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**Ward Member**, John Hardwick, Oldstone Farm, Fownhope, Hereford, HR1 4PJ

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**Parish Clerk**, Melanie Preedy, 6 Cherry Orchard, Tillington, Hereford, HR4 8LE

Telephone: 01432 769480 Email: clerk@dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk

**Responsibilities :** -

**Planning:** Ray Dickson, Peter Davies, Cheryl Shearer and John Lee

**Churchyard and Burial Ground:** Peter Davies, Jan Ashton-Jones, Lorna Radnor

**Footpaths:** John Lichfield (Footpath Officer), John Lee, Jan Ashton-Jones

**Finance:** Nick Brewin, Cheryl Shearer, Brian Dukes, Ray Dickson

**Tree Warden:** John Lee

**Parish Projects:** Jan Ashton-Jones, Brian Dukes, Cheryl Shearer, Lorna Radnor

**Localism Group:** Nick Brewin, Brian Dukes, Cheryl Shearer, Ray Dickson, Jan Ashton-Jones

**HALC Representative:** John Lichfield

**Newsletter Editor:** Brian Dukes

**Parish Clerk:** Melanie Preedy

**The Parish Council will meet on the following dates throughout 2012:**

- May 1<sup>st</sup> – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
- June 12<sup>th</sup>
- July 3<sup>rd</sup>
- September 4<sup>th</sup>
- October 2<sup>nd</sup>
- November 6<sup>th</sup>

All meetings take place at 7.30pm, at Mordiford School Hall, unless otherwise advertised.

Extra-ordinary meetings maybe scheduled as required. Please check notice boards and website for details. [www.dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk](http://www.dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk)



**THE  
DRAGON**

**APRIL 2012**



**Chairman's Annual Report 2011-2012**

It is a pleasure to present my second annual report as Chairman of your Parish Council. Following the elections in May 2011, the newly elected Councillors quickly settled in and have already contributed significantly. They bring a fresh approach and have been good at challenging the status quo. I am particularly personally grateful for the support of Melanie Preedy, our Parish Clerk, Ray Dickson, Vice-Chair, and all Councillors while I was incapacitated during my recent series of eye operations. Thank you all!

Like most years, we have made good progress in some areas and less in others. Sadly, we did not receive sufficient interest in using the Iron Room as a community venue. This is frustrating as much time and effort has been put into bringing the building to a certain standard, but more work still needs to be done. We have decided to maintain the lease for another year and hope that we can find a sustainable solution. Equally, we have had a delay on being able to adopt and 'beautify' the 'Village Green' opposite the Moon at Mordiford. We hope that this will now proceed this year.

However, excellent progress has been made with the Affordable Housing Development at Sufton Rise. West Mercia Housing, Herefordshire Council Planning Department, the Parish Council and local residents have worked positively together to develop and refine the plans, based on residents' views and planning/drainage requirements. We are now very close to the final project being submitted for planning approval which will be a further opportunity for you to have your input. This single project will deliver three key 'wishes' identified by you in the Parish Plan - affordable housing, play area and allotments.

Of course, less glamorous day-to-day-activities still have to be done and we have tried to promptly respond to planning applications, requests for highway repairs, footpath maintenance and jobs for the lengthsman. With increasing emphasis on the Big Society and 'local democracy', the role of the Parish Council is changing. We will undoubtedly be expected to take on new responsibilities and a good example of this is our cooperation with Fownhope Parish Council to reinstate the bus service from Sufton Rise to Ross. The first bus received wide publicity on TV, radio and in the Hereford Times and although the service is only once a month, it really is a case of 'use it or lose it'. I hope you will support this initiative which is being watched nationally as an example of 'localism' at work.

Finally, as I said last year, please remember that we are your representatives. We are always pleased to welcome members of the public at our monthly meetings and your feedback to our regular newsletter 'The Dragon', through the Clerk or any Councillor. The year ahead brings plenty of excitement and opportunity, not least the local Diamond Jubilee celebrations, and we look forward to your continuing support, participation and encouragement.

**Nick Brewin**  
**Dormington & Mordiford Group Parish Chairman**

## “WYE VALLEY VIEWS”

### WYE VALLEY AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB) PHOTOGRAPHIC JIGSAW PROJECT 2012

This is an innovative project involving and covering the 40 Town/Parish/Community Councils that make up the **Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONB). The Project aims to find out what local people think about the Wye Valley: what you think is important about it, what **you value**, what makes it special to you and what you think should be conserved and enhanced. In essence what makes Wye Valley important and different to you. The Wye Valley is not only important locally but nationally, which is why the landscape is protected and designated an **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONB). "Wye Valley Views Jigsaw Project" was first carried out in 2001 and fed into the first statutory AONB Management Plan in (2004-9). Repeating it 10 years on will provide a record of local people's interest and knowledge and how the landscape and local perceptions of it have changed in a decade.

This is a real opportunity to have your say about what you think about the Wye Valley. We aim to put together a complete picture of how the landscape of the Wye Valley looks

#### **If you wish to be involved please send your contact details to: -**

Andrew Blake, Wye Valley AONB Officer, Wye Valley AONB,  
Hadnock Road, Monmouth. NP25 3NG Telephone number: 01600 713 977  
e-mail: aonb.officer@wyevalleyaonb.org.uk

### **Walking for Health. The closest thing to perfect Exercise!**

Walking makes you feel good, gives you more energy, reduces stress, and helps you sleep better. Walking helps keep your heart strong, can help reduce blood pressure, and can help manage your weight, diabetes and osteoporosis. Environmental psychologists now rate the positive benefits of “Biophilia Effect” where connecting with nature is known to lessen the stresses and strains of everyday life.

Almost everyone can walk, anywhere, any time ....and it's free! You do not need any specialist equipment. Walking in a group is a great way to start and to stay motivated. You can start slowly and build up gently You can make friends and discover new places to walk in your own neighbourhood.

Councillors John Lichfield and Jan Ashton Jones will be organising such walks locally, very shortly. Our local group will support you every step of the way and provide you with:

- Healthy walks for absolute beginners, led by trained walk leaders.
- Friendly people to walk with
- A health questionnaire at the start of the walk
- Safe routes

Children/dogs need to be accompanied by responsible adult.

If you would like to **join our group**, contact John or Jan directly.

If you wish to attend a two hour **FREE training to lead a walk** in your area, please contact the “Let's Walk Herefordshire” co-ordinator at: award@herefordshire.gov.uk or call us on telephone No. 01432 261 864

**The Parish Council's Annual Report** which details what the Parish Council has achieved over the past year along with a summary of accounts will soon be placed on the website: - [www.dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk](http://www.dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk)

### **Our New Bus Service to Ross on Wye**

The Sufton Rise to Ross on Wye bus service has had a second very successful trip, with all seats taken. The next service will leave Sufton Rise at 9.30am on 10<sup>th</sup> May and travels through Mordiford to Fownhope and onto Ross on Wye. Full details can be found on the website or from the Parish Clerk.

### **Looking for something to do with the children during the summer holidays?**

The Parish Council is organising football and cheerleading sessions between Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at Mordiford School for children in school years 3,4,5 & 6. There will be a small charge per day. Please contact either Councillor Lorna Radnor on 07779592195 or the Parish Clerk for further details and how to book.

### **Free training in the use of the defibrillator.**

A defibrillator is available on the classroom wall opposite the main gate of Mordiford School. A code is required to remove it from the wall. This code will be provided at the next training course to be held at Mordiford School on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00pm. If you are attending, please ring Vince on 07751000687 as the trainer need to know the number of people she can expect on the day.

### **Fownhope Library**

Did you know that Fownhope has it's own library with a huge selection of books, DVDs and talking books, housed in the comfort of Faulkner House in the centre of the village?

That unlike most public libraries refreshments are available and toilets are on hand?

That the staff are really friendly and waiting for your visit?

That there's no charge to borrow DVDs, and that it's the only library within 20 miles to offer CDs - and for free ?

And that it has a good selection of large print books amongst it's 1800 fiction books? And a really good choice of another 1300 non-fiction notably travel, history, art, gardening and biography, as well as children's books?

Well you could come along on Wednesday afternoons between 2 and 4 pm when the library will be open. No passwords or secret codes required. But don't tell too many folk - we wouldn't want this reading thing to catch on would we?