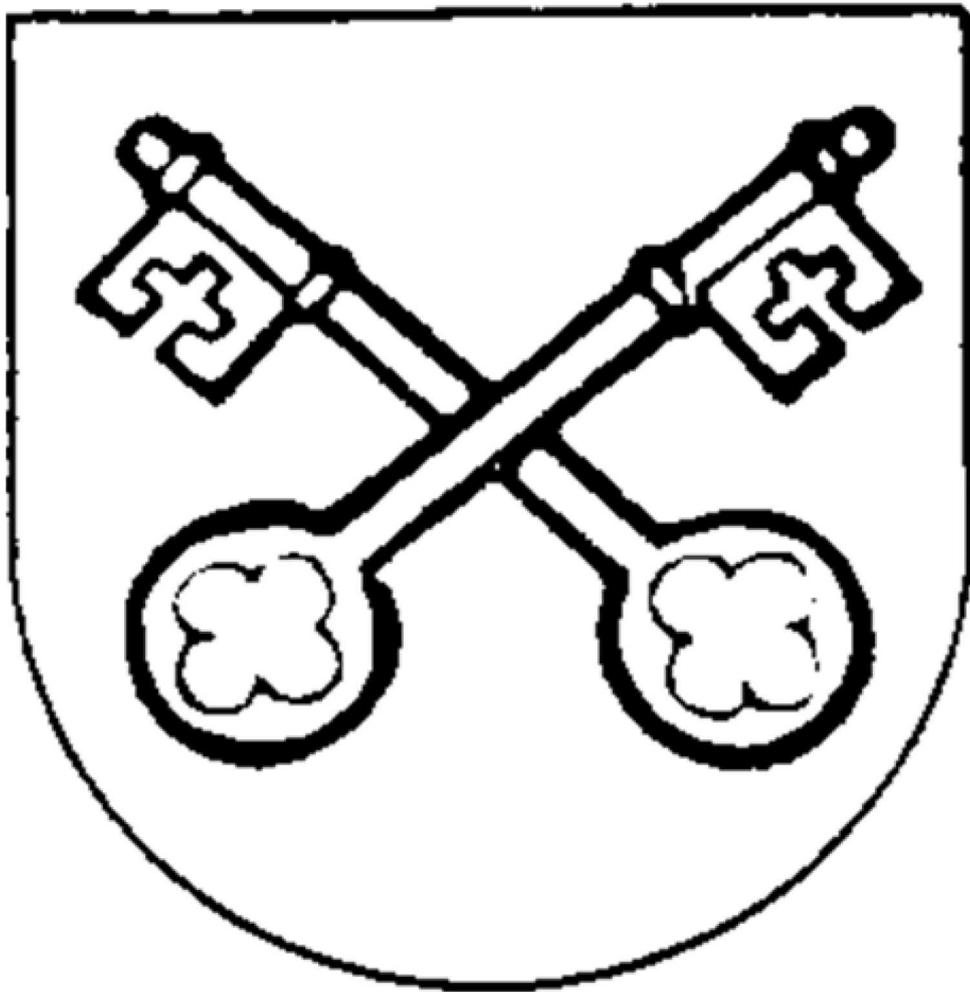


The Petrus

March 2021



Issue 58

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Editor's Letter

Well, it's been a bit of a month. Turns out that I broke my elbow when I fell on the ice, so that was nice. So while that was hurting I didn't do a lot, but I read a few books! Then I did a little online event and sold some pretty glass things, so I had to get making again, but I've just not been in the mood. It's hard to get up and go when nothing is going anywhere: all the days are the same when you don't have a real day job. By the time I got ready to get myself ready it was almost too late in the day to get started properly so I'd get grumpy with myself for wasting time. I think all that started to change when the sun came out and some of the mud began to dry out. The bulbs are poking their heads out tentatively and I've seen three different birds head into my nest box (it's only been there, unused, for nine years, so it's practically pristine, and in a prime location with views of the church AND pond!). Suddenly things need tending to (my family doesn't count – they've been self-sufficient for ages!) and I'm beginning to emerge from some kind of self-imposed hibernation.

All this is a roundabout way of saying that I'm sorry this is late. I'm not entirely sure where February went. Lockdown restrictions are easing, the sun is out (albeit behind this morning's mist) and the frogs are boiling the pond, doing what they do best this time of year.

Happy March, everyone!

Please look at the church noticeboards for any service times or the times the church is open, and you can find online services at grumball.com too.

Until next time,

Claire Poore
editor@thepetrus.co.uk or phone
me on 01386 832800.

For advertising enquiries, please
email Richard on
richard@rwhaccountancy.co.uk

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Letter from the Vicar

As I continue to reflect on, and pray about, the pandemic, I have also been thinking about how I can engage meaningfully, in these strangest of times, with the season of Lent.

Lent is a wonderful and God-given time in the Church's year. It offers us the opportunity to pause, make time, and then to take stock of our lives, in the light of the salvation that is offered to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. At this time of year, I often revisit the Old Testament Book of Ecclesiastes. This year, I once again found myself drawn to these familiar verses,

**'There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance...'**
Ecclesiastes, chapter 3, verses 1-4 (NIV)

I paused over the words that there is, 'a time to be born and a time to die' and 'a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and time to dance.' In doing this, it wasn't in any way my intention to be morbid, but rather to acknowledge that, in this time of pandemic, those words have for me and, no doubts, for many of us, an added depth and poignancy.

First, those words reminded me that, no matter what is going on around us, whether it be good or bad, whether our lives feel light and bright or heavy and dark, and, ultimately, whether we are in life or in death, God holds each one of us in the very hollow of his hands. In St Paul's words, we are reminded that nothing, absolutely nothing, 'will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans, chapter 8, verse 39, NIV)

Finally, these words reminded me that 'weeping' and 'mourning' are part of life and, indeed, part of the human condition. But, I also know and believe that, through the death-defeating death and all-powerful Resurrection of Jesus Christ, these things will not have the last word and will last only for a season, not for eternity.

There will come again, a time to laugh and a time to dance. I long to share that time with you all.

With love,

Scott

Rev Scott Watts

Team Vicar

Know Your Symptoms

Covid-19

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Fatigue
- Shortness of Breath

Flu

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Runny Nose
- Headache
- Sore Throat
- Muscle and Joint Pain

Cold

- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Aches and Pains
- Watery Eyes
- Sneezing
- Runny or Stuffy Nose

Allergies

- Sneezing
- Coughing
- Itchy Eyes
- Runny or Stuffy Nose

Please check [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for up to date information regarding Covid-19 information.





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ST PETER'S CHURCH PEBWORTH RECEIVES A LIFELINE GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S CULTURE RECOVERY FUND

St Peter's Church, Pebworth has received a financial boost from the government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund to help fund repairs during the coronavirus pandemic.

Lifeline grants from the Culture Recovery Fund are designed to protect heritage sites and ensure that jobs and access to culture and heritage in local communities are protected during the months ahead.



The grant has helped fund the repair of the roof to the chancel. The church is high on the hill and dates from the C12, since when it has continually held services in the heart of the village. The walls are Early English masonry, and the chancel roof has clay tiles with a plastered barrel vault interior.

St Peter's has been awarded £25,000 for essential roofing work to stop rain from seeping into the interior of the chancel. Frost had broken up tiles and damaged the weatherings against the gable walls. The interior wetness resulting, was spoiling the medieval plaster. The grant comes at a necessary time because, if left much longer,

the deterioration of this much-loved church would become even worse.

Grants of up to £25,000 are being allocated to cherished heritage sites, like St Peter's, across the country to cover urgently needed maintenance and repairs. This vital funding comes from a part of the Culture Recovery Fund called the Heritage Stimulus Fund and is administered on behalf of the government by Historic England.

As well as rescuing precious heritage buildings in need, the injection of cash will protect livelihoods for some of the most vulnerable heritage specialists and contractors working in the sector.

Culture Secretary, Oliver Dowden, said: "These grants will help the places that have shaped our skylines for hundreds of years and that continue to define culture in our towns and cities. We're protecting heritage and culture in every corner of the country to save jobs and ensure it's there for future generations to enjoy."

St Peter's Church has played an important role in the community for centuries. The Grade 1 listed building has a unique design, with recently revealed frescos and a Lady Chapel alongside the nave.

The church holds weekly services and is used for community celebrations and cultural events.

The Reverend Scott Watts, Vicar of St Peter's said "We are so pleased to receive this funding which will keep our regularly used village church open for our Sunday services, baptisms, weddings, funerals and cultural events. The grant will ensure the preservation of this historically prominent building heading this lively community for generations to come".

Duncan Wilson, Historic England Chief Executive said: "Historic places across the country are being supported by the Government's grants awarded under the Culture Recovery Fund. This funding is a lifeline which is kick-starting essential repairs and maintenance at many of our most precious historic sites, so they can begin to recover from the damaging effects of COVID-19.

"It is also providing employment for skilled craft workers who help keep historic places alive and the wheels of the heritage sector turning. Our shared heritage is an anchor for us all in these challenging times and this funding will help to ensure it remains part of our collective future."

Elizabeth Spencer & Michael Veal
Church Wardens, St Peter's Pebworth

You do not need to struggle alone



Samaritans 116 123

Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 9177 650

Narcotics Anonymous 0300 999 1212

Al-Anon 0800 0086 81

Age UK 0800 678 1602

Womens Domestic Abuse 0808 2000 247

Mens Domestic Abuse 0808 8010327

LGBTQ+ Domestic Abuse 0300 999 5428

Shelter 0808 800 4444

National Debtline 0808 808 4000

Bereavement 0800 435 455



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National Grid 0800 111 999

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NHS 111

Police 999/112/101



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COVID-19**

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OFTEN**



**DISINFECT
SURFACES**



**SOCIAL
DISTANCING**



**STAY
HOME**

Wearing Reusable Face Masks



Wash hands before
putting on mask



Wear mask the same way each
time: same side facing out



Mask needs to cover
nose and mouth



Do not touch your mask
while wearing it



If you touch your mask
wash/sanitize hands
immediately



Do not remove your mask
to talk to others

Removing Reusable Face Masks



Do not use dirty masks,
always wash between use



To remove mask take
straps and pull forward



Wash hands before and
after removing mask



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detergent, completely dry mask
before reuse

Read **CDC** guidance on how to
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- 100% Cotton
- Two Layers

General Public **SHOULD NOT USE** medical masks including:

Surgical masks and N95 respirator masks

These mask should be saved for healthcare providers:

doctors, nurses, first responders.

County Councillor Report-February 2020

Prepared by Alastair Adams, Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

Update on the vaccines rolled out in Worcestershire

GP's across Worcestershire are delivering COVID-19 vaccine. Patients are reminded that the GP's or NHS will contact people in priority groups when it is their turn to receive the vaccine. The majority of over 80 year olds have been vaccinated, and now over 70's, as well as care home staff and healthcare staff are receiving the vaccine.

The good news is many residents in Pebworth have already received the vaccine, and confirmed cases of COVID in Worcestershire are reducing.

Official statistics and information are available on the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-track-coronavirus-cases>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-covid-19-surveillance-reports#history>

Download the NHS COVID-19 app today

<https://covid19.nhs.uk/>

Self-isolation support payment

From Monday, 28 September 2020, you are required by law to self-isolate if you are told to do so by NHS Test and Trace. The Government has introduced a £500 support payment to help people on low incomes who have to self-isolate. The scheme will run until 31 January 2021 but is being kept under review by the Government. See for more details:

<https://www.wychavon.gov.uk/community-and-living/coronavirus-covid-19-update/self-isolation-support-payment>

How to get a COVID-19 test

Currently there is good testing capacity in Worcestershire. Supply is meeting demand in the county. To organise a test go to

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20769/coronavirus_covid-19/2247/coronavirus_covid-19_testing

Local Testing Centres:

- Redditch Trescott Road Car Park
- University of Worcester, Arena Car Park
- Pershore Civic Centre Car Park
- Bromsgrove Stourbridge Road Car Park: to open 9th Nov
- Kidderminster Harriers Stadium Close Car Park: to open 9th Nov
- Malvern Victoria Rd Car Park: estimated to open 23rd Nov (no dates confirmed yet though)

WHERE CAN I GET FURTHER INFORMATION, HELP AND ADVICE?

Reminder that the Here2Help website www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help is the first point of contact if people want to offer assistance or gain support. The other option is the telephone contact number which is staffed 8am-6pm 6 days a week – 01905 768053.

Carers who support a family member or friend who require support should contact the Worcestershire Association of Carers on www.carersworcs.org.uk or call the Helpline 0300 012 4272.

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus>

NHS Website for information on Coronavirus

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Financial support for you

If you are struggling financially then the advice is to make a claim for Universal Credit, Council Tax Support and other benefits you may be eligible for. There is more information on the coronavirus employments and benefits page.

Help paying your Council Tax

If you are of working age and already receiving Council Tax Support, you will get a one off reduction of up to £150. This will be applied automatically to your bill. New bills will be issued in the next few weeks.

You can apply online for Council Tax Support if you are struggling to pay your bill.

More information is available on our Benefits and Council Tax page.

Even if you are not eligible for Council Tax Support, you still may be able to defer your payments for a short period or spread them over 12 months instead of ten.

Please contact the Council's team by emailing Revenues@southworcestershirerevenues.gov.uk or call 03004 560560 to discuss your circumstances and they will do their best to help you.

Support for businesses

The Council's new business support programme, Here2Help Business is live http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20807/here2help_business

It is a £3m programme designed to assist local Worcestershire Businesses to recover, adapt, develop and support future resilience as lockdown measures reduce.

Also see the Government website www.businesssupport.gov.uk which has details of all the support available to businesses.

Other support available

Please check the Government's website for information about support for business during COVID-19.

Worcestershire Business Central are there to advise local businesses on grant funding and support helping you restart and recover. Please see their website, call them on 01905 677 888 or email info@business-central.co.uk.

Please also see the Chamber of Commerce Herefordshire and Worcestershire Coronavirus information hub.

Furlough scheme extended

The furlough scheme is to have a five-month extension into Spring 2021 with employees receiving 80% of their current salary for hours not worked. There will be increases to self-employed support through the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS). This will be increased, with the third grant covering November to January calculated at 80% of average trading profits, up to a maximum of £7,500.

Flooding –

Meeting with WDC flood engineers Wednesday 27th January

The meeting was with Martyn Cross (Engineering Manager at WDC) and his colleague Andrew Fell, but we did not enter the Hoef field. Instead, we stood on the road looking into the field and Martyn explained what he was proposing. Last month WDC had surveyed the Hoef field, and Martyn had looked at the EA modelling report (76 pages!) that I had forwarded to him. From these he has produced a rough design for a bund along the road using earth from the site.

He stated the EA would expect engineering drawings of the bund, and modelling to prove no other properties would be flooded as part of the permit submission.

Philip Cole (Broad Marston Manor) offered to pay for an Engineering consultant (up to £10,000) to produce the documentation. As a director of Savills, he already has various contacts with engineering consultants but will liaise with Martyn and Hoef to get the documentation produced. Some national consultancy companies that specialise in this type of work were discussed, (such as JBA Consulting. See their website <https://www.jbaconsulting.com/flood-water-management/>). I think this has really helped the project, and I thanked Philip. To use someone like JBA to provide the back-up to the EA permit application at no cost to Hoef is fantastic.

Martyn has been a star, and I can't thank him enough. He has also offered to help Hoef with the submission of the EA permit application. If this all works out and we get the flood plain built, then I strongly recommend the Pebworth Parish Council write a letter of appreciation to Martin Cross and his department.

We also met with Tim & Mervyn Longford (local farmers) about works that can be done in their field that would help alleviate flooding in Broad Marston. Again they were amenable, and Martyn is going to survey their field too.

And finally we walked around the Broad Marston Manor and Priory Rd, and Martin described further works that can be done there. Again Philip Coles was willing to help as much as possible and stated he had already instructed the Manor's maintenance team to clear the Noleham Brook of fallen trees along their boundary. Martyn is going to survey the Manor's land too.

So a good day, with lots of agreed actions and I think we are so much closer to alleviating flooding in Broad Marston. Naturally the Hoef Wetlands project has really helped turbo charge this process, so once again we should make sure we thank Hoef. Once the EA permit is submitted and approved, Henson Plant Hire's owner (Brian Witheford who lives in Broad Marston) says he is willing to provide the plant and the manpower at cost to build the bund. Naturally once we have the engineering drawings we will have to see how much this is, but I will work with WDC and WCC and PCC to try and obtain grants to cover this cost.

Flooding in Broad Marston on Thursday 28th February & Saturday 30th January
Literally a day after the above meeting, Broad Marston suffered more flooding, and then again on Saturday! Interestingly, Pebworth's notorious flooding spots such as Friday Street did not flood at all. On the Saturday I erected the road closed signs again along Honeybourne Rd/Stratford Rd early morning as the water under the Honeybourne Bridges was over 2 foot deep; I had only taking the signs down 24 hours previously!

On both days, I toured the area and took lots of photos and videos which all supported the discussions that had taken place at the meeting on 27th January.

1. You could see the water pouring off the Hoef field onto the road. The water in the Hoef field is fed from the brook at the top of this field.

Once the brook gets to a certain level, it runs along a tributary that then feeds into the field. Solution – install a bund in the field to stop water from the field coming into the road, and make the field a flood plain.

2. Likewise once the brook gets to a certain level, it breaks its bank and pours into Tim Longford's field, and goes across the field into the road. Solution – to build a bund along the side of the road and at the corner turning this field into a flood plain too.

3. There is also another tributary at this point that backs up with water from the flooded brook, and starts to break its bank, and goes through the culvert under the road (by the Broad Marston Village sign) putting even more water onto the road. Solution – not yet sure but could build a bulkhead as mentioned below. But item 1 & 2 above will reduce the amount of water coming into this tributary

4. The third source of water that ends up on Broad Marston Rd, is the small road drain in front of Cotswold View (owned by Eddie & Joy Thyeson). This drain goes into a pipe under the garden, and into a shallow ditch that runs along footpath. When this brook raises, this footpath becomes flooded and acts as a channel for water to go the opposite way from the brook onto the road. Solution – to build a sandbag bulkhead with a small pipe to allow water out of the ditch in non-flood conditions. There will have to be a stile or steps to allow walkers to climb over this bulkhead.

5. There are also some road gullies on Broad Marston which allow for water to come

onto the road when the brook is in flood. Solution – to fit some non return valves on the outlets into the brook.

6. The water from Broad Marston Rd goes straight into Broad Marston Manor by the corner of Graham Fowles entrance. There is a ditch there that needs to be looked at to see if it can be improved.

7. Behind the barn in Broad Marston Manor is a bund that previous owners had installed. I suspect this was to stop the water from the brook coming into the barn from the Priory Lane side, but the view was it was better to get rid of this bund to allow the water entering Broad Marston Manor from Broad Marston Rd to escape.

8. Martyn Cross also suggested widening the brook all through Longford's fields and in the Manor's grounds by putting in a secondary channel so when the brook raises it flows into the wider part thus allowing more capacity. Also clearing the brook overgrown trees and shrubs.

9. The brook needs the fallen trees to be removed by Priory Lane Bridge which have fallen in from the Manor's side. This has been agreed by the owners of the Manor to be actioned ASAP.

10. The manhole cover at the entrance to Rainbows field down the little track before the bridge was rising in the flood conditions. Install a new grate type cover so water can escape.

So lots to action, but I do think we have got all the ingredients now to make the improvements with the help of Hoef/WDC/WCC/Hensons/PPC/Broad Marston Manor owners/Longford Brothers. The only potential pitfall is the EA as they need to give a permit to work in the Hoef field.

Highways:

To keep up to date on the roads affected see, <https://one.network/>

This is the new website and is very good to see all the roadworks locally and across the UK.

1. Gritting map – with the snow and icy mornings, you can check which roads in the area have been gritted by looking at the attached map
https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20007/travel_and_roads/381/gritting_ice_and_snow

2. Honeybourne pedestrian crossing on Station Rd –To be finished in week commencing 22nd March.

3. Speeding on the B4035 at entrance to Badsey– Mobile Camera opposite the entrance to Sladden Close will start to be regularly in place from the beginning of February.; so watch out and keep your speed down to the speed limit!

4. Road closure Weston Road to Honeybourne from 29th Jan to 12 Feb for patching works

5. Temporary Road Closure Offenham B4510 Fish & Anchor - start 18/1/2021 for up to 3 weeks – Road patching/ re-surfacing, and new gullies

6. A46 night time closure from Junction 9 M5 Tewkesbury to Teddington Hands roundabout - from 8 February 2021 to 19 March 2021. Work will be carried out overnight when traffic counts are lower between 8pm and 6am, Monday to Friday.

7. Blocked gully on Back Lane just below pinch point – reported

8. Ullington - flood across the road near Ullington Hall that keeps coming back. – again reported.
9. REMINDER to clear all brooks, gullies and ditches before winter flood season – a reminder to all land owners and Parish councils to check NOW to ensure no obstructions that could make things worse in flood situations.

As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it

Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

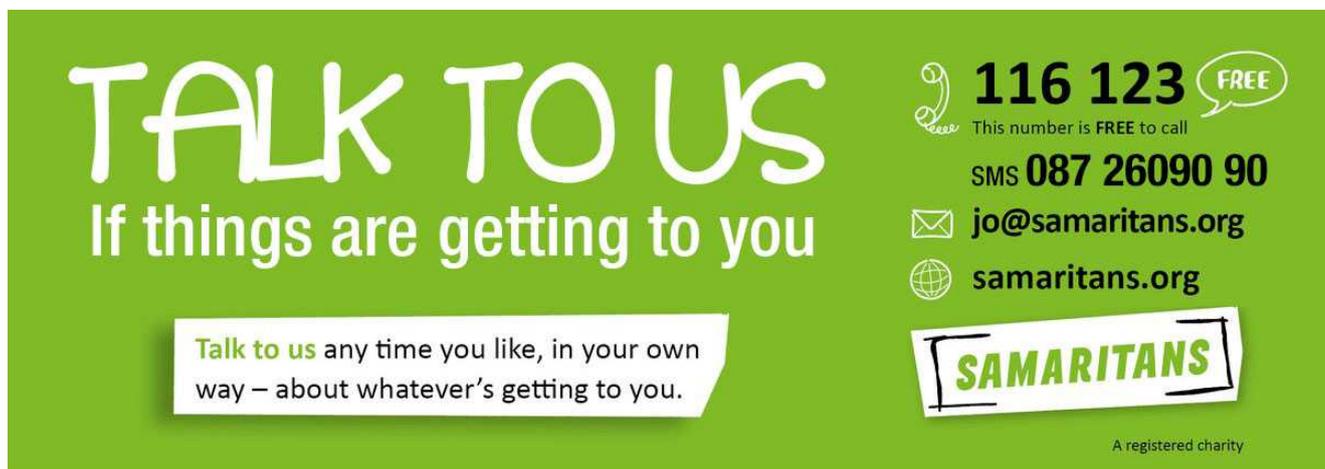
County Council Divisional Fund

- Cleeve Prior – New fence around the play area in the school’s grounds.
- Badsey - 2 x benches for their new community garden
- Honeybourne Village News – grant to re-launch the service
- Pebworth WI – grant requested for Zoom annual charges so the members can continue to meet over the internet in these COVID times - Paid
- Evesham Vale Rail Trails for Cyclists – grant requested for a software programme that shows the cycle routes. – grant paid 1265
- Pebworth Parish Council 1265
- Offenham Village Hall – grant requested for the terrace project
- Evesham Sea Cadets (South Littleton) – boat shed conversion – grant paid
- Pebworth Village Hall – a grant request to renovate the wooden hall floor. Paid

REMINDER – LAST MONTH TO APPLY

If you run a community organisation that needs a little support to buy equipment or some essential service, then please apply for a Divisional Fund by contacting me.

***Your County Councillor, Alastair Adams can be contacted on
adams.pebworth@gmail.com or mobile 07725 979 277 or
www.alastairadams.org***



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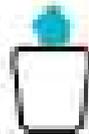
The Samaritans provide 24-hour, 365 days a year non-judgmental and confidential support to those who are finding it difficult to cope this Christmas season or at any time.



HM Government



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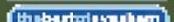
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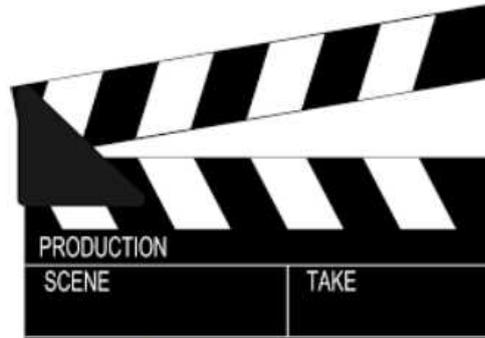
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Keep up-to-date with what is happening in Pebworth via the Pebworth.org website or follow Pebworth Village on Facebook.

If you have anything you would like included on the Pebworth Village website or on the Facebook page, please send it to Karen or Wendi (Kpearson@Active-Research.co.uk or Wendibowz@googlemail.com)

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PEBworth Parish Council

Monthly Parish Council News and Updates

Public Consultation

The Parish Council wish to gain the opinion of parishioners on the possible expenditure of £5,953 which is available through a Sec 106 fund for built sport & leisure use which restricts its use to installing new items or equipment. This is a relatively small amount of funding for built sport/leisure use and the council are considering funding the following options: -

A trim trail on the recreation field

A youth shelter near the MUGA

Outdoor gym equipment either on The Close or recreation field.

As only one of the council's proposals can be funded your opinion on the proposal or any other affordable items would be most appreciated to enable the council to make an informed decision on the expenditure of the available funds.

Please email or phone the Clerk with your preferences or inform any of the Parish Councillors.

Clerk's Email: j-stedman@btconnect.com or phone 01789 773 999

Dog Fouling:

With many more dog walkers using public spaces the dog fouling has intensified throughout the parish and is unacceptable in all cases. There are many dog-waste bins and litter bins throughout the parish so pick it up and bin it – do not bag it up and throw the bag in the hedge or ditch.

The Parish Council vows to prosecute any dog owner if sufficient evidence of offences is made available. The offence of proven dog fouling carries a maximum penalty of £1,000 and the offenders will be made known.

Planning Matters:

Cllr Thomas Havemann-Mart reported on the investigations into the field clearance at Green Lane Broad Marston and confirmed the matter has been investigated by the WDC enforcement officers who confirmed no breach of planning has occurred and the investigation is closed.

Village Hall:

Cllr James Pearson reported on the progress of the Village Hall refurbishment have fallen behind, principally down to two items. Firstly, the largest piece of glazing is delayed due to Covid issues at the factory – Secondly, although the paths have been prepared (and I have to say the preparation, especially to the path to the front of the hall which is one of the things which wasn't in the original spec but is being done within the agreed

price, looks very thorough) the tiles which are going down require a particular adhesive which has to be put down in specific temperature and moisture conditions so that part of the work may be delayed for a while.

Flooding Matters:

Cllr Alistair Adams gave an extensive report on the parish wide flood event and the planned remedial works, his report is appended to the Parish Council minutes which are available on request to the Clerk or on the Parish Council's website: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish and then link to Pebworth.

For up to Date Council information, Agendas and Draft Minutes Visit www.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish and then link to Pebworth.

Or contact the Clerk: Mr. John Stedman Tel: 01789 773999 email jstedman@btconnect.com

Sadly, the strict guidelines regarding the virus mean that flowers are not allowed in the church at the moment, so if you are one of the lovely arrangers, or a Holy Duster, please be guided by the church wardens and the noticeboards for the moment.



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Opinions expressed in this magazine are the personal opinions of the authors and might not represent the policy of the PCC. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.