

Upton Snodsbury Parish Council

NEWSLETTER APR 2024

Date of next meeting –
21st May 2024 7.00pm in the village hall

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OFF B4082, PERSHORE ROAD

The Parish Council believes that Nexus planning have dropped a flyer regarding a potential development and questionnaire to all residents in the parish. The Parish Council has contacted both Kingacre Estates Ltd and Nexus Planning to request a public meeting and extension to the original deadline for replying to the questionnaire mentioned in the flyer, until after any public meeting and after the Parish Council Meeting on the 21st May.

The Parish Council feel that there is insufficient detail in the flyer received by residents to enable them to formulate a fully informed response to the questionnaire. Nexus Planning have responded and agreed to a public meeting on

Monday 13th May at 7pm in the village hall

Regarding the questionnaire however they have only agreed to extend this to the 7th May stating that comments will be helpful in enabling them to prepare for the public meeting. They have emphasised that the scope of the current consultation is the illustrative layout plan and the covering letter. They have advised any comments will be considered as part of the consultant team's work in refining the proposals ahead of submitting a planning application.

We are intending to start a WhatsApp group for disseminating information initially regarding this potential development and then also perhaps a digital newsletter.

If you would like to receive information via this medium please sign up at the public meeting on the 13th May. Those residents that do not wish to sign up to information using this channel will continue to receive newsletters by post.



TELEPHONE BOX

The restoration project of the village Telephone Box is finally completed and it is operational as a book swap at long last.

This has been a journey and labour of love since we took possession of the disused telephone box for £1 in 2018.

The box was initially taken for storage at David Lane's barn where all the internal redundant equipment was removed together with the glass panels. The box was then taken to Pershore to be shot blasted and painted in the correct Post Office red. After various delays in progress not to mention lock downs, work was restarted in 2023 by putting down a base in the position opposite the village hall approved by Worcester County Council Highways officials. The box was then erected in position and fixed to the base. Glass panels were purchased from the approved post office parts supplier and fixed in place. Bespoke shelving was commissioned and fixed in the box and has been sealed with moisture repellent. The wood parts around the door frame were then painted again in Post Office red. On Wednesday the 27th March the first books donated by Upton Snodsbury residents were placed on the shelves some 6 years since the acquisition of our telephone box. The Parish box is highlighted for all to see by two of the top panes of glass being engraved with our village name Upton Snodsbury.

We hope this added facility in our village will be of benefit to those who wish to rotate and enjoy the donated books for the foreseeable future.



All of the work undertaken during the restoration was carried out by a dedicated band of Parish volunteers.

Thank you to all of those who helped. A photo will follow.

MESSAGE FROM LINDA ROBINSON COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

As your County & District Cllr it is a pleasure to contribute to your latest Parish newsletter. With lots going on in the village currently there is certainly plenty to talk about.

I am sure many of you will have noticed the extensive tree planting taking place recently at Double Gates Farm across the A422. This is a WCC initiative to create a new woodland. 16,000 saplings including hornbeam, beach, rowan and cherry will be planted in the next two years over 50 acres of land. Public access will also be created as well as a community orchard at the bottom of the site which will have its own Community Group. Snipe, kestrels and the rare brown hair streak butterfly have already been sighted on site.

On the 7th March a group of children from your primary school accompanied by their headmistress and teacher came to help with the planting. They were joined by myself and the current Chairman of Wychavon District Council. This was followed by a tour of the school made even more special as many of the pupils had dressed up for World Book Day. A big thank you to all for making us so welcome. This year is the 50th Anniversary of the creation of Wychavon District and whilst the Chairman has been very busy across The District yours is the only school he has visited.



I am thrilled to hear that your parish has been successful in receiving a community legacy grant from Wychavon. Much needed improvements to the village hall and resurfacing of the car park at The Furlongs will hopefully follow.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that I have allocated some of my County Divisional funding towards replacing the popular 'balance bar' at your USPRA playground which I have always supported as a valuable recreational area for local children. I look forward to seeing many of you there at this year's 'Scoot & Scramble' on Sunday 23rd June when I shall be helping marshal the children's race again which I always enjoy. Feel free to come and say hello and have a chat.

NEW LENGHTSMAN

The Parish Council is pleased to welcome Steve Baker as their new lengthsmen, who will be completing a range of monthly tasks around the parish in line with Worcestershire County Council's drainage, vegetation and other miscellaneous approved works. Steve comes with a wealth of experience, and is currently lengthsmen to several other local parishes.

JOIN THE GREEN DOG WALKERS AND HELP KEEP UPTON SNODSBURY FREE OF DOG FOULING

The Parish Council have recently started a campaign to decrease dog fouling in the village. New signage has been put in place and we are encouraging as many dog owners and dog walkers in the Parish to take the pledge to be a Green Dog Walker. It is FREE and simple to do just visit <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/WychavonGDWPledge/>

Green Dog Walkers pledge to always clean up after their dogs and dispose of the bag in a bin. If others walk their dog they will encourage them to clean up after their dog and bin any waste. By wearing a Green Dog Walkers badge you pledge to carry additional doggie bags to distribute to other dog walkers if they request them.

They pledge to at no time when wearing the badge aggressively confront any other dog walkers about dog fouling.



Join up today and receive a newsletter, badge and free poo bags. Help us make Upton Snodsbury a cleaner Parish.

Message from Nigel Huddleston MP

My role as Financial Secretary to the Treasury keeps me busy but alongside this I have continued to be out and about in the constituency, visiting many local businesses, schools, and projects. Being able to see all that Mid Worcestershire has to offer is one of the privileges of my job, and it makes me even more determined to champion our outstanding part of the country.

Reflecting on last year, the Government achieved many of its key aims, with inflation having fallen from 11% last year to 4% now. OBR forecasts also indicate that inflation will fall below the 2% target in just a few months' time; nearly a whole year earlier than forecast in last year's Autumn Statement. We knew that reducing inflation was the single most important thing for helping families, and it has happened.

Another key issue for many people is the NHS, which is why the Government created the first ever NHS Long Term Workforce Plan for the NHS. This decision will mean that staffing will be put on a sustainable footing, with training and investment for the future provided. The effect of this in Mid Worcestershire, particularly with the announcement of funded places returning to the Three Counties Medical School in Worcester, will not only make sure that we have more Doctors and Nurses locally, but will also provide our youngsters with greater opportunities. As we look ahead to the spring, I look forward on the Government delivering on more of its key priorities; including to grow the economy.

More locally, I was delighted to hear of the £209 million for transport allocated to Worcestershire as part of the reallocated HS2 funding. This funding will be of huge significance to unlocking Worcestershire's potential, and help to ensure that everyday journeys are made easier. This is on top of the money already directed to Mid Worcestershire, allowing for the £2 bus fare cap, and making sure that potholes are filled in. For those that rely on local transport every day, it is essential that we continue to get the investment we need to keep us moving in Mid Worcestershire.

Meanwhile, the Government also brought good news for our farmers – so integral to our rural communities – through a £427 million investment towards improvements in productivity, innovation, digital infrastructure, and the health and welfare of our farmed animals. The Government has already invested £5.4 million for farming in our constituency since April 2023, and I will continue to represent our farmers' interests in Westminster.

As Financial Secretary to the Treasury, I was involved in developing many of the measures announced in the recent Spring Budget and, in a familiar pre-budget tradition, was delighted to stand alongside the Chancellor as he held up the red box outside the door of No. 11 Downing Street. I was then responsible for taking the legislation to cut National Insurance contributions through parliament – which will benefit over 29 million people – including thousands in Worcestershire. I shall next be taking the 'Finance Bill' through parliament including increasing eligibility to child benefit and changes to the high income benefit charge. I look forward to working alongside the Chancellor and my ministerial colleagues to deliver upon our promises to further cut taxes and generate long-term economic growth.

If there is anything I can help you with, please don't hesitate to contact me.