 2019 Gross Mileage	£265.79 £39.96
TAX £53.00 NIC £0.00 Nett Salary	£252.75
Cheque No 101005 Moneysoft computer programme 1/3 share Cheque No 101006	£45.33
Clerk's Salary May 2019 Gross Mileage Stationery & Consumables	£265.79 £16.20 £3.41
TAX £53.20 NIC £0.00 Nett Salary Cheque No 101007	£232.20
Mrs Janet Watson Internal Auditor reference KPC05/10/19 Cheque No 101008	£40.00
All payments were Unanimously approved	
Bank Balances as per Statements End of Year	
Community Account @ 31 st March 2019	£2,434.21
Balance 1st May 2019 £1,641.66Bank Statement to 30/04/2019Bank reconciliation to agree with Bank Statement £1,641.66	
<u>End of Year</u> Business Saver Account @ 31 st March 2019	£15,845.16
Balance 1 st May 2019 £19,595.16 Bank Statement to 30/04/2019 Bank reconciliation to agree with Bank Statement £19,595.16	
5.6 Consider internal auditors report 2018-2019 and agree any required action There were no actions required from the Internal Auditor's Report for 2018-2019	
5.7 Confirmation of scope of Internal Audit for 2019-2020 and Internal Audit Plan Signed by the Chairman	

 5.8 To consider Re-appointment of Mrs J Watson as Internal Auditor The Parish Council confirmed the re-appointment of Mrs J Watson as their internal auditor for 2019 - 2020

5.9 To update Barclays Bank Mandate if required

The Parish Council resolved to add Councillor Mrs Heather Adams and Councillor Mr Trefor Edwards as further cheque signatories to the Barclays Bank Mandate Form Clerk to action

6.0 <u>Election of Delegate & Report</u>

Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall Delegate

Councillor Mr T Edwards was nominated as Parish Council Delegate to the Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall Management Committee

The Memorial Hall now has a new Chairman and the hall is very busy The Ewyas Harold Festival of Arts takes place $25^{\text{th}} - 27^{\text{th}}$ May 2019

7.0 Parish Lengthsman Contracts for Approval

Parish Council's contract with Herefordshire Council / BBLP

The Parish Council approved the contract between Herefordshire Council and the Parish

Council with the deletion of

PART 2A

Core Public Realm Maintenance – Lengthsman grant funded

4. Environmental	As agreed through the annual maintenance plan	Sweeping footways and public realm spaces; litter clearance and litter picking and bin emptying; removal of fly posting, graffiti and unauthorised signs; street name plates cleaning and repair; repair of street furniture including litter
		street name plates cleaning and repair;
		bins, benches and bus stops

PART 2C	
Public Rights of Way	Parish Paths Partnership (P3) grant funded

	Parish Paths Officer (PPO)	The parish must have least one Parish Paths Officer (PPO) in post, who will inspect ALL paths in the parish at least twice a year.
6. Public Rights of Way	As agreed through the annual maintenance plan	Ensuring cutting back of vegetation (excluding crops) is carried out on ALL paths where necessary at least twice in summer months. Maintenance and installation of gates, stile crossing steps and other PROW furniture. Signposting and Waymarking. Purchase/hire/maintenance of tools

Ready for submission to Balfour Beatty/Herefordshire Council and Councillor Mr K John Chance Chairman signed said contract as did the Clerk.

8.0 <u>Policy Reviews</u>

8.1 To formally adopt updated Code of Conduct

The Parish Council received a copy of the 2019 revised Code of Conduct which were unanimously adopted and signed by Councillor Mr K John Chance Chairman and Councillor Mr J Pring Vice – Chairman and witnessed by the Clerk

8.2 To formally adopt 2019 version Parish Council's Standing Orders

The Parish Council received a copy of the 2019 Standing Orders which were unanimously adopted and signed by Councillor Mr K John Chance Chairman and Councillor Mr J Pring Vice – Chairman and witnessed by the Clerk

8.3 To formally adopt 2019 version Parish Council's Financial Regulations

The Parish Council received a copy of the 2019 Financial Regulations which were unanimously adopted and signed by Councillor Mr K John Chance Chairman and Councillor Mr J Pring Vice – Chairman and witnessed by the Clerk

- 8.4 To review and update as required Parish Council Asset Register The Parish Council approved their Asset Register as presented
- 8.5 To receive Parish Council Risk Assessment Schedule

The Parish Council reviewed their Risk Assessment Schedule and approved it to be updated as required

9.0 **Public Question Time**

A 10 minute period is to be allocated if required to facilitate any member of the public to address the assembled Parish Councillors No matters raised

Sunrise Event 10.0

To receive updates

Sunrise Celebrations 2019 Event to take place Friday 16th August – Sunday 18th August Sunrise Website is up and running. Keep a watching brief

11.0 **Roads and Footpaths**

11.1 To receive **new** information on any Parish Highway & Public Footpath Issues Mr Michael Pritchard to be instructed to undertake embankment works Several visits when required - Same cost £300.00 Clerk to send letter of instructions Elms Farm grip

Spot Light to be downed slightly - request from Grosmont Community Council Councillor Mr K John Chance Chairman to action

Blocked Ditch OS 40484, 26183 CAS-715881-X7W4J7 reported 18/03/2019 reply 05/04/2019 completed

Blocked Ditch/Culvert B4347 OS 39977, 27110 CAS-715864-H4H7Y6 reported 18/03/2019 reply 05/04/2019 Identified as a defect and scheduled for repair in line with current work priorities Head Wall from Field Blocked OS 40285, 26581 CAS-715873-V5V6Z9 reported 18/03/2019 reply 25/03/2019 completed

KZ11 Park Gate stile not needed hole in fence KZ1 Overgrowth has been cleared KZ25 Way marker metal post opposite Skirryd Farm KZ24 Way marker reported but not done Clerk to contact Balfour Beatty KZ22 Timber finger post Station Approach Old House Farm Kissing Gates Markers 9 stiles Clerk to contact Balfour Beatty 4 on KZ7 telephone box Kentchurch to Shoncis Wood 3 on KZ18 by Lea Cottage 3 on KZ5 adjacent to Lea Cottage

11.2 To re-affirm Parish Footpaths Officer's appointment 2019 – 2020 Resolved unanimously that the Footpaths Officer Councillor Mr J Pring Vice – Chairman should

continue as the Parish Council's nominated representative for 2019 - 2020

All Footpaths had been walked {The Parish Council were no longer in the P3 Footpaths Scheme 2019-2020}

12.0 **Information Sheet**

Sheet to include update on previous action points and a list of correspondence received (for information only) Planning Applications Update

2nd May 2017 Planning Application P171547/XA2 Timber and Builders Merchant Pontrilas Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3, 4 and 15 attached to planning permission 142033 Type PP Approval of details reserved by condition

Still Valid



24 th September 20	18 Planning Application 183310 Timber and Builders Merchant Pontrilas	
	Demolition of part existing timber processing shed and construction of new	
	Biomass Boiler Building (B2) on existing concrete slab	
	Type Planning Permission	
	Planning Permission Granted 3 rd April 2019	
14 th November 20	Planning Application 184016 Little Penylan Farm Pontrilas	
	Change of use of part of agricultural barns to a mixed use for agriculture	
	and as a wedding and function venue (retrospective)	
	Type Planning Permission	
	Planning Permission Granted 27 th March 2019	
8 th January 2019	Planning Application 190040 Brooks Farm Pontrilas	
	Proposed conversion of barn to a dwelling	
	Planning Permission Granted 16 th April 2019	
Correspondence		
3 rd April 2019	Letter received from Linz Outtrim Stakeholder Manager	
-	Reference letter to Mr Clive Hall	
29 th March 2019	Seafarers UK	
	Letter and Booklet Flying a Red Ensign 3 rd September 2019	
24 th April 2019 He	refordshire Archive Service	
Mi	nutes KPC/MW/048 15 th January 2014 -	
	KPC/MW/053 19 th November 2014	
Mi	nutes KPC/MW/054 4 th February 2015 -	
	KPC/MW/065 16 th November 2016	
Mi	nutes KPC/MW/066 25 th January 2017	
	KPC/MW/071 15 th November 2017	
April 2010 Coldon Valle	w Safar Naighbourhood Taam (SNT) Nowslatter Your taam, based at Patersburg	

April 2019 Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Newsletter Your team, based at Peterchurch PC 164 Roger Bradley 07976 938 755 roger.bradley@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6173 Fiona Witcher 07773 054582 fiona.witcher@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6378 Pete Knight 07773 053919 peter.knight@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Crime Trends 1st - 31st March 2019 Overnight on Tuesday 5th/Wednesday 6th March, 25 wooden planks were stolen from a building site in Clehonger Incident ref 262-s-060319

Damage was caused for the second time to the zip wire seat on **Clehonger** playing fields by a male allowing his dog to jump up and repeatedly bite the seat. This happened around 6pm on Sunday 10th March, and the dog was described as a sandy coloured Staffordshire bull terrier. The seat had just been repaired at a cost of £200, if you have any information please get in touch Incident ref 546-s-100319

A quantity of hand tools including spanners, a socket set, wrenches and screwdrivers were stolen from a farm yard in **Cockyard** on Tuesday 12th March between 12.45 pm and 2pm Incident ref 496-s-120319

A Honda 125cc motorcycle, registration number **DK55GZJ** was stolen from a front garden in Pennyplock, **Madley** overnight on Thursday 14th/Friday 15th March Incident ref 67-s-150319

More items were stolen from a building site in **Clehonger** sometime between 12 noon on Saturday 16th and 8am on Monday 18th March. This time it was a quantity of stair rails and spindles Incident ref 271-s-180319 3000 roof slates awaiting installation at the primary school in **Peterchurch** were stolen from within the school grounds between Friday 22nd and Monday 25th March. Excellent detective work by PC Bradley led to the discovery of all the stolen tiles and the three males responsible who are 'assisting with enquiries Incident ref 235-s-250319

A workshop at a property near **Clifford** was broken into sometime overnight on Monday 25th/Tuesday 26th March, and two Stihl chainsaws were stolen Incident ref 218-s-260319

If you have any information regarding any crime you can contact police on 101, in an emergency please dial 999. You can also contact Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** to report any crime or criminal activity anonymously

TV Licence Scam Fraudsters are sending the public fake TV Licensing emails to steal their personal and financial information

Victims who click on the link are led to a convincing looking TV Licensing website – where fraudsters can obtain bank account details and commit identity fraud.

The increase in reporting was identified in September 2018, following publicity the same month around a security issue with the TV Licensing website.



Reporting to the NFIB has increased month on month since then.

Since April 2018, **926 crime reports** have been made to Action Fraud, with a **total loss of over £830,000**. The highest single recorded loss is **£50,000**.

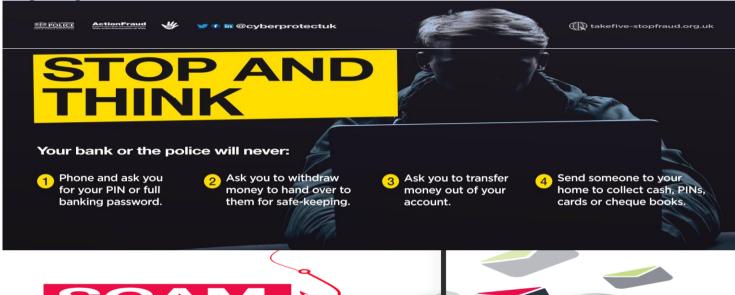
Reports made to Action Fraud identify that the current TV Licensing phishing emails are part of a larger scam where criminals call individuals claiming to be bank employees. This is how the scam works

1. The victim receives a TV Licensing phishing email with links to a convincing-looking website that steals personal and financial details.

2. Within a week or two, victims will receive a phone call from a fraudster claiming to be from the fraud department of the victim's bank. The fraudsters are able to convince victims they are genuine banking staff by providing some of the personal details that were obtained using the fake TV Licensing emails and websites

The fraudster states that the victim's account has been compromised, possibly by a phishing scam they may have fallen victim to recently, and states that they need to transfer their money to a new 'safe account'. The average age of a victim is 54 and that 65% of victims are female.

Simple Steps to Avoid on Line Bank Fraud





Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails, and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.

Arrests A 38 year old male from **Peterchurch** was arrested in Hereford for causing Criminal Damage, he has been released under investigation.

**

A 48 year old male from **Kingstone** was arrested in Kingstone for assault and driving with excess alcohol. He has been released on police bail.

Speed Enforcement Marathon - Police urge motorists to 'Slow Down'



With a European-wide speed enforcement campaign taking place this week, West Mercia

Police are urging all motorists to stay safe and keep speeds down. The campaign is run by TISPOL, the European Traffic Police Network - establi

The campaign is run by TISPOL, the European Traffic Police Network - established by police forces across Europe to improve road safety and law enforcement

The campaign is encouraging motorists to think about their speed and to remind drivers to always travel within the speed limit.



It is estimated that across Europe speeding contributes to as many as one third of all collisions that result in fatality and is the most important contributory factor to road deaths.

Speeding, as well as inappropriate speed can have a devastating impact on the safety of road users, increasing the risk of a collision and the severity of the consequences.

Over the past 3 years in West Mercia 123 people have been killed and 929 seriously injured in collisions where speeding or use of inappropriate speed has been recorded as a contributory factor.

The Safer Roads Partnership, local policing teams, special constables and community speed watch volunteers will be out and about in local communities taking part in a mixture of enforcement and educational initiatives. Roads Policing Inspector Jem Mountford for West Mercia Police comments: "Supporting this Europewide campaign with local activities is an important way of raising the issue and highlighting the dangers of speeding. There are many local residents across our region whose quality of life is affecting by people speeding through their community and families that unfortunately know far too well the devastating consequences that speeding and collisions can lead to. We'd like to take the opportunity to remind people of the consequences of speeding. Apart from the obvious consequences if you are involved in a collision, if prosecuted for speeding, the minimum penalty is a £100 fine and 3 penalty points. You could be disqualified from driving if you build up 12 or more penalty points within a period of 3 years".

Speeding is one of the 'FATAL FOUR' and has been evident in many of the Road deaths within our County and beyond. Please watch your speed and help keep Herefordshire Roads Safer.

How to Contact Us 101 to talk to your local SNT or report a

crime<u>crimegoldenvalley.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk</u> <u>www.westmercia.police.uk</u> @**GValleyCops** Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

News from your local Fire Crews

Carelessness in the kitchen can cost lives 25 March 2019 in News

Each year cooking causes more accidental fires in the home than anything else and Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFRS) is supporting the Fire Kills Cooking Safety campaign.

Station Commander Amy Bailey from the Community Risk department, HWFRS said: "More than half of all accidental fires in the home start in the kitchen so it's essential to take care, especially when cooking with hot oil." Station Commander Bailey urged anyone who is cooking to take note of the following safety tips:

• Keep your cooker and grill pan clean, burnt food and fat causes fires

• Turn off all electrical appliances and pull out the plugs when not using them

- Cooking becomes dangerous if you drink alcohol, you could become drowsy and not be as safe as you think
- Do not use a toaster under a cupboard

• If you use a chip pan, never fill it more than a third full and stay with it all the time

• Never leave a pan unattended when the heat is switched on and NEVER attempt to move the pan if it should catch fire

• Do not take risks. If a pan should catch fire, turn off the heat only if it's safe to do so. Never throw water over the pan.

• Keep children safely away from the cooking area

• Never tackle a fire yourself, but GET OUT, STAY OUT, CALL 999

SC Bailey concluded: "In addition to the above vital safety advice, I would urge people to test their smoke alarms are working on a weekly basis. If you require further advice on fire safety or would like to call the Community Risk department to see if you qualify for a free Home Fire Safety Check please call 0800 032 1155."

Further kitchen safety advice is available at www.hwfire.org.uk under the Your Safety section or visit @HWFireSafety

May 2019 Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Newsletter

Crime Trends 1st – 30th April 2019 Clehonger: Sometime between 18th and 19th April, damage was caused to the bus shelter on the corner of Church Road, Old Clehonger and the B4349.

Hay On Wye: At around 1:30 to 1:45am on Friday April, the Co-Op in Newport Street, Hay on Wye, was attacked and the cash machine was stolen from the premises. A number of offenders and two vehicles were involved. If you have any information about this incident, please contact us here at Peterchurch and we will pass on the information to Hereford CID who are investigating.

If you have any information regarding any crime you can contact police on 101, in an emergency please dial 999. You can also contact Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** to report any crime or criminal activity anonymously.

<u>Rogue Traders</u> are people pretending to be builders or "qualified" trades men or women needing to do 'urgent' repairs or sales people offering bargain products. Things to be aware of:



• They often pressurise householders to make quick decisions to have work done, pay in advance for materials or do poor work at highly inflated prices

• They will often cold call on vulnerable households and deliberately overcharge for unsatisfactory goods and services. This can include charging for unnecessary work, damaging property deliberately in order to obtain money, leaving work unfinished and intimidating householders

• Victims of this practice are often vulnerable or elderly and in the most serious cases, offenders will return to the same victim again and again until their savings are exhausted

Police work jointly with local authority trading standards officers and other agencies to target offenders who prey on vulnerable members of the community in this way.

The following advice will help tackling doorstep rogue traders:

• Close and lock your back door before answering the front door

• Use a spy hole, chain or window to have a look at the caller before answering the door. If you do not recognise them speak through the closed and locked door

• Never buy goods and services from people calling unexpectedly or unannounced at your door

• If the caller is selling something or offering work on your house or garden tell them that you are not interested and ask them to leave

- If they do not leave tell them you will call the police
- Always ask for proof of identity. Take it from the person (through the letterbox) and read it carefully

• Phone the company or organisation the caller claims to be from (use the number in the phone book) to confirm their identity

• If you have any doubt keep them out Remember it's your home Don't be afraid to say 'No' and report anything suspicious to police

• If you do need to employ a tradesman, please remember these useful tips:

• Take advice from family, friends or reputable traders to check if the work really needs doing

• Avoid any cold callers that may turn up or ring unexpectedly or unannounced offering to carry out repairs

• Only use reputable workmen recommended by family and friends, or those who have worked satisfactorily for you before. Consider contacting your local Trading Standards who may run a registered traders scheme for advice on choosing a trades person.

• If you do decide the work needs doing, always obtain at least 3 quotes and make sure the quote you accept is in writing

• Ask traders to provide you with written contact details and ask about insurance backed guarantees

• Ask for details of previous satisfied customers and contact them. Go and see the work for yourself if you can

• Consumer law allows you a seven day cooling off period so you can change your mind about any service offered by someone who arrives uninvited or by appointment

• Keep back part of the cost until the repair job has been satisfactorily completed. This will provide an incentive for the trader to complete the job or put right any problems

• Report any unscrupulous traders either to police or trading standards.

Look Out For Your Neighbours Friends, neighbours and people who have regular contact with older and vulnerable people can help them to make their lives more secure. Research shows that fewer distraction burglaries are committed in areas where there is a supportive community.

You can help by: • Keeping an eye on people calling in the area or acting suspiciously

• Noting the registration numbers of vehicles parked in your area for a period of time

• Calling on vulnerable people regularly. If it is not too much trouble, help them keep their front garden tidy and find reliable trades people for any maintenance work that really does need to be undertake

• Inform the police to provide information about suspicious people activity or vehicles however insignificant it may seem.

Remember treat every stranger with caution

If you are suspicious about a caller inform the police on 101 or in an Emergency dial 999

Arrests A warrant was executed at a premises in Clehonger and two males aged 24 and 26 yrs were arrested on suspicion of Theft, and have subsequently been released under investigation.

At the same time two quad bikes and a trials bike were recovered suspected of being stolen.

A 13yr old youth was arrested in Kingstone, on suspicion of possessing a bladed artile/knife. He was later released without charge.

New support service that gives victims a voice - Victim Advice Line As part of Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion's commitment to ensuring victims of crime receive an improved and more consistent service, a new support function in the form of the Victim Advice Line is launching in West Mercia.



Wanting to know if victims of crime felt fully supported, Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion carried out a consultation with a number of people who gave a clear mandate for wanting things to be done differently.

The victims stated they wanted a single point of entry into support, they wanted quick updates on their case, and they also wanted to have greater ownership of their journey and help shape it themselves - as opposed to being labelled by a type of crime and having a 'one size fits all' support package.

The outcomes from the consultation have shaped all that the Victim Advice Line (VAL) is aiming to deliver when it goes live on 1st April 2019.

The VAL will be replacing the initial needs assessment function that has previously been provided by Victim Support and will remove many layers within the victim's journey, meaning they will have a clearer pathway of support and they won't need to repeat their story multiple times.

The Victim Advice Line will be made up of a team of expert and fully trained Victim Care Coordinators who will help the victim when they come through to the service, be it through police, third party or self-referral (the crime doesn't have to have been reported to the police). The victim may then be referred onto other specialist services, dependent on the level of support they may need.

This type of model is being seen as best practice and a flagship across the country in delivering support to victims, having already been adopted by other PCCs and police forces.

Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion said: "Whilst the contract we had with Victim Support was good, in order to provide victims with what they wanted we needed to make some fundamental changes.

"The Victim Advice Line will look at an individual and make sure they're getting the level of support they need. They won't be given a pre-determined package, they'll be given support that is completely tailored to them. By doing this we hope to give victims greater confidence and satisfaction that will help in moving forward with their life." "The service will also allow better multi-agency working, such as with the police and other support services, which will ensure victims are supported throughout the entire criminal justice system from the very beginning of their journey through to the end."

Assistant Chief Constable Martin Evans said: "I have been working closely with the PCC's office for a number of months and I am delighted to see that the new Victim Advice Line will be going live on 1st April. West Mercia strives to put victims at the heart of what we do and the support that the Victim

Advice Line will provide alongside us will be invaluable.

"The majority of staff that will be working within the Victim Advice Line already have a great deal of experience in supporting victims of crime and their enthusiasm and determination to provide the best service possible is very clear to see."

News from your local Fire Crews

Everyday activities near water can put you at risk of drowning 29 April 2019 in News

Half of accidental drownings in 2017 happened when people didn't even intend to go in the water.

Activities such as running, walking, fishing and cycling near water can all put you at risk of drowning.

The potentially fatal dangers of water are highlighted in the National Fire Chiefs Council's (NFCC) Be Water Aware campaign.

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service is supporting the national week-long campaign which runs from 29 April - 5 May 2019 and aims to highlight the risk of accidental drowning. In 2017:

• 255 people accidentally drowned in the UK

• around 50% of these people just happened to be near water

• about 85% of these fatalities were male

• in addition 75 UK nationals, mainly tourists, drowned while abroad in 2017

NFCC's Drowning Prevention and Water Safety Lead, Chief Fire Officer Dawn Whittaker, said: "Most people would be shocked to hear that those people who drowned just happened to be taking part in everyday activities near water, like going for a run or walk.

"They are unaware of the risks and are totally unprepared for the scenario of ending up in the water.

"By highlighting this issue and making sure simple safety messages reach them we hope to reduce the number of these needless and preventable deaths."

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service's advice:

• if you are going for a walk or run near water stick to proper pathways and stay clear of the water's edge

- make sure conditions are safe, avoid walking or running near water in the dark, slippery or in bad weather
- if you've had alcohol don't enter the water, avoid walking alone and avoid routes near water

• never enter the water to try and help a person or animal - always call 999 and use any water rescue equipment if it is available



• if you are spending time near water - whether at home or abroad make sure you are familiar with local safety information and children are fully supervised

The fire service has successfully reduced the number of fire deaths by focusing on prevention work and now we must apply the same principle to tackling drowning.

Response is not enough - we must prevent drownings.

13.0 Agenda of the Next Meeting

Kiosk - Defibrillator Training Kentchurch Kiosk "Bunker" Barclays Bank Mandate Form (extra signatory) Storage Facilities for Parish Council Records Parish Council Clerk's Annual Performance & Salary Review

14.0 Date, Time and Venue of Next Ordinary Meeting.

The next meeting will be an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council and will be held on Wednesday 17th July 2019 the meeting will commence at 7.30pm

Meeting declared closed 9.30pm

Signed		

Councillor Mr K John Chance Parish Council Chairman Dated this day the 17th July 2019