



KENTCHURCH

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of
Kentchurch Parish Council
held at The Auction Rooms, Pontrilas
on Wednesday 20th July 2016

No KPC/MW/063

Present

Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman
Councillor Mr J Cole
Councillor Mr B C Griffiths

Clerk Mr M Walker

Also Present

Lengthsman Mr Terry Griffiths and one further member of the public

Meeting declared open by the Chairman at 7.30pm

1.0 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Mr (John) K J Chance Vice – Chairman and Councillor Mr T Edwards
Ward Councillor Mr Graham Powell not present
Representative from the Local Policing Team not present
Locality Steward Linzy Outtrim not present

2.0 Declarations of Interest

- 2.1** To receive any declarations of interest in agenda items
No declarations of interest were made
- 2.2** To consider any written applications for dispensation
No written declarations of interest made

3.0 Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting No KPC/MW/062 held on Wednesday the 18th May 2016 and Minutes of the Planning Meeting of the Parish Council No KPC/MW/062P held on Wednesday the 15th June 2016 were signed by the Chairman as a true record

4.0 Financial Report

4.1 Bank Balances as per Statements

Community Account	@ 1 st July 2016	£2,946.35
Business Saver Account	@ 1 st July 2016	£14,047.31

4.2 Receipts

Herefordshire Council Lengthsman / P3 1st Quarter April May June
Reference KPC/16/06/30 BACS applied for not yet received £625.00

4.3 Invoices for Payment

Clerk's Salary June 2016 Gross	£247.27
Mileage	£32.13
Postage	£17.45

TAX £49.40 NIC £0.00

Cheque 100911



HMR&C 1 st Quarter Payment April May June	£146.20
Cheque 100912	
Malcolm Walker Edit Print Distribute Annual Report Invoice 567	£217.80
Cheque 100917	
Terry Griffiths Contracts Lengthsman Work Invoice TGC 1684	£452.40
Cheque 100918	
Terry Griffiths Contracts Lengthsman Work Invoice TGC 1723	£452.40
Cheque 100919	
Software 1/5 share Flippingbook	£111.60
Cheque 100920	
Clerk's Salary July 2016 Gross	£244.71
Mileage	£17.19
Postage	£1.74
Overpayment	£2.52
	TAX £49.60 NIC £0.00
Cheque 100921	

All payments were **Unanimously approved**

Dore Community Transport "Thank You" letter received for donation

4.4 Pensions Regulator Letter

Noted Pensions Regulator Letter-Staging Date 1st October 2016,
PAYE Reference 475/XA56041, Letter Code 1225636833 given to Parish Clerk
Parish Clerk does not want to be automatically enrolled into a Pensions Scheme.

5.0 Reports

5.1 Ward Councillor Mr Graham Powell

Ward Councillor Mr Graham Powell not present but report received by email
Ward Member Report - July 2016

Libraries

Residents are being asked their views on libraries and customer services to help shape future operation.

The consultation is to gauge a range of views from those who use these services and those that currently don't. Comments will be part of a published report that will help Herefordshire Council make decisions on the best way of using the libraries, what people need from customer services and prioritising services most important to residents.

The consultation runs until 5th August 2016. The information will be published in mid-October 2016 and a copy of the results will be available at each library and customer service centre, and on the council website.

Herefordshire Council 2017/18 Budget

The Medium Term Financial Strategy, approved in 2016, determined that the council needed to make £28.4m of savings over the four years, 2016/17 – 2019/20. Plans are already in place to deliver £10.9m of savings in 2016/17 but an additional £7.0m of savings will need to be delivered in 2017/18. The council has detailed the process for seeking views on the package of draft budget proposals for 2017/18 and subsequent years.

The key milestones in the timetable for Council to set the final budget in February 2017 and to set the council tax levels in March 2017 are:

- General budget consultation with stakeholders between 29 July and 7 October 2016
- Member briefing session(26July);
- Parish Council briefing sessions (28 July and September)
(When the consultation closes all of the responses received will be collated and published online so that they can be taken into account before the draft budget and MTFs are produced)
- The draft budget and MTFs will go to meetings of general overview and scrutiny and health and wellbeing scrutiny on 14 November 2016.
- Recommendation of the capital programme, in light of consultation by Cabinet on 1 December 2016.



- Council approve the capital programme on 16 December 2016
- Recommendation of the final budget, in light of consultation and the final settlement, by Cabinet on 19 January 2017.
- Council set the final budget on 3 February 2017.
- Council set the council tax levels on 3 March 2017.

Passenger Transport Services

The medium term financial strategy, approved by Council February 2016, includes savings and reduced spending proposals for the period 2016-20. Over this period the passenger transport service is required to reduce expenditure by £890k. The profile of the reductions for passenger transport services is:

- 2016/17 - £150k
- 2017/18 - £275k
- 2018/19 - £240k
- 2019/20 - £225k

The reduction in spend for 2016/17 of £150k has been achieved and the council are now about to consult on the profiled reductions of £740k for the period 2017-20.

Passenger transport services comprise public buses, concessionary travel, community transport, mainstream and college travel, special educational needs (SEN) travel and adult social care (ASC) travel. Total spend on these services is around £8.5m per year which includes around £1.9M of contributions (comprising parental payments to none entitled transport, payments from other local authorities to cross border transport provision and internal contributions) resulting in a net spend of £6.6m:

Buses - £1.3m (includes £530k contributions)

Concessionary travel - £1.42m

Community transport - £150k

Mainstream travel including college - £4m (includes £1.38m contributions)

SEN - £1.48m (includes £20k contributions)

ASC - £150k (cost of the in house provision of transport only)

Given that savings from school, SEN and ASC transport remain uncertain and will be limited due to the statutory requirements and eligibility for free transport of users it is likely that further savings will be required from public bus services and community transport.

A consultation will take place between 18th July and 16th October allowing a minimum of 8 weeks for comment. Analysis of the consultation responses will be undertaken in October/November. A cabinet report will be drafted for consideration by cabinet for November/December seeking its decision on detailed proposals for reducing subsidy for transport for 2017/18 and beyond. (A schedule of subsidised routes is attached)

West Midlands Combined Authority

Herefordshire Council has previously submitted an expression of interest in having freedoms and flexibilities devolved to it by government and to further this ambition the council has announced that it is exploring the possibility to become a non-constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA).

The Combined Authority's ambition will be to help to increase competitiveness and productivity, create more skilled and better paid jobs, bring more investment into the area, reform public services and reduce the region's welfare bill.

These ambitions will be driven through the Combined Authority's primary focus to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of transport in the area, the exercise of statutory functions relating to economic development and regeneration in the area, and economic conditions in the area.

The Combined Authority will manage a significant programme of investment in transport and economic infrastructure, and influence and align with government investment, in order to boost economic development and regeneration.

The order officially creating the West Midlands Combined Authority came into force on 17th June 2016, with the first AGM, at which portfolios and other arrangements were announced and confirmed, being held on 29th June 2016.



The WMCA comprises the seven metropolitan boroughs of the West Midlands, the three Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) covering that geographical area, and a current total of five non constituent members, including Telford and Wrekin Council. A further four councils have applied for non constituent membership, including Shropshire County Council. The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Fire Service for the West Midlands hold Observer status.

There are ongoing financial implications in becoming a non-constituent member, of £25,000 per annum, which is also the amount being paid by the Observers. Constituent members are paying an annual fee of £250,000 for Metropolitan and County Councils and £100,000 for District Councils. As a non-constituent member, the council would remain independent, retaining all its current powers and would not come under the remit of any future West Midland Mayor. The council would also remain in the Marches LEP, along with Shropshire County Council and Telford and Wrekin Council. The discussions with the West Midlands Combined Authority group are only exploratory and a decision to join the group would need to be considered and approved by Herefordshire Council's Cabinet. Constituent members have ultimate voting rights and can only be signed up to one combined authority.

The constituent authorities for the West Midlands Combined Authority are:

Birmingham City Council

City of Wolverhampton

Coventry City Council

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

Non-constituent members can sign up to more than one combined authority and have less voting rights than constituent members. The non-constituent authorities for the West Midlands Combined Authority are:

Telford and Wrekin Council

Cannock Chase District Council

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Redditch Borough Council

Tamworth Borough Council

LEPs (Local Enterprise Partnerships) are voluntary partnerships between local authorities and businesses. They determine local economic priorities and lead on economic growth and job creation within their areas. The West Midlands Combined Authority covers a three LEP geography and each of the LEPs has joined the WMCA as a non-constituent member. They are:

Black Country LEP

Coventry and Warwickshire LEP

Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP

Observers Awaiting Membership

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Shropshire Council

Stratford on Avon District Council

Warwickshire County Council

Observers

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority



**Route Subsidy contracts sheet3 showing VFM
Subsidy per Passenger**

CS (CORE Service)	Service	Route	Operates	Pax	Net cost	Sub/ pass
NCS	491/8	Bucknell /Leintwardine - Hereford	Alternate Wed	1503	6680	4.44
NCS	440 Mon-Sat 441 Wed 442 Tues	Abbeydore - Pontrilas (Connections with X4 for Hereford) Longtown -Hereford Clehonger -Abergavenny	440 Mon-Sat 441 Wed 442 Tues	9467	39,828	4.21
NCS	412/413 448	Garway - Kingsthorne/ Hereford, Brewardine - Shenmore -Hereford	Mon-Fri Tues and Thurs	5957	24,808	4.16
NCS	405	Cradley - Bromyard - Hereford	Wed	1739	6119	3.52
NCS	411 436	Ross - Llangarron - Hereford Kinnersley - Hereford	Wed	1201	4088	3.40
NCS	460	Kington Town Service	Tues/Fri	2364	7906	3.34
NCS	31	Ross-on-Wye -Llangarron - Llangrove - Whitchurch	Thurs	6125	19,656	3.21
NCS	54	Bridstow - Monmouth	Friday			
NCS	459	Ledbury -Much Marcle -Brampton Abbots - Ross-on-Wye	Thurs			
NCS	478	Murch Marcle - Putley- Checkley - Hereford	Wed			
NCS	479	Murch Marcle - Putley- Poolend - Little Marcle - Ledbury	Tues			
NCS	488/509	Woofferton - Leomister-Kinnersley	Fri			
Part CS	426/437/477/ 453/446	Tillington - Hereford,Bodenham -Hereford- Almeley,Hereford -Fownhope/Woolhope	Mon-Sat	120,252	284,488	2.37
CS	34/40/40A/44	Kings Thorne-Ross-on-Wye Town Bus - Monmouth	Mon-Sat	64521	138,782	2.15
NCS	456	Newent - Much Marcle - Kings Caple -Hereford	Wed	2053	4352	2.12
NCS	457	Newent - Gorsley - Kings Caple - Hereford	Sat	2350	4352	1.85
NCS	417	Worcester - Ledbury	Mon-Sat	28518	49092	1.72
CS	600/675	Ledbury Town - Colwall - Great Malvern	Mon Sat	43816	63770	1.46
NCS	672-4, 400	Bromyard Town - Bishops Frome - Ledbury,	Mon-Fri	35292	50944	1.44
NCS	489	Wigmore -Yarpole - Bircher - Leominster	Tues / Fri	3387	4769	1.41
NCS	507	Weobley - Dilwyn - Monkland - Leominster	Tues / Fri			
Part CS	401/406/490/ 494/495/496/ 501/504	Leominster Town Services, Leominster-Ludlow,Leominster - Shobdon/Kingsland, Hereford, Canon Pyon/Leominster	Mon-Sat	117,251	160,140	1.37
NCS	76/76A	Hereford - Bartonsham	Mon-Sat	42371	53,648	1.27
NCS	502	Leominster - Dilwyn - Cannon Pyon - Holmer -Hereford	Mon - Fri			
NCS	482	Bromyard - Leominster	Fri	2268	2,500	1.10
CS	36	Hereford - Monmouth	Mon-Sat	42115	40,612	0.96
NCS	39A	Hereford - Hay-on-Wye - Hay Ho!	Sun	2744	2128	0.78
CS	476	Ledbury - Hereford	Daily	12000	8500	0.71
CS	461/2	Llandrindod Wells - Kington- Hereford	Mon-Sat	170042	118372	0.70
CS	33	Ross-on-Wye - Gloucester	Mon-Sat	71680	35,124	0.49

CS Core bus service network
Part CS Part core services SHOWN IN BOLD
NCS Non core services

* Indicates cost for contract individual service cost data not available



5.2 Police Report

No Police present see Item 10.0

5.3 Lengthsman Report

Lengthsman Terry Griffiths gave an overview of the following:-

Roads June 2016 (1) TGC1684 Description of work carried out:- Specific Task work

Pontrilas Village area, Spray vegetation on kerbs, footways and retaining walls

Routine Maintenance Work Clear grids and clean out road gullies, Jet connecting pipes, Clear road culvert headwalls

Jet culverts clear, Check inspection pits

Clear ditch headwalls, Clear grips and reform leads

Clear minor obstructions from ditches and reform leads, Clean off road signs

Clear minor storm debris off roads, Strim and cut back overgrowth round grit bins and road signs

Strim verges on bends, junctions, splays, and areas regularly used by pedestrians where there is no footway provided

Village upkeep work as required Roads covered on this visit:-

C1223, C1234, From B4347 to parish boundary, C1230, From C1234 to parish boundary

U74007, C1239, From B4347 to parish boundary

Defects found were dealt with on the day as find and fix or logged for scheduling as specific tasks.

Roads June 2016 TGC1723 Description of work carried out:- Specific Task Work

Pontrilas Village, Strimming lower part of embankment and verges in village area

NB We have on our schedule spraying vegetation on kerb lines and footways

This work will be completed as conditions allow

Routine Maintenance Work

Clear grids and clean out road gullies, Jet connecting pipes, Clear road culverts and jet

Check inspection pits, Clear ditch headwalls, Clear grips and reform leads

Clear minor obstruction from ditches and reform leads, Clean off road signs

Clear minor storm debris off roads, Strim round grit bins and road signs

Strim verges on beds junction splays and areas regularly used by pedestrians and no footway is provided

Village upkeep work as required Roads covered on this visit:-

C1239, From B4347 to parish boundary, U74007, C1234 from B4347 to parish boundary, C1213

Defects found were dealt with on the day or logged for scheduling as specific tasks

Approved tasks are now being scheduled as routine maintenance is being scaled down through the summer period

C1239, Further work at Parkgate Bridge to seal up erosion on bridge parapet, C1234

From B4347 to Highfield Farm area

Highway drainage maintenance to improve removal of surface water off the road

C1234, Gwerny-y-Cae Wood

Highway drainage maintenance to improve removal of surface water off the road

C1239, Near junction with B4347

Highway drainage maintenance at bridge to prevent surface water pooling at low area in the road

Village Road sweep, spray and hedge cut back

Hedge front of BT building behind bus shelter needs cutting back

Councillor Mr (John) K J Chance Vice – Chairman to be contacted reference

ditch in Gwerny-y-Cae wood on the C1234

Culvert by “Tunnel” entrance silted up

At 2 cottages when water comes from Park Gate plainings and concrete

Down scale routine maintenance to do specific tasks

Sands Bags Item for the next full Parish Council meeting



15th July 2016 report from Linzy Outtrim

Dear All This week I am pleased to report that the following works, amongst others, have been carried out:

Golden Valley North Pothole repairs on the C1195 at Shenmore, C1193 and C1192 at Preston on Wye, C1192 at Blakemere

Golden Valley South Installation of new gully on the Llanithog Road at Kentchurch

Stoney Street Nil to report

This week I have: Had meetings with ward and parish councillors

Been dealing with enquiries from members of the public

Completed a statutory quarterly C links inspection

Raised defects in Madley, Pontrilas, Dorstone, Bredwardine, Lulham, Much Dewchurch and Craswall.

Next week I shall be: Carrying out the monthly statutory inspections on the A, B and priority C/U roads

Holding site meetings with stakeholders

Continuing to deal with issues raised by members of the public

If you have any outstanding issues in your Parish and you would like me to attend a site visit, please let me know and we can arrange a mutually convenient time.

Herefordshire Council website is the one-stop-shop for up to date information

Maps and timetables for grass cutting and pot holes are now available on the Council's website.

[Grass Cutting](#) [Potholes](#) [Public Rights of Way](#) Best wishes Linzy **Linzy Outtrim**

5.4 Memorial Hall Delegate Report

Councillor Mr Trefor Edwards Delegate not present and no report available

5.5 Joint Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Mr John L. Pring Chairman updated the Parish Council on the current position with nothing new to report

Neighbourhood Development Plan supports the school being moved

Next stage is the Consultation 16, then the Referendum

6.0 Public Question Time

Designated maximum period of 10 minutes to accommodate members of the public who may wish to either raise or ask the Parish Council questions

No matters raised

7.0 Neighbourhood Development Plan

See Item 5.5

8.0 Policies for Ratification

Standing Orders previous agreed were signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman and Councillor Mr B C Griffiths

Financial Regulations previously agreed were signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman and Councillor Mr B C Griffiths

8.1 Resolved to adopt Appraisal Policy, signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman

8.2 Resolved to adopt Community Engagement Strategy, signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman

8.3 Resolved to adopt Disciplinary Procedure, signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman

8.4 Resolved to adopt Training Policy, signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman

8.5 Resolved to adopt Data Protection Policy & Information Security Policy, signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman

8.6 Resolved to adopt Resolved to adopt Biodiversity and Crime and Disorder Policy, signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman

8.7 Resolved to adopt Grievance Procedure Policy, signed by Councillor Mr J L Pring Chairman



9.0 Highways and Footpaths

To receive **new** information on any Parish Highway including Public Footpath Issues

Pontrilas Bus Stop markings – Disabled markings on road

Clerk to Contact Stagecoach

P3 Footpaths way marking completed

“Update as per Ward Councillor Mr. Graham Powell’s request 11th January 2016

*The lining amendment works were passed across to BBLP to “target cost” and arrange ordering and installation with the lining contractor last week. Not sure of exact time scale but this will also be at the mercy of the weather. Hopefully this will be sometime before end of February however realistically, what I would say is that we expect this to be carried out before the end of the financial year (March 31st). **Simon Hobbs** Senior Accident Investigation Engineer
Transportation Unit Herefordshire Council”*

During the next two weeks, overhanging trees/hedges/vegetation to be cut back and opened out for better visibility for drivers. White lining to be undertaken in the Spring. Then the plans can go ahead.

Ward Councillor Mr Graham Powell to be contacted reference Joint A465 Road Crossing Project

10.0 Information Sheet (for information only)

Sheet to include update on previous action points and a list of correspondence received

Planning Update

Site 161308/N Barton Hill Farm, Kentchurch, Hereford HR2 0BZ

Description Proposed change of use to a pet crematorium

Application Type Waste

Application still valid

Site 161331 No 1 Hill Cottages, Pontrilas, Hereford HR2 0BL

Description Proposed 2 storey side extension

Application Type Full Householder

Application still valid

Planning Application Approved 12th July 2016

Site 150811 Former BT Telephone Exchange, Land East of Court Farm Pontrilas Hereford

Description Proposed demolition of former BT telephone exchange and construction of ten dwellings to include two affordable alterations to the existing access and new footpath link

Application Type Planning Permission (Amended Plans)

Planning Permission Approved July 2016

Planning Application Approved 18th July 2016

May 2016 Notice of Registrable Interests Form submitted to the Monitoring Officer for Councillor Mr J K Chance Vice - Chairman

July 2016 Balfour Beatty / Herefordshire Council

Parish Lengthsman and Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Scheme Contract returned and signed

July 2016 Herefordshire Association of Local Councils (HALC)

Information Corner 11th July 2016

1st July 2016 Dear All This week I am pleased to report that the following works, amongst others, have been carried out:

Golden Valley North Pothole repairs on Spoon Lane and Snodhill in Dorstone, Fine Street and C1185 in Bredwardine, Hinton Rd and C1207 in Peterchurch, and the C1193 in Madley.

Gully cleansing in Dorstone, and in Cusop.

Golden Valley South Sinkhole repair on the C1213 at Dulas

Stoney Street Pothole repairs on the A438 at Byford, Ruckhall Lane and Church Road in Clehonger, C1196 in Madley, and the C1191 Preston on Wye.

This week I have: Finished a quarterly C link road inspection, covering Preston on Wye, Eaton Bishop, Madley and Tyberton



Met with several stakeholders

Next week I shall be: Continuing to respond to customer enquiries

Beginning a C links road quarterly inspection Best wishes Linzy

8th July 2016 Dear All This week I am pleased to report that the following works, amongst others, have been carried out:

Golden Valley North PROW: delivery of materials to landowners in Peterchurch and Bredwardine

Pothole repairs on the B4350 at Cusop, C1205 at Michaelchurch, C1195 at Tyberton, C1193 Preston on Wye Fuel spill near the Bage in Dorstone, made safe.

Golden Valley South PROW: delivery of materials to landowners in Craswall

Ditch clearance and installation of verge markers in Urishay

Pothole repairs on the B4347 at AbbeyDore, at Middle Maescoed, on the C1213 at Dulas and Longtown, Olchon Valley Road, C1203 in Longtown and Craswall,

Recovery of signage from Ewyas Harold

Installation of verge markers in Longtown

Gully/pit cleansing at Clodock

Stoney Street Pothole repairs on the A438 at Byford, Ruckhall Lane, B4349 and B4352 in Clehonger, B4348 at Vowchurch, C1196, C1193 and C1098 at Madley, C1196 at Shenmore,

Clearance of a culvert near Archenfield in Madley

Street sweeping and culvert cleaning at Bridge Sollars

Fly tipping collection at Ruckhall Lane

This week I have: Had meetings with ward and parish councillors

Been dealing with enquiries from members of the public

Walked several PROW, and made repairs to a stile

Next week I shall be: Completing a statutory quarterly C links inspection

Holding site meetings with stakeholders

Continuing to deal with issues raised by members of the public

If you have any outstanding issues in your Parish and you would like me to attend a site visit, please let me know and we can arrange a mutually convenient time.

Herefordshire Council website is the one-stop-shop for up to date information

Maps and timetables for grass cutting and pot holes are now available on the Council's website

[Grass Cutting Potholes Public Rights of Way](#) Best wishes Linzy

Linzy Outtrim Senior Locality Steward – Golden Valley

July 2016 Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Briefing 26th June - 6th July 2016

Crime Trends

Clodock An attempt was made to break in to a garage by the roadside sometime between 18th June - 2nd July. Although the lock was damaged, entry was not gained Incident ref 337-s-020716

Cusop Between 12 noon and 6pm on Monday 4th July, a large shipping container on a rural farm was broken into and a generator and some lighting fixtures were stolen. From another outbuilding four brand new off-road tyres with rims for a Vauxhall Frontera worth in excess of £200 each were stolen Incident ref 144-s-050716

Madley An unoccupied bungalow in the centre of the village was entered at around 1.30am on Sunday 26th June; the property was already in a bad state of repair and entry was not forced and it is unknown whether anything was taken or damaged. The property has since been tidied up and the windows boarded up, but it has been reported to me that several people with torches were seen in the grounds at 3.40am on Tuesday 5th July Incident ref 103-s-260616

Newton St Margarets Sometime between 12 noon on Tuesday 28th and 8.30am on Wednesday 29th June, two garden sheds were broken into, but nothing was stolen from within Incident ref 118-s-290616
Another garden shed was broken into nearby at around the same time, again, nothing was stolen Incident ref 381-s-300616

Peterchurch An old mobile home in a garden in Fine Street was broken into between 4pm - 5pm on Wednesday 22nd June and a guitar was stolen Incident ref 211-s-280616

Suspicious Vehicles The driver of a white Ford transit **SM65NFL** was calling door to door in Tinglebrook Close, **Madley** in the afternoon of Sunday 27th June, offering generators and chainsaws for sale.



There were two males in the van, the passenger was described as about 5'3", mid to late 40's with an Irish accent. The same vehicle and occupants were seen shortly afterwards in Eaton Bishop, calling door to door
Incident ref 488-s-270616

Scams A reader from Madley got on touch to tell us about problems they have been having with nuisance calls

"We are being harassed daily (sometimes twice and three times daily) by telephone calls from telephone number 01216290766 since the week commencing the 13th June asking us to urgently ring British Gas on their legitimate number 08456755516.

We contacted British Gas and they categorically confirmed that they are not initiating these calls. The number 01216290766 is not on their records".

Another reader had a call from a male calling himself Robert Cole, representing a company that supply anti-nuisance calls equipment (presumably to stop people like him calling...). He quoted £1.50 per month, and initially the 'victim' fell for it and gave her bank details, including her card number and code on the back. She then had second thoughts and called the number he'd given her, but guess what - it was unobtainable! She has now informed the bank and cancelled her bank card

If you have been receiving these calls, please contact Action Fraud. <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

From Action Fraud - one for businesses to be aware of

Businesses are being contacted for the sale of goods or services by fraudsters, who request to pay by cheque. The fraudster sends a cheque with a higher value than the amount expected, and then sends the business a request for the difference with instructions on how it should be paid back. This is usually by bank transfer or through a money transfer service, such as Western Union or PaySafe. Once the 'refund' has been provided, it is realised that the cheque provided was fraudulent and no funds are credited to the business's account.

The NFIB has seen an increase of 84% in the number of counterfeit cheque frauds reported to Action Fraud since November 2015. Criminals are targeting a wide range of services including paintings or other artwork, photography and lessons, with various amounts requested to be refunded. The average amount requested to be refunded is £1,818. The highest amount requested was over £80,000.

The suspects have used pressure tactics to persuade victims to refund the amounts immediately prior to the cheques clearing.

Crime Prevention Advice Be cautious of payments where the amount provided is higher than expected. Refuse to provide the service unless the correct balance is received or wait until the cheque has cleared before refunding the difference.

Always contact banks on a trusted number found on their website or correspondence that is known to be authentic to confirm whether the cheque has cleared.

Do not feel pressured to provide a refund before the cheque has cleared.

One for new students to be aware of, also from Action Fraud A new phishing campaign which has hit students of UK universities claims that the student has been awarded an educational grant by the Department for Education. The email purports to have come from the finance department of the student's university and tricks the recipient into clicking on a link contained in the message to provide personal and banking details. One victim reported that after submitting their sensitive information (including name, address, date of birth, contact details, telephone provider, bank account details, student ID, National Insurance Number, driving licence number and mother's maiden name), they were taken to a spoofed website which appeared like a genuine website of their bank, where they were asked to type in their online banking login credentials.

Protect Yourself: Do not click on any links or open attachments contained within unsolicited emails.

Do not reply to scam emails or contact the senders in any way.

If an email appears to have come from a person or organisation you know of but the message is unexpected or unusual, contact them directly via another method to confirm that they sent you the email.

If you receive an email which asks you to login to an online account via a link provided in the email, instead of clicking on the link, open your browser and go directly to the company's website yourself.

If you have clicked on a link in the email, do not supply any information on the website that may open.

If you think you may have compromised the safety of your bank details and/or have lost money due to fraudulent misuse of your cards, you should immediately contact your bank, and report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040, or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.

I am attaching the next in the series of Cyber Lite Bites, produced by Paul Crumpton, our Rural, Business and Cyber Crime Reduction Co-ordinator.



Message from Police Inspector Bob Barnett - West Mercia Police

This is my last newsletter as the local Policing Safer Neighbourhood Inspector. I retire as a Police Officer, after 30 years public service on 31st July 2016.

It has been a privilege and an honour to be associated with Herefordshire over the past 16 years. I have immensely enjoyed all of my roles as a police officer, but it has always been community policing that has given me the most satisfaction. Thank you for your support in everything that we do.

My successor is Inspector Callie-Ann Bradley. I am sure that over the coming months she will be visible in our community and meet with many of you.

Anyway, onto business! I know it seems we have moved on from summer with all the wet weather but home and garden security is critical. Also consider your home whilst in the garden.

Lock doors and windows to prevent sneak thieves helping themselves whilst you are busy in the garden. Remember to protect your items of value – you can get a free crime prevention survey by visiting our web site at www.westmercia.police.uk You can also register what you value by adding its serial number to the free national property database. It can be found at <https://www.immobilise.com/>

The online Crime and Cyber Security initiative continues. Let me remind you about emails that ask you to do the 'urgent and unexpected' i.e. update your payment card details! Opening the attachment or the link will download a virus to your computer.

Some simple steps you can take to reduce the risk are **FAAP!**

F - Firewalls – Have one! Set you Firewall to automatically block access to 'bad sites'.

A - Anti-malware / virus protection – set to automatically update.

A - Access control – Change default passwords to your own. Passwords should be complicated – mix of lower and upper case letters, numbers and symbols.

P - Patching – update software when prompted – this fixes gaps in the program on your computer that are exploited by hackers.

Please can you pass this message onto any older family members and friends and make them aware. If you are concerned about a relative, ring us and we can give you advice.

THINK....

P – phone **999** only if

O – offenders are nearby

L – life is at risk

I – injury caused or threatened

C – crime is in progress

E – everything else call **101**

OR via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

If you are interested in setting up your own Watch or joining a watch in your area or indeed just want more information, then Paul can be contacted by email at: -

paul.crumpton@westmercia.pnn.police.uk or by telephone on 01905 727402.

Could you Volunteer? West Mercia Police are currently recruiting a number of volunteers to a wide variety of roles. For more information contact me at: - robert.barnett@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

In closing, I would like to thank you all for the support you give your local police. We don't always get it right, but I can tell you we do always try our hardest to make sure that Herefordshire remains a safe place to live, work and visit. Bob Barnett.

That's it for this edition folks, thanks for taking the time to read through it and I hope some of the information is useful to you. Kind Regards **Fiona Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team**

Insp 3499 Bob Barnett (based at Ross on Wye) PS 1954 Nick Green (based at Ledbury)

PC 2514 Tom Milton PCSO 6173 Fiona Witcher PCSO 6433 Lucy Morris Peterchurch Police Station Peterchurch HR2 0RR 101 ext 4820 Team mobile 07779 141232 (Non urgent messages only)

goldenvalley.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk



11.0 Matters Relayed to the Clerk for the Agenda of the Next Meeting

Sands Bags

12.0 Date, Time and Venue of Next Ordinary Meeting

The next meeting will be an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 21st September 2016, meeting to commence at 7.30pm in The Auction Rooms Pontrilas

Meeting Declared Closed 8.15pm

Signed.....

Parish Council Chairman Councillor Mr J L Pring

Dated this day the 21st September 2016