

Broadwas and Cotheridge Parish Council

Chairs report for meeting to be held on 10.1.24

Since our last meeting in November of 2023, councillors and the Clerk have responded to a number of communications from parishioners and regular matters such as planning applications.

The prolonged period of wet weather has highlighted the known weaknesses of parts of the A44 that runs through the parish, resulting in flooding. The respective District and County Councillors will be able to provide an account for how their respective officers responded. It remains a concern to the Parish Council that the area that regularly floods on the bend (towards Worcester) by Sneddons Ltd presents a particular hazard, and we will continue to press for a more permanent solution.

There have been a number of accidents on the stretch of the A44 that passes through Cotheridge, bringing the total for the year to at least 6. The District and County Councillor have continued to press the County Council and West Mercia Police for proposals and measures that will address the problem and concerns. The Parish Council would welcome the statutory agencies coming forward with a comprehensive set of proposals to improve traffic management and road safety in the Parish.

The Parish Council will also welcome from the District Council further assurance and evidence that they are addressing ways of improving the quality of the services it provides in respect of planning and development.

We continue to see the benefit of having a permanent Clerk for the Parish Council , and she and councillors are addressing a number of actions and issues that remain outstanding from the period prior to when Lisa took up the role.

This meeting will see the Parish Council review its income and expenditure to date in order to set a draft budget for 2024/25 and

formally submit the precept request, which has to be done by the end of the month.

Looking ahead, the Parish Council will need to review the Neighbourhood Development Plan, draw up a plan to overhaul the play and activity equipment on Berryfields and continue to consider whether there are ways in which this important asset can be developed.

It will also be important to recruit some new parish councillors.

I would like to thank parish councillors for their service and support, and also the many parishioners who raise with and work with the Parish Council matters and ideas which they feel will help improve the Parish.

Richard Burrows

Chair
Broadwas and Cotheridge Parish Council.