

## **Broadwas and Cotheridge Parish Council**

### **Report for item 24/51 Chairs Report**

#### **4.9.24**

Since the last meeting held in July, Councillors, the Clerk and myself have continued to work on our present priorities, actions agreed at meetings and responded to enquires from parishioners.

As the Clerk notes in her report, we met with the new contractors for the ground keeping of Berryfields, and have hopefully addressed some initial problems regarding the mulching of the grass.

Having as agreed written to our elected representatives and organisations/bodies who are responsible for the highways and road safety, we were pleased to receive prompt responses and some action. As is noted in a separate report, there is as yet little grounds for optimism that our concerns will be recognised, understood and acted upon. However it is a small step forward to have access to data and the main parties have signalled a willingness to continue to engage. I have asked Councillors to consider next steps and importantly how we might demonstrate the level of concern and (frustration) held by many parishioners.

The working group to review the Neighbourhood Development plan has held its first meeting and there is a separate report for this. However it is important to note that this is a key task for us, as at present we have a NDP that reflects what parishioners felt was important, when it was formed, in responding to development. Since 2019 much has changed and is changing, so we will be consulting with parishioners to seek their thoughts about housing needs going forward and a range of other issues.

The review process will be demanding and needs to be conducted as soon as possible. We are in effect ready to start work, but are presently frustrated by a lack of response and support from MHDC, despite a promising start.

I was pleased to hear that the Village Hall Management Committee is back up to strength and full of enthusiasm. I am minded to ask them the secret of their success, given that as yet we have not been able to attract some volunteers to become parish councillors!

Richard Burrows  
Chair

2.9.24