

Parish Councillors

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DORMINGTON AND MORDIFORD PARISH COUNCIL.

Newsletter July 2009.

Dear Parishioner,

All successful projects in village communities are achieved by co-operation. One venture initiated by the Dormington & Mordiford Parish Council, in response to a request from young people in the area for a place to meet, provides an outstanding example. Encouragement, expertise and organisation on the part of some members of the Parish Council have combined with enthusiasm, hard work & determination shown by the young people & their families to provide the accommodation needed. An account follows.

F. Dees, Editor.

Vibrant Youth Club Restores Sad Iron Room

The Dormington and Mordiford Youth Club are restoring the Iron Room at Priors Frome. This 100 year old building has a fond place in many village hearts, having been the village social centre for many years last century. It's a formidable project and today the project is being funded by donations and by the fund raising activities of the members. Great progress has been made: reclaimed windows have been installed on the biggest windows (with the help of a local carpenter and Peter Davies, councillor), a donation has provided a new generator for lighting and heating, the overgrown area around the building is cleared, a brand new kitchen has been self funded and installed, and the building exterior has been steam cleaned by Mike Barber Starkey, a contributing parent. The Youth Club successfully applied for help from the IBM community scheme and this provided not only a professional kitchen fitter but will provide the paint and manpower to entirely repaint the building in July. Electrical rewiring remains a problem area, and funding has been applied for to the Herefordshire youth scheme. The core members of the Youth Club deserve to be named for their outstanding work on this truly significant project, they are: **Joe Rickson (chairman), Rob Wright, Charlie Barber Starkey, Ashley Holmes, Alex Jackson and Patrick Hoyes.**

If you can help with DIY skills or feel you can contribute to the restoration any way, please contact Cheryl Shearer on 01432 851590 and you will be made most welcome.

Cheryl Shearer.

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Report on the progress of major projects worked on so far

Road Safety; Traffic calming.

The Parish Council has made Road Safety, especially in the vicinity of the School, a priority. Andrew Lee-Jones, the Lead Highways Engineer, has been advising & assisting the Working Party. A red road surface has been laid by the 30mph sign at the approach to the village on the road from Dormington. Zig Zag markings will be renewed. Provision is to be made for a flashing vehicle actuated (VA) sign reading "30mph. Slow Down." to be installed at the approach to the school on the road from Dormington. The following donations towards the cost have been promised.

School Governors: £1,000.

School PTFA: £1,000.

Parish Council: £500.

On the strength of these donations it is confidently expected that further funding will be forthcoming. The aim is to install this sign before the beginning of the next Academic Year.

Discussions about improving the road markings near the entrance to Sufton Rise are taking place.

Lengthsman.

The newly appointed Lengthsman has started work, and a significant improvement to the ditches and verges has been noted. If you are aware of any areas where undergrowth or overgrown hedges are a likely hazard to traffic, because of restriction of view, please inform the Clerk. The Lengthsman will also undertake to manage the grass on the picnic areas.

Affordable Housing.

Our thanks are due to all those parishioners who filled in the questionnaire on housing need in the area.. There was a fairly good response. (40%). Keith Parry, Rural Housing Enabler, has been collating the replies and will give a response at the Parish Council meeting on July 7th. All are welcome This will also be reported on in the next newsletter.

Highway Maintenance

Resurfacing of pavements in Sufton Rise is underway.

Planning.

A meeting with video presentation was held June 27th at Woolhope Village Hall to discuss the proposed "Village Design Statement". Report to follow in next newsletter.

Footpaths.

The Footpaths Officer has been active in continuing to walk the footpaths to check the signposting & for potential hazards or obstructions. He has prepared helpful leaflet guides to the walks; these can be found in boxes by Notice Boards, the pubs of the area, and the P.O. The Mordiford Loop Walk has been enhanced by a Notice Board with O.S map of the area sited on Pentaloe Green. We are seeking funding for a wooden seat to be placed here. The officer has liaised with the Local Authorities to improve the amenities at Swardon Quarry Viewing Site & Picnic Area. The car park is to be improved, and the notice board replaced. The steps to the Viewing Site will be made safe and the handrail strengthened. Dangerous edges will be fenced off. A seat or picnic table is to be installed. Grass cutting will be maintained by the Parish Council. There is evidence of vandalism and litter at this site, please report any incidents to the Police. The Checkley Barn Picnic Site will also be managed & maintained and the signposting improved.

Transport

The Parish Council is liaising with Fownhope P.C. in monitoring local bus routes and times, with a possible extension to Ross on Wye being considered

Recycling

The new system of rubbish collection comes into force in November 2009.

Black bag general refuse collection every week will continue.

A Wheelie Bin will be provided for Recyclable Goods which will be collected every fortnight. The following are acceptable: paper, cardboard, glass bottles or jars, plastic bottles and tins. If you require a smaller wheelie bin or help to get the bin to the kerb please ring 01432 260051. asap.

Drains.

There has been a complaint about a blocked drain. Please be aware that rural drains are not as robust as town ones and take care not to overload them with unsuitable items.

The Moon.

We are glad to welcome new managers to the Moon, and wish them every success; they play a vital part in our village life.

**Parish Council Meeting July 7th 2009. 8.00pm. Mordiford School.
Speaker: Keith Parry, Rural Housing Enabler.**