



Flood Defences for Beales Corner It is in Planning!

Back in February 2020 saw further devastating floods across Worcestershire and the flood defences were breached yet again at Beales Corner. This was no longer a 100 year crisis for people living and working on this side of the river it was now a horrendous annual event.

As the clean up continued in March 2020 Boris Johnson met with residents and the agencies who had worked around the clock for weeks during the period of high alert. Boris vowed that he would get Bewdley done!

The baton was firmly passed to Mark Garnier MP, to lobby the government to get this job done. Unlike other towns, such as Tenbury Wells, there were no designs or costings for defences. Covid hit, more floods hit, but the fight for money continued to ensure Beales Corner was top of the

list. In July 2021 the announcement came, £6.2 million of government funding was secured for Beales Corner. During this time County Councillor Ian Hardiman had also secured £500,000 from Worcestershire County Council and a further £20,000 from his divisional funding.

The Environment Agency went to the drawing board, plans drawn up, consultations took place with the community - concerns raised - plans amended and finally the submission to planning took place on December 15th 2022.

The planning application is now live on the Wyre Forest District Planning portal for public submission, the relevant planning references are: Ref. No: 22/1034/FUL and Ref. No: 22/1006/LBC.

Wyre Forest District Council's Conservative Group Propose Alternative Budget

Conservative Group on WFDC believe that the current Labour, Green and Independent led Council is letting residents down. Consistently now you are being asked to pay more Council Tax for less. **Front line services that are important to you should not only be protected but enhanced.** Which is why the Conservatives are proposing:-

- **To increase the number of Environmental Protection Officers** that tackle fly tipping from two to four officers.
- **To increase the number of Civil Enforcement Officers** from six to seven to specifically tackle parking enforcement on double yellow lines in our villages.
- **To increase the number of litter pickers** at peak seasonal times across the District.
- **To increase the grant support to our Parish Councils** to undertake litter picking, bin emptying and grass cutting on a local level.
- **To invest in arts, leisure and cultural activities** in our District.



Your local Conservatives propose an alternative budget to the District Council which: provides, protects and enhances services for our District

Cllr Paul Harrison says, "We believe these investments will make a real difference to the lives of local residents."

Cllr John Byng added, "It is clear that your local Wyre Forest Rural Conservatives are on your side, tackling the issues that matter to you. I recognise and support the need for the additional officers to tackle illegal fly tipping and illegal car parking."

Restore PRIDE in our District by removing the CHAOS of the Labour, Green and Independent controlled council

Proposed Development Of Land At Habberley Road, Wribbenhall

The application by Owl Homes to develop land on Habberley Road between the Mercure Hotel and New Road came before the District Council Planning Committee on 17th January. Local residents had raised objections to the development, and Cllr John Byng, who is not on the committee, spoke on their behalf.

Traffic congestion was cited as a major reason for objecting to the development. Together with the other two developments in Wribbenhall, it was thought that congestion at the Safari Park island, which is already heavy, would be far worse. Traffic flow from the Owl Homes development would, as is current practice, be diverted to the island when exiting the Habberley Road / Kidderminster Road junction.

Residents had expressed concerns over the proximity to existing properties on New Road, and also queried whether trees to be planted to screen houses at the Habberley Road end of the development could be extended to the Kidderminster Road end.

John also expressed residents' concerns regarding the water levels on the site.

Paul spoke about his concerns over traffic congestion, and voted against the application. However, following planning officers responses to the queries and questions from the panel, the application to develop was approved.

Public Surgeries with Community Housing Team

John Byng recently met with Tim Green and his colleagues from the Community Housing team at the Community Room on Shaw Hedge Road, Wribbenhall.

Tim and his team hold monthly surgeries where residents can come along and talk about any issues related to Community Housing, or any problems that may be affecting them.

John hopes to attend surgeries in the future, and dates and venue will be made known when available.

Speeding Concerns on A442

Kidderminster Foreign Parish Council has raised speeding concerns along this stretch of road. They have requested that we lobby the County Council to **extend the 40mph speed limit area on the A442 past the former Kennels site where a new**

development of several dwellings is soon to commence.

There is concern that the increase of traffic joining and leaving the main road here could cause safety issues. We do support this suggestion and have formally submitted a request accordingly.

Highway Issues Update

Illegal Parking near Grey Green Lane entrance

Further to our previous Report, we are pleased that County Highways have completed the installation of Knee-High Railings to produce the desired effect of preventing vehicle parking near to the pelican crossing.

Bulging Wall by SVR Bridge

Ian and Paul have established that County Highways have written to the land owner whose responsibility it is to repair this wall in the interest of safety.

Bewdley Bridge Collision Damage

Despite frequent chasing by Ian, the necessary repairs have still to be carried out. We will continue to push for both the parapets and the balustrades nearby to be restored fully.

Blackstone to Burlish Pavement Concerns

Ian is continuing to request that this run of narrow pavement receives attention A). to remove the weeds overgrowth which has narrowed the pavement's treadable width and B). the tarmac is resurfaced as it is presently in a poor state.

Catchems End, Collision Damaged Wall: As this rebuilding has still not yet been completed, Ian has reminded County Highways officers that the wall damage occurred in June 2021 and we should surely expect rectification by now!

Trimpley - Slippery Approach to Crossroads

Having been led to believe that remedial work would be carried out to prevent horses from experiencing slip problems here, Ian has now been informed that the Highway Inspector's view is that surface attention in this localised part of the highway cannot be justified as there is no deficiency.

Eymore Wood Lane Outpouring

As requested by Ian, the Highways Liaison Engineer met with Severn Trent Water who have assured that they will not be releasing water onto the highway from their tanks in the field opposite Holbeache Farm.

Your Conservative team for Wribbenhall and Arley



Cllr Ian Hardiman

County
01562 631139



Cllr Paul Harrison

District & Town
01299 489114



Cllr John Byng

District & Town
01299 210459



Cllr Dan Morehead

Town
07709 886371



Cllr Derek Killingworth

Town
07598320639



Mark Garnier

Member of Parliament
01562 746771

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Email us at: Wribbenhall@wyreforestconservatives.com or mark.garnier.mp@parliament.uk