

Dormington & Mordiford Group Parish Council Councillors January 2012

Jan Ashton-Jones, Kiddleys Kopse, Mordiford, Hereford, HR1 4LR

Telephone: 01432 870827 Email: janaj1009@gmail.com

Peter Davies, 3 Sufton Lane, Mordiford, Hereford, HR1 4HE

Telephone: 07968080554

Ray Dickson, Mordifords, Priors Frome, Herefordshire, HR1 4EP

Telephone: 01432 850480

Brian Dukes, 4 Pentaloe Close, Mordiford, Hereford, HR1 4LS

Telephone: 01432 870308 Email: briandukes@talktalk.net

John Lee, Backbury House, Checkley, Hereford, HR1 4NA

Telephone: 01432 850255 Email: johnlee.backbury@hotmail.co.uk

John Litchfield, Old Rectory Barn, Mordiford, Hereford, HR1 4LW

Telephone: 01432 870802 Email: rectorybarn@yahoo.co.uk

Lorna Radnor, 1 Sufton Lane, Mordiford, Hereford, HR1 4HE

Telephone: 07779592195 Email: lornaradnor@googlemail.com

Nick Brewin, 18 The Maltings, Dormington, Hereford, HR1 4FA

Telephone: 01432 850456 Email: nick@cenick.freeserve.co.uk

Cheryl Shearer, Dormington Court, Dormington, Hereford, HR1 4FA

Telephone: 01432 851590 Email: SHEAREC@uk.ibm.com

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

Telephone: 01432 860322

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:

- January 10th
- February 7th
- March 6th
- April 3rd

17th April 7.30pm *Mordiford Parish Meeting Mordiford School Hall*

17th April 8.00pm *Dormington Parish Meeting St. Peters church, Dormington*

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

All meetings take place at 7.30pm, at Mordiford School Hall, unless otherwise advertised. Extra-ordinary meetings may be scheduled as required. Please check notice boards and website for details. www.dormingtonmordifordgroup-pc.gov.uk



THE DRAGON

January 2012



Welcome to the first edition in 2012 of The Dragon. On behalf of all the Parish Councillors, may I wish you a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Since last writing, we have taken some steps forward and, regrettably, some steps back in working towards our objectives of implementing what you told us you would like, through the Parish Plan and feedback at our meetings. We have made good progress with the **Affordable Housing Scheme** at Sufton Rise. West Mercia Housing has listened to your comments. The number and position of the houses has been amended (reduced), but the scheme still includes a play area and allotments which will be 'whole-Group Parish' facilities. The revised plans, prepared in conjunction with the planning department, were on display at the consultation event held at the end of November at Mordiford School. Once again WMH and the planning department listened to your feedback and it is hoped that a formal planning application will be submitted imminently.

We have made less progress with adopting the **Mordiford Green**. The matter is currently in the hands of Major Hereford's solicitors and we hope for resolution soon.

The **Iron Room** remains a difficult problem. We have had some interest from people wishing to use the facilities but no firm, viable proposal which would justify spending the extra money to make it a quality Parish amenity. When people do visit the building, they see all the good work done to date and the room's potential, but we need more than that. Sooner, rather than later, we must make a decision. We all need to be aware that if we have to walk away from it, the Iron Room is likely to be demolished and there will be no turning back. If you think you can help the project in any way, please contact Councillor Lorna Radnor.

Another contentious issue at present is the parking problems outside **Mordiford School** during term time. We are very anxious to do all we can to prevent a fatality or serious accident and have taken advice from Herefordshire Council Highways Dept. We are also intending to meet with the School head-teacher and Chair of Governors in the hope of working together to find a solution acceptable to all parties.

In addition, there are many other activities and initiatives that the Parish Council is involved with; not least the impact that the Localism Act may have on our area. As always, we will endeavour to keep you informed. I hope that you will enjoy reading the pages that follow and wish you all the best for 2012.

Nick Brewin, Chairman

Broadband Update

BT Openreach is investing in Hereford City to enable many residents and businesses to access better broadband. This investment, as part of the fibre deployment programme by Openreach, will complement the work of the Borders Broadband project in establishing a broadband network throughout the more rural parts of the county.

The impact of enabling the exchange in Hereford during 2012 is likely to see a massive difference in the speeds residents and businesses can access in the city and the surrounding areas. It will also help the establishment of Rotherwas as an Enterprise Zone with national status as a place for business.

The selection of a commercial telecoms supplier to provide the new high-speed broadband infrastructure for the rest of the county is well underway. A contract is expected to be awarded in late spring 2012, and work is due to start soon afterwards.

Defra Funding

DEFRA have recently announced a new fund to make broadband available to the remotest rural areas.

The Rural Community Broadband Fund is for communities in those hardest-to-reach areas which are unlikely to benefit from private sector investment in a new high-speed Broadband infrastructure. This fund will therefore aim to fill the gap where current Government funding for rural broadband may not reach.

The Borders Broadband project covering Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, as one of the original four national rural broadband pilots, is well ahead in its procurement of a network supplier. As such, information gathered during this process can be used to understand whether this fund is needed in Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

Discussions have taken place with DEFRA to ensure that, if this funding is required, areas in both counties are well-placed to receive funds. Therefore the Borders Broadband team will be working with DEFRA to access this fund on behalf of communities using data, evidence and information gathered through the procurement process.

Broadband Survey Update

Several people have made the comment that they never received the survey sheets through the post, but Royal Mail has assured us that they have been delivered. If you know of people who did not receive them please let us know. We still have some hard copies that can be distributed. Also it seems people were expecting the questionnaires to come in addressed envelopes rather than with other promotional material. Please encourage people to continue to complete the survey, best on line if at all possible. There is no deadline as we will continue to collect the data, but we will be fully analysing the results at the end of January.

Fownhope Community Library was formally set up at a meeting on 4th January with the agreement of a constitution and the election of a management committee. The scheme has the backing of Fownhope Parish Council, Herefordshire Housing and Herefordshire County Library Services. The Library will be housed in Faulkner House and will be open to residents of Fownhope and adjoining parishes free of charge. More than 20 people have agreed to join a rota to help run the library to be open on Wednesday afternoons at first, starting sometime in March or early April. There are plans for a monthly book circle group and sessions to help members with internet access and computer problems. Coffee and tea will be available when the library is open to encourage members to sit for a while and chat. If you have books, maps, CDs, DVDs, magazines or such like which you would like to donate to the library please let our parish clerk know.

New Bus service – a monthly service to Ross on Wye (the 458) will be starting on Thursday 8th March and will run every second Thursday (12th April, 10th May, 14th June, 12th July, 9th August). Fownhope and Dormington & Mordiford Group Parish Councils have agreed to fund this service for a trial of six months – after this time it will be reviewed, **so if you want it – use it!**

A return adult fare will be £3.70 – less than the cost of driving and parking, those with a bus pass will still be able to travel for free. As an added incentive the Association of Ross Traders have agreed to provide loyalty vouchers to those using the service.

Timetable	Departs	Returns
Sufton Rise	9.30am	13.10pm
Mordiford village	9.32am	13.08pm
Lucksall	9.35am	13.05pm
Scotch Firs	9.38am	13.02pm
Court Orchard	9.39am	13.01pm
Church Cross	9.40am	13.00pm
Oldway	9.42am	12.58pm
Caplor Farm	9.45am	12.55pm
Gurneys Oak	9.47am	12.53pm
Falcon	9.49am	12.51pm
How Caple– X roads	9.52am	12.48pm
Old Gore	9.54am	12.46pm
Ross labels (request)	9.58am	12.42pm
Morrisons	10.03am	12.37pm
Cantilupe Road	10.05am	12.35pm

The Iron Room

At the January meeting of the Parish Council, it was resolved to secure the Iron Room for the time being without spending further funds on it. It is hoped that applications for its use will be presented in the near future but to date none have been received. If you or any organisation need to hire a hall for meetings or social gatherings please let the Parish Clerk know.

Give an hour this March

Marie Curie Cancer Care is appealing to people in Herefordshire to give an hour as a volunteer collector for the Great Daffodil Appeal.

The appeal is Marie Curie's biggest fundraiser and encourages everyone to give a donation and wear a daffodil pin in March. All money raised will help Marie Curie Nurses to provide more free care to local terminally ill people in their own homes.

Marie Curie Nursing Ambassador, Clare Horgan, was inspired to become a nurse for the charity after her brother died of cancer. She explains why the appeal is so important: "I absolutely love my job as I see first hand what it means for terminally ill people to be able to spend their final days in the place of their choice with friends and family nearby.

"Marie Curie Nurses make this possible by providing physical and emotional nursing care completely free of charge to patients and their families. We work shifts, often at night, giving carers and family members the chance to take a break, spend quality time with their loved one, or simply get a good night's sleep.

"In March please join me by collecting for the Great Daffodil Appeal and wearing a daffodil pin so that more people with a terminal illness can access free Marie Curie nursing care."

Donating your time to the appeal will allow Marie Curie nurses to provide more free care to people with terminal cancer and other illnesses in their own homes. By supporting the appeal, you will be backing the Herefordshire Nursing Appeal which aims to raise the £88,000 needed to fund the Marie Curie nursing service in Herefordshire.

Join your local team of volunteer collectors by calling Marie Curie Cancer Care now on 0117 942 7132 or visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil today.

Daffodil pins can be picked up from local stores, schools, street collectors in Herefordshire throughout March.

To get help from the Marie Curie Nursing Service, talk to your GP, district nurse or discharge nurse. For more information, visit www.mariecurie.org.uk or call 0800 716 146.

St Michael's Hospice proudly presents The Hereford Police Male Choir in concert on Saturday 25th February 2012 at 7:30pm in the Shire Hall, St Peter's Square, Hereford. Tickets are £8.50 per person and can be purchased from the Hospice Events Team on 01432 851000 or email info@st-michaels-hospice.org.uk. Tickets can also be bought at The Outback, Church Street, Hereford. The Choir has a fantastic reputation; their harmonious voices resound at the Shire Hall, so join us for a special evening of song. Refreshments will be available on the night. All proceeds to St Michael's Hospice (registered charity number: 511179).



The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

A group of parishioners are preparing appropriate plans for this magnificent occasion and if you should like to join them, you would be very welcome. Please contact Brian Dukes on 01432870308 with offers of help, with ideas, or for the times of our meetings.

To raise money to purchase the mugs to be presented to each child of school age living or attending school in the parish, a raffle will be held, with the draw taking place at Easter time. Tickets will be available from Mordiford School or any parish councillor in the run up to Easter. If your child/ren does not attend Mordiford School or Mordiford Dragons, please be sure to complete the form overleaf so that no child is left off our list. We should also like you to fill in the form to tell us which celebrations you are likely to join in. A charge will have

to be made for some of them but, unusually, the emphasis is on celebration, not raising money! If you should like to donate a prize for the raffle or simply make a donation towards the cost of purchasing the mugs, please let the Parish Clerk know now. We shall be delighted to hear from you.



On Saturday 2nd June, the Police Choir are giving a concert in Mordiford Church. On Sunday 3rd June we will be enjoying lunch after creating a flotilla of canoes on the River Wye. Fun and games will be enjoyed by everyone during the afternoon.

Late on Monday 4th June, a beacon will be lit at Swarton Quarry to link with 2011 other beacons to be lit across the country— making a total of 2012!.

In addition to these celebrations, children will help fill and bury a time capsule and a special tree will be planted by certain elder statesmen of the parish.



A lot more thought and planning has to go into these celebrations if they are to be worthy of the event and one to be remembered over the years to come.

Please help, by making your contribution to the planning of the events and joining in the celebrations.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Children, sixteen years or under on the 2nd June 2012, and living in the Dormington and Mordiford Group of Parishes, are entitled to receive a commemorative mug. If your child/children does/do not attend Mordiford Primary School or Mordiford Dragon Playgroup, please complete the slip below so that a presentation can be made to them.

Name				
Date of birth				
School (if any)				

A number of events to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee are being arranged in the Parish. To help with the organisation, please indicate below which events you are likely to attend. Any charges made will be kept to the minimum. The activities have been arranged to **celebrate the Diamond Jubilee**, not raise funds.

	Celebration	Date	Possible charge Adult/children	Adults attending	Children attending
1	Presentation of mug	Friday 1st June am			
2	Burial of time capsule	Friday 1 st June pm			
3	Police Choir Concert	Saturday 2 nd June pm	£7.00		
4	Canoe flotilla	Sunday 3 rd June am	£10.00/ £5.00		
5	Tree planting ceremony	Sunday 3 rd June mid-day			
6	Sunday lunch	Sunday 3 rd June 1.00pm	£7.50/£5.00		
7	Fun afternoon	Sunday 3 rd June			
8	Beacon party	Monday 4 th June evening			

Please detach this central spread from **The Dragon** and return it with the forms completed, to the Parish Clerk, Mordiford School, or any Parish Councillor, before **March 1st 2012**.

Name	
Address	
e-mail	
Telephone	

Mordiford School: - Academy Status

At a meeting of the Governing body in December 2011, the governors resolved to make a formal application to convert to academy status.

An advisor, Julie Waterhouse, has now been appointed, and detailed information about the school is being collected. Members of the parish community are invited to submit comments about this possible change in status, as soon as possible, so that they can be taken into consideration by the advisor.

Parish Improvements: Your choice

Thank you for your suggestions as to how £500 could be spent to improve the Parish. Below are the list of ideas we received and, in the last edition of *The Dragon*, we asked you to prioritise them. Unfortunately we had no response. You now have a second chance to suggest up to three projects. The project which attracts the most support will be announced at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Suggestions:

Highway safety improvements; Play equipment; Bench at Checkley Barn picnic site; Simple shelter at Checkly Barn Picnic site; Improvements to public footpaths; Skateboard ramp; Meeting place for children and adults on the village green; Extra cuts on the burial ground; Salt bin in Pentaloe Close

Please indicate your top three ideas by circling them in the list above and returning this page to the school, Clerk or any Parish Councillor

Affordable Housing.

A report was made to the Parish Council at their meeting on 10th January about the proposed development at Sufton Rise. At an open evening at the school in November, amended plans were presented, and the views expressed by the public were generally supportive. The reliability of the electricity supply to Sufton Rise and future drainage requirements must receive further consideration before a formal planning application can be made.