
Warwickshire County Council

Feldon Division report

July 24

Division issues

General

Thank you for the invitation to join you for your parish meeting. I look forward to seeing you tonight.

HS2

Over the past two years, one of the biggest issues I have been dealing with has been the continued disruption to the local road network from HS2, the collateral impact on adjacent villages and damage to the roads themselves.

This regrettably is set to continue and I have had two meetings in the last fortnight about the Wormleighton works with no end in sight. Instead there is further news of additional road closures.

I have reported my concerns to and met with the HS2 Construction Commissioner, the effective Ombudsman for HS2.

He has been to the area and driven around the local roads and was likewise concerned about the very rural nature of the local roads and their lack of suitability for heavy traffic diverted as a result of HS2 works. Whether he can have any impact remains to be seen.

I am repeatedly told by EKFB that the area around Stoneton Lane and the roads to Lower and Upper Boddington is one of the most challenging areas for them to deal with, suggesting that a lot of the problems are due to the change in route of the track to protect the Berryhill Plantation and adjoining woods.

The EKFB Councillor liaison officer Simon Davies has now left EKFB leaving, regrettably, a number of unanswered questions about EKFB's work program.

I have now met his successor, who along with the senior liaison manager for Warwickshire, have postponed the removal of a hedgerow and trees remote from roads or the HS2 track itself.

The works between Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick and Lower Boddington remains significantly behind the proposed timetable started in July 23 with the closure of the Wormleighton Road scheduled for late autumn 23 still to commence. The Construction Commissioner is aware and will be considering how best to address this issue.

The immediate cause for the delayed works, we are now told is the need to have appropriate parapets on the new bridge built to cross the track near the junction of the Warwick and Banbury Roads.

These parapets have not yet been approved for installation. The latest proposal is for a new blanket four month closure to cover all the four road, Wormleighton Road Warwick Road, Banbury Road and Stoneton Lane, to allow them to complete all the works at the same time, before work begins on the green bridge on Stoneton Lane..

Once these barriers are put in place, there is now a new proposal to build a link road across the track, in addition to the other works, but this will require an additional all-round four-month road closure, separate to the 24 month closure of Stoneton Lane. This is not helpful news.

The timetable twelve months ago as sent out by EKFB was for the closures to be as follows:

Closures from August 23:	Closure	Re-open
Banbury Road	Mid August	End Sept
Wormleighton Road and Banbury Road	October	Mid November
Stoneton Lane & Warwick Rd	Mid November	Mid December
Stoneton Lane	Mid December	18-24 months

Whilst the track has to be built, I will be continuing to challenge EKFB and HS2 on the need to minimise the impact to residents, businesses and farms of these works.

Clearly the impact on local roads is significant.

Other issues:

Flooding

The WCC Flood Risk Management team is tasked with ensuring that there is no increase in flooding risk from new developments but also to ensure that local drainage infrastructure is kept in working order. I am working with two villages where persistent flooding is now at risk of causing damage to property and to try and find a way of removing or mitigating for flood damage.

Schools

I have had a number of issues with education which have included:

- Parents not getting into their choices of schools;
- Schools exclusions; and
- Home to school transport.

In order of the above; it is critical that parents include their local school as one of their three choices for their child's school. It is more difficult to get children into non local schools, with priority given to those children living in the local catchment area.

I have had a number of cases where children have been excluded from schools.

This is very disruptive to that child's education but WCC does not have control over exclusion policies in Academy Trusts and finding alternative provision is both challenging and takes time.

Home to school transport, particularly in rural areas, is a challenge. I have been working with a for parents trying to ensure those children who are entitled to such transport that it is made available.

Local roads:

I have spent some time investigating gulley cleaning and jetting on behalf of a number of parishes.

In Priors Hardwick there are 29 gulleys, spread over the seven streets in the village and are cleaned every other year, bi-annually.

Road	Bi- annually
BODDINGTON ROAD	1
CHURCH END	7
ST MARYS CLOSE	3
STONETON LANE	2
STONETON ROAD	3

WELSH ROAD	1
WORMLEIGHTON ROAD	12
Total	29

The village is on cleaning route 071. Cleaning for this year is recorded as starting in April. There is a full audit trail for completed works, by gulley, but accessing it electronically appears to be challenging.

Gulley cleaning also identifies where drains are actually blocked as opposed to the gulleys needing to be emptied. A separate jetting team, when blockages are identified, are tasked with clearing blockages within underground drainage pipes.

Currently there are some 700 drains that have been identified as requiring jetting. WCC operate one jetting machine and therefore there is quite a back up.

I have been approached as to whether I wish to fund the jetting of these in my Division using third party contactors from my delegated budget at a cost in the region of £1,500 per day.

WCC Councillors Highways budget

I have an annual budget to spent on small scale road related projects within the Division. This may be better road signage or improvements to pavements/ footways alongside roads, and more recently jetting off blocked highway drains.

Please contact me if you see an opportunity to deliver small scale local improvements.

Dassett Quarry

This quarry has ceased being worked some years ago. Recently, under new management, the operators have begun importing waste materials onto the site, contrary to the original planning permission.

Significant waste materials were imported during the winter months 23/24, a point the operator conceded by saying the walls of the quarry needed shoring up and the drop off from the road was an, unevidenced, danger to vehicles on the highway,

Since last month, residents have provided photographic evidence that waste materials are still being imported. I have reported this, and passed on photos and videos to WCC enforcement.

WCC continues to investigate the alleged importation of waste materials. Once WCC has concluded what materials have been brought into site, WCC will be able to ascertain if it constitutes a breach of planning control and if so, if it is expedient to take enforcement action.

WCC Cllrs Discretionary fund

Applications for stage one has closed.

Please don't forget opportunities to improve certain aspects of the WCC Highway Network whilst I still have funding for road related schemes in my delegated highways budget.

WCC Events and other matters

SEND summer picnic at Ryton Pools (X and Facebook)

A recent summer picnic at Ryton Pools Country Park brought parent carers and children under three with special educational needs and disabilities together.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5345/ryton-pools-summer-picnic-for-families-receiving-portage-support>



Schools' road safety and active travel awards 2024 (X and Facebook)

Warwickshire County Council has marked the achievements of those Warwickshire primary schools who have fully committed to the Safe and Active Schools programme.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5341/outstanding-contributions-towards-road-safety-and-active-travel-recognised>



Warwickshire Libraries What's On Guide (X and Facebook)

Warwickshire Libraries is celebrating one year of National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) status with Arts Council England, with the launch of the service's new What's on Guide for Summer 2024.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5339/warwickshire-libraries-launches-what-s-on-guide-as-service-celebrates-one-year-with-arts-council-england>

Welcome to Warwickshire Libraries

What's On Guide

Spring/Summer 2024

Sign-up as a library member for **free**, and enjoy a great range of event and activities for all ages at our eighteen council-managed libraries across the county.



WincKS Awards 2024 (X and Facebook)

Forty-three early years settings across Warwickshire have been recognised for the high-quality of their support for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5340/annual-awards-celebrate-high-quality-send-provision-in-warwickshire-s-early-years-settings>



Armed Forces Covenant ELearning module (X and Facebook)

A brand-new e-learning module has been developed for NHS organisations and Local Authorities on the Armed Forces Covenant Duty as it applies to healthcare is being launched on Armed Forces Day, 2024.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5342/new-e-learning-module-to-assist-nhs-and-las-implement-the-armed-forces-covenant-duty-within-health-services-launched-on-armed-forces-day-2024>



Armed Forces Day 2024 (X and Facebook)

Armed Forces celebrations in Warwickshire began this week with the hoisting of the Armed Forces Day flag at 10am Monday 24 June at Shire Hall, Warwick, ahead of Armed Forces Day on Saturday 29 June.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5349/flag-raising-marks-armed-forces-week-in-warwickshire>



Apply to change schools in September (X and Facebook)

If you want your child to start a new school this September you can apply now.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5347/now-is-the-time-to-apply-to-change-schools-in-september>



Strategic economic delivery plan (X and Facebook)

Following Warwickshire’s Economic Growth Strategy approval at Cabinet in April, the delivery plan that sets out what will be delivered was brought to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 June.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5348/warwickshire-s-strategic-economic-delivery-plan-presented-to-members>



Warwickshire Strategic Economic Plan 2024-34 Delivery Plan 2024 – 2026

Warwickshire Crimebeat event (X and Facebook)

Warwickshire Crimebeat – a local charity supported by the High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Rajvinder Kaur – is inviting residents to a special boxing gym event this Sunday (30 June).

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5346/warwickshire-crimebeat-invites-residents-to-boxing-gym-event-with-the-aim-to-inspire-young-people>



Level 2 Social Worker recruitment (X and Facebook)

Do you want to help people identify opportunities to enjoy, achieve and live independently?

WCC are #recruiting now for Level 2 #SocialWorkers

Fancy a new approach to working with adults in an acute hospital setting? <https://warwickshire.gov.uk/work-adult-social-care/hospital-social-care-teams>

Apply here: <http://bit.ly/HSCsocialworkL2>



Nuisance bike reporting - Dob 'Em In (X and Facebook)

Did you know...? If bikes are being used in a manner which causes alarm, distress or annoyance, Warwickshire Police can issue notices or seize the bike.

🏍️ So Dob 'Em In! 🏍️

Report them now at <http://warwickshire.gov.uk/dobemin> or call 101 (non-emergency)

#SafeInWarwickshire



Caravan thefts (X and Facebook)

△ It's holiday season and unfortunately thefts of, or from, caravans do sometimes occur. △

Having your caravan CRiS registered helps the police to identify the caravan as yours.

Find out more at <https://cris.co.uk/advice>

#SafeInWarwickshire



ACL resident survey (X and Facebook)

Are you interested in learning something new?

Warwickshire County Council's Adult and Community Learning service want your views to shape its course offerings for the 2024/25 academic year.

Have your say today: <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/bi/adult-and-community-learning-customer-survey/>



Refugee Week 2024 round-up (X and Facebook)

Warwickshire residents came together to celebrate Refugee Week 2024 at over 30 activities that promoted inclusivity, understanding, and solidarity.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5351/warwickshire-celebrated-refugee-week-2024-with-more-than-30-events-across-the-county->

