

**Dormington & Mordiford Group Parish Council
Councillors - April 2015**

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Email: linda_lloyd@btinternet.com

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

Telephone: 01432 860322

Parish Clerk, Mrs Chris Bucknell, 12 Cliveden Grove, Hereford, HR4 0NE

Telephone: 07777669662 Email: clerk@dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk

Responsibilities : -

Emergency Co-ordination: Jan Ashton-Jones: 01432 870827, Ray Dickson:
01432850480

Planning: Ray Dickson, Cheryl Shearer, John Litchfield and John Lee

Churchyard and Burial Ground: Jan Ashton-Jones, Lorna Radnor, Brian
Dukes

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

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

Tree Warden: John Lee

Neighbourhood Planning: Cheryl Shearer, Lorna Radnor, John Litchfield, Ray
Dickson

Mordiford Green: Brian Dukes, Ray Dickson, Jan Ashton-Jones, John Lee,
John Litchfield

Allotments: David Lloyd, Chris Bucknell, Brian Dukes

HALC Representative: Nick Brewin

Newsletter Editor: Brian Dukes

Parish Clerk: Chris Bucknell

Webmaster: Brian Dukes



**The
Dragon
For
April 2015**



Dear Residents

Sadly, from my point of view, this will be the last introduction to The Dragon that I write as , after considerable soul-searching, I will not be standing for re-election as a Parish Councillor on 7 May.

I have enormously enjoyed my time as a Parish Councillor and especially latterly as Chairman and I thank all my fellow Councillors and the Parish Clerk for their tremendous hard work, support and friendship. As a team, I think we have achieved a great deal in the past few years. I am particularly pleased with the Mordiford Village Green amenity, the new gates on our well maintained footpaths and, especially at this time when our first new residents and neighbours are moving in, the Shepherds Orchard development of affordable houses, including the play area and allotments. All these things were identified as required/desirable in the Parish Plan that we initiated a few years ago when we asked you what you felt the community needed to survive and grow. We listened and fortunately, despite the prevailing harsh economic conditions, we were able to deliver. However, there is always more to be done and new challenges lie ahead.

I am very conscious that in recent months, largely because of increased work commitments which are taking me further away from home and for longer periods, I have not been able to devote as much time as I would like to the Parish Council. I have always believed that if you do a job, you should do it well. I am sure that the PC workload will only increase in the future under the Government's initiative to devolve powers and responsibility to the locality, with initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Plan (already well underway under the leadership of Cllr Cheryl Shearer), the enhanced Lengthsman scheme, the management of the allotments etc. Unfortunately, I can no longer commit to take an active role in these tasks, whilst also finding time for my full-time job and growing family.

I wish all the candidates who are standing for (re)election in the elections on 7 May, the very best of luck and success in taking the Parish Council forward in the next few years.

Best wishes and thank you all for your support and encouragement over the years.

Nick

Update on the Neighbourhood Plan for Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish

Consultation.

Our Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee is focused on preparing for our first big consultation. The objective of consultation is for us to understand your concerns and requirements on development of any sort; looking at the things you would see as beneficial, desirable or detrimental to our Parish. As you will remember from previous updates from me, consultation isn't just a nice thing to have in the creation and approval process for a Neighbourhood Plan - its absolutely essential. The Dormington and Mordiford Parish council will be formally audited to ensure that the plan had as wide an exposure to all residents and stakeholders as possible. Although it's usual for these consultative events to be open days in local village halls, we are going to try something which we hope will give us a wider reach, and be more interactive. We will be attending events that you may already be planning to attend - for example Mordiford School Summer Fete and the Church Fete held at Sufton Court. Please look out for invitations to attend throughout the Spring and Summer.

Once we have completed the first round of consultation we will create a questionnaire which properly tests the opinions you express in the consultation. This will be mailed to every single resident of the parish and be collected from them by councillors and volunteers.

Communication

In the interim, we are seeking your help and advice on a topic which is at the heart of the creation of a viable Neighbourhood Plan. This is "Communication".

How should we communicate?

Its clear that this newsletter alone won't be adequate to communicate with all residents since not everyone reads it! Some residents will prefer a face-to-face discussion. Also, some residents have views which relate to specific interest groups or to their employment.

There are also individuals who might be affected by the Neighbourhood Plan who are not residents at all – think of many of the parents of children at Mordiford school. They don't automatically receive a copy of The Dragon.

We want to communicate with you if you are a member of at least one of the following groups. In other words you are stakeholders.

You are a resident in one of the parishes making up the Dormington and Mordiford Group; you run a business; you work from home; you have children at Mordiford School; you use public transport; you never use public transport; you enjoy regular outings with the walking for health team; you use the local doctors' surgery; you drink at the pub; you have views which might be common to a group of people; etc, etc.

You are all stakeholders!

Meeting Schedule

DORMINGTON AND MORDIFORD GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Meetings of both Dormington and Mordiford will be held at 7.30pm in Dormington Church on Tuesday 14th April.
Separate agendas will be followed. We hope to see you there.

The normal monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on the third Monday of the month as follows: -

Monday 20th April 2015

Monday 18th May 2015

Monday 15th June 2015

Monday 20th July 2015

Monday 21st September 2015

Monday 19th October 2015

Monday 16th November 2015

All meetings take place at 7.30pm.

To make it more convenient for parishioners to attend these meeting, some will be held at venues other the Mordiford School Hall, for instance, St Peter's Church, Dormington, and St Nicholas's Church, Checkley. Details of the venue for each meeting will be advertised well before the meeting. Please check the parish website or parish council notice boards.

Dormington and Mordiford Group Neighbourhood Watch

Local representatives meet quarterly to discuss problems with regard to criminal activity and crime prevention. If you are not a member of Neighbourhood Watch and would like to join, please access the Neighbourhood Watch page of the parish council website www.dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk for contact details. A copy of the monthly newsletter from the Safer Hereford Team is available from this page.

Your local Policing Team consists of:-

Police Sergeant Emma Freer

Police Constable Brian Hillstead

Police Community Support Officer Dean Wall

Police Community Support Officer Elena Ekanite

Mobile PCSO Wall 07970 602443

West Mercia Police 101 In an emergency always call 999

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Victim Support 01432 347208

Childline 0800 1111

Domestic Violence Helpline 0800 7831359

National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600

National NHW Association 02079 630160

Herefordshire Road Safety Hotline 01432 364582

Herefordshire NHW www.communicate.co.uk/here/hfdsneiwatch/

Fownhope Community Library

Fownhope Community Library opened in 2012 and is based in the community room of **Faulkner House, Church Croft**, just near to the main entrance of St Mary's School. Membership is free for residents of Fownhope **and all surrounding villages**.

Do call in and see us on either **Wednesdays, 2pm to 4pm or Saturdays, 10am to 12 noon**. Parking is available in the car park behind Faulkner House.

We offer:

- * A very wide range of fiction and non-fiction books for adults and children
- * 60 new laminated OS Explorer maps for the most popular local or holiday regions of Britain
- * computer assistance with laptops available, or help with i-pads and tablets
- * a place to meet friends and enjoy a nice cup of tea
- * a friendly book circle, meeting monthly
- * DVDs and CDs, and talking books available for free loan

We look forward to seeing you!

For any further information please contact Margaret Clark, Secretary, 01432 860017 or marclark47@hotmail.co.uk

Mordiford Village Traffic Problems

The Parish Council, after discussions with Herefordshire Council, school and residents, formally submitted 13 proposals to the County Council to reduce the traffic congestion around the school and to improve the safety of residents and pedestrians. These included short term plans eg 20mph speed limit and short to medium term proposals such as a lay-by/parking area in the school grounds for which we believe 'Section 106' funding could be available.

Ward Councillor, John Hardwick, has been very active in supporting these proposals at Herefordshire Council and we hope for some action soon although all these things inevitably take longer to implement than anyone would like.

The following comments were made concerning the thirteen proposals submitted by the Parish Council

1. A lay-by/dropping off area – supported
2. A 20mph limit - supported
3. White 'picket gates' - supported
4. Pavement extension opposite Wallflower Row and pavement from the Moon pub round the corner to the entrance to the school – may be problematic
5. Wrought-iron posts along the edge of the pavement at Wallflower Row – this may be difficult because of the restricted width of the highway. Cllr Litchfield challenged this view and would send a picture of a similar solution to Cllr Hardwick
6. A mirror on the signpost by the old smithy – this could be instigated by the GPC and would probably be acceptable to Herefordshire Council
7. A short single-file section at Wallflower Row – this was viewed as a longer term option
8. Weight and width limit on the bridge – there was a need to consider local farming practices. Weight limits for access were difficult to enforce.
9. Children crossing warning signs - supported
10. Off-street parking site for residents – Where would this be and what time would it operate?
11. Enforcement of the law regarding the local anaerobic digester - the planning permission was still to be granted and there would be a strict traffic management plan. There was a suggestion that a new access to Court Farm could be created through their land to the Ledbury Road. This may be added as a condition to the planning permission.
12. Relocation of the school – for the future
13. An Eastern by-pass – for the future

We would like to know how to communicate with you and your particular group. How would you like to receive and respond to information with regard to the neighbourhood plan?

Please let our clerk, Mrs Chris Bucknell, know your preferred means of communication. Her contact details are: -
Email clerk@dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk
Address 12 Cliveden Grove, Hereford. HR4 0NE
Telephone 07777 669 662

Many of you will have heard that the Hereford Council was asked to revisit its Core Strategy. In some places this has increased the number of new homes which will be required to be built.

At the same time you will have seen that central government has relaxed the former requirements that all housing developments must contain affordable homes. This is now changed to developments of more than 10.

You may also have seen an increasing dependence on the definition of settlement boundaries.

These various changes should alert us all to the importance of a clear Neighbourhood Plan for our beautiful area. I encourage you to join your Neighbour Planning Steering committee to ensure that your views and requirements are heard.

And finally I have to announce that this will be the last update from me personally as I am stepping down from leadership of the Neighbourhood Plan committee. However, the plans needed for our consultation events in June are in place, so I do hope to see you there.

Cheryl Shearer

WMA
wm housing group

Shepherds Orchard
Mordiford
Hereford
HR1 4FD

2 bed houses £66,000 (40% share)
rent pcm £257.49*

3 bed houses £75,000 (40% share)
rent pcm from £289.89*

PART BUY. PART RENT.

Register your interest now!

A brand new development of
2 x 2 bedroom houses
2 x 3 bedroom houses

Properties benefit from:

- Gas central heating
- UPVc double glazing
- Fitted kitchen with oven, hob and extractor
- Downstairs cloakroom
- 2 parking spaces
- Turfed front and rear garden

All applicants must be registered with www.help2buy Midlands.co.uk or call 0345 850 2050

Priority will be given to applicants with a connection to Dormington and Mordiford Parish.

The elevation is for illustrative purposes only

* Please note this figure includes buildings insurance but a service charge will be added

For more information please contact the Sales Team
☎ 0121 457 4604 📧 sales@wmhousing.co.uk

Senior Cook required St. Mary's CE Primary School, Fownhope

Salary: HC4 £8971.12 25 hours per week Term time only + 3 days

The Governors of St. Mary's CE Primary School Fownhope are seeking to appoint a hard-working and reliable senior cook to work in our busy school kitchen. The role will involve working as part of a team, supervising a kitchen assistant and reporting to the kitchen manager.

Applicants should have:

- experience of working in a commercial/school kitchen environment;
- good knowledge of health and safety and hygiene legislation;
- experience of preparing recipes and menus;
- level 2 in food safety and catering or equivalent;
- a willingness to support the ethos of the school.

For further information please contact Mrs B. Squires, school administrator via post, telephone or email (info@st-marys-pri.hereford.sch.uk).

St. Mary's CE Primary School, Court Orchard, Fownhope, Hereford, HR1 4PG
Tel: 01432 860474 Website: www.stmarysschoolfownhope.co.uk

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and young people. This position is subject to an enhanced DBS check.



Mordiford Dragons Playgroup
c/o Rannoch, Church Road, Dinodor, Hereford HR2 6LQ
Email: chick@dragonsmordiford.co.uk
Tel: 01432 870629 or 0792066227
Charity no. 1051057



The Dragons

A big thank you to all who supported our Pimms, Ploughman's and Puddings night by sending in tasty delicacies, buying raffle tickets and coming on the night to either enjoy or help in the kitchen and put all the chairs and tables out, and clear away. Also thank you to local businesses and friends for supplying prizes, which covered two tables!! Your efforts helped to make over £600 for Dragons. Wow!

Fownhope Flower Club

National Flower Arranging Day and Lonely Bouquet Day Friday 1st May 2015

As part of a National NAFAS initiative Fownhope Flower Club will be arranging flowers in a few public places for this day. We will also be leaving some small posies and single flower arrangements around the Benefice. If you find one of these, please pick it up and take it home to enjoy! There will be a label attached to the flowers and if possible, please let us know the journey of the flowers. Happy hunting and to those who find, enjoy!

Mr Albert Jay with his wife and child outside Mordiford Post Office around 1920.



Church of the Holy Rood, Mordiford Choir

Taken on the rectory lawn in 1935.

Left to right, front row:-

Eric Standing; Percy Preece; Bert Morgan; Bill Poyner; Howard Holbrook (cross bearer); Philip Holbrook; Robert Powell; Gerard Tibbey.

At rear:- Reverend J. W. Brown; Horace Holland (sexton); Bill Prosser; Bill Parry.



HOW IT WAS. Photographs of old Mordiford

Here is a photograph taken near the 'new' burial ground on the Woolhope Road. It is of Albert Jay, an uncle of John Litchfield. He was a grave digger and kept the Mordiford Post Office.



Below is a photograph of another relative of John Litchfield. It is of George Jay, Mordiford's Man from the Pru. He is standing with his bicycle outside Rectory Cottage with the rush hour traffic not yet in sight!



We've MOVED

As of March 2015, phase one of the St Michael's Hospice Redevelopment has been completed, and we couldn't be more delighted with the progress thus far.

Although there is a great deal of rehabilitation to be done in the original building, the Hospice's medical and administrative teams have successfully moved into our beautifully designed offices and spaces within the Inpatient Unit.

Ruth Denison, Head of Fundraising, said, "It was a real team effort; all the Hospice departments pulled together to ensure that everything ran smoothly and to plan. We couldn't have done it without the help of the NatWest private banking team from the West Midlands, who worked tirelessly on the day and saved us further expense. Local businesses such as GB Liners were also incredibly important in helping us keep the move on schedule."

Ruth continued, "This is of course only the first phase: we still have a great deal of renovation work scheduled for the first set of buildings we've now vacated, so we can offer support to even more families through better Day Hospice facilities."

And none of this would have been possible without the generous support of our community. Because of you...we are now able to care for even more people and their families and friends when they need us most.



DID YOU ATTEND YARKHILL SCHOOL?

If you attended Yarkhill School at any time before its closure in 1970, we'd love to hear from you. The parishioners of Yarkhill are hoping to hold a reunion for all those that attended Yarkhill School during the time it was open. If you attended or know someone that did and would like to be involved please get in contact with Wendy Nash on 01531670508 or email at alun.wendy@hotmail.co.uk.

Dear parishioners,

It is with sorrow that I have decided not to put my name forward for election to the Parish Council in May 2015. Work on the Parish Council is very rewarding and in some areas it is possible to make a real difference.

I want to say a big 'thank you' to my colleagues on the Parish Council for all the time and effort they have invested, and for creating a happy, friendly, industrious team.

I want to give particular thanks to our clerk, Chris and to her predecessors, Mel and Heather. With their spectacular efforts, The Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council became a Quality Parish, a title which we all felt justifiably proud.

Best wishes, Brian

Mordiford Community Choir is seeking new members. Adults of any ability welcome! No need to read music, just enjoy singing! We sing Popular music from 60s-90s (sometimes beyond!); Musicals; Showtunes + MORE!

A fun and informal gathering - "Very uplifting sessions!"

We meet weekly (term time only) at Hampton Bishop Village Hall, Tuesday evenings from 8pm – 9.30pm. Cost is £2 per session and refreshments are provided. For more information visit www.mordifordchoir.co.uk or telephone Ali Watkins on 01432 873110

Could you adopt?

‘Our life has so changed since we got our boy, he makes us smile every day’, says one of our Herefordshire adopters.





Many people still think adoption is only for young married couples but this is no longer the case. The only age barrier is that you must be over 21 years to adopt. There is no upper limit but you will need lots of physical and emotional energy. Single people, those in same sex relationships and people with disabilities are welcomed as adopters.

Every year there are about 20 Herefordshire children of all ages needing a safe, stable, loving home. Herefordshire Council adoption team welcome enquiries from a variety of people bringing a range of skills to suit a variety of children with different needs.

To make confidential enquiries please call our friendly team on **01432 383241** or mail adoption@herefordshire.gov.uk

For further information www.herefordshire.gov.uk/adoption



<p>What is it?</p> <p>The National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS) is organised and funded by BSBI, CEH, JNCC and Plantlife. The aim is to collect data to provide an annual indication of changes in plant abundance and diversity.</p>	
<p>Why is it needed?</p> <p>Thanks to volunteers, we have a very good understanding of changes in the populations of birds, butterflies and bats. Plants are the foundations of ecosystems, but currently we do not have a good measure of changes in plant populations.</p>	
<p>How will it work?</p> <p>This is a scientific survey, so you will be randomly allocated a convenient 1km square to visit. The visit involves recording plant 'indicator species' in plots. Within your 1km square you will record around 5 plots.</p>	
<p>Who can take part?</p> <p>Anyone interested in nature who can identify plants, or who is keen to learn. Different levels of participation ensure that all who are keen can participate: you do not have to be an experienced botanist. There will be training materials provided and the opportunity to attend workshops throughout the year.</p>	

For more information visit: www.npms.org.uk



Have you taken the bus to Ross on Wye?

It travels from Mordiford to Ross on the second Thursday of each month and costs just £3.70 return. It is sponsored by the DMGPC. Here is the timetable: -

Depart		Return	
Sufton Rise	9.30am	Cantilupe Road	12:35pm
Mordiford Village	9:32am	Morrisons	12:37pm
Lucksall	9:35am	Ross Labels (request stop)	12:42pm
Scotch Firs	9:37am	Church Crossroads	1:00pm
Nover Wood Drive	9:38am	Nover Wood Drive	1:01pm
Court Orchard	9:39am	Court Orchard	1:02pm
Church Crossroads	9:40am	Scotch Firs	1:03pm
Ross Labels (request)	9:58am	Lucksall	1:05pm
Morrisons	10:03am	Mordiford Village	1:08pm
Cantilupe Road	10:05am	Sufton Rise	1:10pm

The **Fownhope-Mordiford-Ledbury** bus service will continue on the fourth Friday of the month (except May when it will be on the fifth Friday) until August 2015. Thereafter it will be a summer service, May to August 2016. It costs £3.70.

Depart		Return	
Fownhope Church	9:32am	Ledbury Market House	12:35pm
Mordiford Moon	9:42am	Ledbury Station	12:39pm
Sufton Rise	9:44am	Sufton Rise	12:54pm
Ledbury Station	9:59am	Mordiford Moon	12:56pm
Ledbury Market House	10:03am	Fownhope Church	1:06pm

Shepherds Orchard Allotments.

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that thirteen allotments are available on the new Shepherd Orchard development. A range of sizes are offered. The largest will meet the requirements of more experienced allotment holders and the smallest will be suitable for a small family wishing to start growing their own fruit, flowers and vegetables. There will intermediate sizes and layouts to match most requirements.

An allotment agreement has been prepared which will be signed by all successful applicants. It clearly outlines the terms of the tenure and states what is expected with regard to cropping programmes, the keeping of livestock and permitted development.

A single water supply has been provided to serve all allotments, but allotment holders will be encouraged to capture rainwater from the roof of their garden shed. The maximum specifications of the garden shed will be stated in the agreement. The parish council is at present allocating allotments to applicants. If you haven't yet applied to the Parish Clerk for an allotment, now is the time to do so. Priority will be given to residents of the Dormington and Mordiford Group of Parishes but other suitable applicants from outside the Parish will also be considered. It is very unlikely that further allotments will become available in the near future. This is your opportunity to start living The Good Life. Seize it!

Mordiford School PTFA Events - Spring/Summer

If you would like more information on any of the following events contact Julie Homersley, PTFA Chair - juliehomersley@hotmail.co.uk - 07957 578 726. You will also find information on posters around school nearer to the time and on the Mordiford PTFA Facebook page.

PTFA Meeting Monday 20th April - 7.30pm Bunch of Carrots

Quiz Thursday 30th April - 7.30pm School Hall

A battle of the minds for grown-ups only. Teams will compete to become Mordiford School Quiz Champions. There will be a bar for those who think more clearly with a glass of wine.

Mordifest Saturday 13th June School Field

An afternoon and evening of fun and entertainment for all ages. Bar and food available and the option to camp overnight. Look out for posters detailing all the activities available nearer the time. There will be a grand raffle for which prize donations are welcomed. Please contact Julie Homersley if you would like to donate a prize.

<p align="center">Notice of Annual Parish Meeting for DORMINGTON</p> <p align="center">Notice is hereby given that Dormington Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th April 2015 at St Peters Church, Dormington Starting at 7.30pm</p> <p align="center">Electors of the Parish will be entitled to vote at the meeting which is open to the public. Business to be transacted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Apologies for absence ● Minutes of the previous Parish Meeting (15th May 2014) ● Items arising not covered elsewhere on agenda ● Dormington Councillors' update/Question Time ● New issues/concerns ● Any Other Items <p align="right">Signed: Nick Brewin Chairman of Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council</p>

<p align="center">Notice of Annual Parish Meeting for MORDIFORD</p> <p align="center">Notice is hereby given that Mordiford Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th April 2015 at St Peters Church, Dormington Starting at 7.30 pm (to follow the Dormington Annual Parish Meeting)</p> <p align="center">Electors of the Parish will be entitled to vote at the meeting which is open to the public. Business to be transacted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Apologies for absence ● Minutes of the previous Parish Meeting (13th May 2014) ● Items arising not covered elsewhere on agenda ● Mordiford Councillors' update/Question Time ● New issues/concerns ● Any Other Items <p align="right">Signed: Nick Brewin Chairman of Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council</p>
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Dying to Know

(part of Death Awareness Week)

Tuesday 18th May

The Courtyard Centre for the Arts, Hereford HR4 9JR

Free workshops from 10am throughout the building

Illustrated talk by Dr Khesh Sidhu at 2pm and 7pm (£7.50 each; £12 for two people)

An informative and inspiring day of talks, workshops and activities coordinated by St Michael's Hospice focusing on demystifying death for all ages.

The event will provide a safe space to discuss how to have a good death, live a good life and prepare to take control when the inevitable happens.

There will be music, discussions and stalls in the foyer from 1pm, as well as a special Death Café in the Mezzanine Restaurant.

Dr Khesh Sidhu will give an illustrated talk at 2pm and 7pm entitled "Everything you wanted to know about death but were afraid to ask". This is a funny and thought-provoking discussion about the experiences and regrets of the dying.

Tickets for Dr Sidhu's talks may be purchased from the Courtyard Box Office on 01432 340555: all proceeds will be donated to the Hospice. Tickets are £7.50 each, or £12 for two people.

NB: please bring along a notebook & pencil. A sense of HUMOUR is essential.

We will be offering excellent cake for a donation to the Hospice on the day as well!

All proceeds to go to St Michaels Hospice

Dear all,
It can't have passed your attention that there is election coming soon!! I will not be standing as a Parish Councillor this time due to not having enough time. I should like to thank all of those who voted for me last time and wish all those standing this time, Good Luck! I have so very much enjoyed being part of the Parish Council and would recommend the role to anyone else out there.
My thanks once again.

Lorna Radnor.

	<p align="center">Mordiford Mill</p> <p align="center">Open Day Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th May 10 am – 5 pm</p> <p>Traditional Corn Mill currently being restored to working order.</p> <p>Car Park at the back of the mill, 200 yards from the Moon Inn up the Fownhope road on the left.</p> <p>Guided Tours.</p> <p>Entrance free, donations welcome to pay for materials for the restoration.</p> <p>Contact:- Andy Tatchell 01432 850137</p> <p>Other Mills to Visit in Herefordshire during National Mills Weekend :- http://www.nationalmillsweekend.co.uk/</p>
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SHEPHERDS ORCHARD

Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council has led on a local affordable housing development, after finalising its parish plan in conjunction with the community in 2006. The parish plan has set the agenda for the parish council for several challenging years.

Nick Brewin, chair of Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council, said:

“Our local area plan identified a requirement for affordable housing in the village, as well as a desire for a safe children’s play area and allotments to improve the village’s environmental and sustainability credentials. Our work on our affordable housing project satisfies all three requirements.”

The parish council believed that if local people could have access to affordable housing, then local employment, community facilities and the village school would be safeguarded.

It would also help reduce the trend of local residents leaving the area as they had no access to affordable housing and could not afford to rent or buy locally. This housing development would remain affordable thus giving future generations a place to live and grow.

Throughout the whole process the community was involved and worked with the parish council to provide ideas for improving the plan.

West Mercia Homes and Kemble Housing, both part of WM Housing Group, were approached to lend their expertise and a local housing needs survey was distributed to parish residents to identify the housing need and also to request feedback for community and green space areas.

During the project Tina Wood from the affordable housing development team in Herefordshire Council played an important role in ensuring a suitable site was found to build the new houses, sourcing the funding to build the houses and keeping them within the community. Tina worked tirelessly with the Parish Council and West



Mercia Homes to make it the success it is. Kat La Tzsar was also a lead player in the project; she provided drive, enthusiasm, tact and determination.

West Mercia, Kat La Tzsar and Tina Wood have been congratulated for their fantastic commitment and communication during this exciting and sought after new development in the community.

The subsequent results identified an affordable housing requirement for both elderly residents and family accommodation. Work continued to promote the scheme through WM Housing Group and its partners and a site adjacent to Sufton Rise was identified. Land negotiations with a local landowner were instigated and the land was purchased in January 2014.

The £1.5million development, which is being funded in part by a £350,000 grant from the Homes and Communities Agency’s Community Led Development Fund, have delivered flats, houses and bungalows, with eight properties for rent and four for shared ownership.

The key criterion to being able to own or rent one of these properties will be that applicants must have a local connection within the Dormington and Mordiford parish area. This is written into the Section 106 agreement drawn up by Herefordshire Council, which will ensure that a local connection will remain the key element to future lettings and sales.

The scheme has also helped to promote green credentials, as all materials are sourced within a 50 mile radius of the site. The contractor, J Harper and Sons has also employed local people through its apprenticeship scheme.

Overall the project will have taken nine years to complete from start to finish and would not have succeeded without the leadership of the parish council in partnership with the community, Herefordshire Council and WM Housing.

