

Hereford Proposed University

The plans for the NMitie University are proceeding well and the support from Government via the Local Enterprise Partnership continues forward. There is still a way to go but the county is looking for students in place during 2019.

Road building

Hereford Link road

Is progressing on schedule for opening next October. At its junction with the A49, two-way traffic will operate at all times, the lanes on the A49 may move as the construction progresses. Remember Widemarsh Street continues to remain one way for a period and the route is well signed. This new road opens up a significant area for development and will alleviate some traffic in Newmarket Street which will become single lane two way traffic as part of the city centre upgrades.

South Wye Transport package (SWTP)

The planning for this road continues positively. Some questions have been raised again over the funding for SWTP. I have made this clear on many occasions. The Dept. of Transport are funding this to the tune of £27 million through the LEP bid made at the start of the project. It is a retained scheme and as we progress through the development and the money for this scheme cannot be allocated to anything else in Herefordshire or the wider LEP area.

Land required for the project is currently being assembled to progress the project, since planning permission was gained in June 2016.

Hereford Bypass

Route options for the Hereford Bypass to the west of Hereford continue. The route starts at the western end roundabout of the Southern Link road (Phase1 of bypass) and to the A49 at Holmer in the north. Strategic housing sites along this route are now coming forward in the planning system for determination in due course. This is consistent with the Core strategy.

Neighbourhood plans

Current Neighbourhood plans for adoption following referendum are Breinton, Callow and Haywood, Kingston and Thrupton, Weston Beggard, Bartestree and Lugwardine and Whitbourne. These were added to the County map post 1st December.

Care Quality Commission (CQC) praise for Herefordshire

Herefordshire Council and Herefordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have been praised by inspectors for improving the support for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) carried out a joint inspection between 26 and 30 September, to judge the county's effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND), in line with the Children and Families Act 2014.

As part of the inspection, inspectors spoke with children and young people with SEND and their families and council, CCG and school representatives along with visiting a range of education providers to see how they're implementing the special educational needs reforms.

Read more on:-

<http://newsroom.herefordshire.gov.uk/2016/december/send-support-in-herefordshire-praised-by-inspectors.aspx>

Get involved in shaping the future of your local health and care services

Health and care organisations across the county, including Herefordshire Council, are encouraging residents to get involved in helping to shape the future of their local health and care services.

As part of a national NHS programme, which has brought neighbouring counties together to create 44 individual areas across the country, Herefordshire and Worcestershire health and care organisations are working in partnership to create a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). The five year plan will improve local health outcomes, enhance health prevention measures, and address care and quality issues and resolve financial pressures up to 2020/21.

<http://newsroom.herefordshire.gov.uk/2016/november/get-involved-in-shaping-the-future-of-your-local-health-and-care-services.aspx>

Have your say on Herefordshire Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

The strategy, which provides an overview of flood risk in Herefordshire, sets out five key objectives for managing local flood risk:

- Understand flood risks throughout Herefordshire
- Manage the likelihood and impacts of flooding
- Help the community to help themselves
- Manage flood warnings, response and recovery
- Promote sustainable and appropriate development

The Council want to hear your feedback on the strategy and invite you to have your say by **Monday 30 January 2017**.

Your views are important to us and we welcome feedback on:

- Our proposed objectives for the management of local flood risk across Herefordshire
- Actions we have proposed to deliver our objectives
- Any other comments in relation to the strategy or local flooding in general

Read more on:-

<http://newsroom.herefordshire.gov.uk/have-your-saylocal-flood-risk-management-strategy.aspx>

or have your say on:-

haveyoursay@herefordshire.gov.uk.

Free Christmas car parking

Shoppers and visitors will be able to park for free in town and city centre car parks this Christmas as part of an ongoing campaign to promote Herefordshire as a Christmas shopping destination.

Herefordshire Council car parks in Hereford city centre, including the Old Market, will be free for shoppers after 4pm for late night Christmas shopping on Wednesday 23 and 30 November and 7, 14 and 21 December. There will be a range of shops open late, including those in Maylord Orchards, the Old Market and High Town and the surrounding area.

**Ward report – Old Gore ward
Cllr. Barry Durkin
November 2016**

These concessions do not apply to any of the private car parks in the city centre, except the Old Market.

Free Christmas parking will also be available in council car parks in the market towns, to coincide with the following festive events:

Ross-on-Wye: Sunday 20 November (Christmas lights switch on)

Ledbury: Saturday 26 November (Christmas lights switch on)

Kington: Saturday 3 December (Festive food from the borders)

Leominster: Saturday 10 December (Victorian market)

There will be no December ward report due to the holidays.

I would like to wish all parish councillors, my friends and all constituents of Old Gore a very merry Christmas and a great new year.

Barry Durkin
Herefordshire Council – Old Gore Ward
Tel. 07974 212020
bdurkin@herefordshre.gov.uk