

## Appendix A

### Ward Councillor Report for Goldren Valley North November 2019

- Roads

Still pushing for consideration of both a school crossing for Peterchurch Primary school and some way to also reduce risk outside Clifford Primary on the B4352.

Have not yet been able to secure a meeting with Yvonne Coleman re 106 monies and traffic calming measure on Newton Road. Will continue to ask.

- Schools

Following the recent Hereford Times front page article on safeguarding in relation to peer on peer sexual abuse I am currently setting up conversations with the headteachers of all 3 schools in GVN to establish how our GVN Schools deal with these situations and safeguarding in general.

- Public loos

In response to a request from a local resident I raised the question of provision of public toilets in Hereford at the meeting General Scrutiny when we looked at Budget Provision. I can confirm that the cabinet member responsible is considering the matter.

- The Great Collaboration-

*investigating what parish councils can do to address the climate emergency*

I am keen to get this event considered for the Golden Valley. So far only one parish councillor – from Wyeside has been able to attend the workshop and I am looking forward to getting her feedback and working with her. An autumn cold prevented me from attending the one in Bromyard. So hopefully some time in the New Year. There are still places on the

- Committees:

Three committees have been taking up my time this month –

**General Scrutiny** which is looking in detail at the administration's budget proposals.

**Child and Young Persons Scrutiny Task and Finish Group** – which is scrutinising the way in which the council fulfils its' safeguarding obligations to these two groups when at risk of either Criminal Exploitation or Sexual Exploitation. (acknowledging that these sometimes overlap)

We are being advised by expert bodies to help us in our work:

West Mercia Police, West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre, Barnados, The Children's Society, West Mercia Youth Justice Service and John Campion Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia.

Plus the team of officers from Herefordshire Local Authority Children and Young Peoples

### **SACRE (Schools and Colleges Religious Education)**

The committee meets only twice a year. The remit of the committee is to advise schools on best practice to deliver to young persons (the legal right to) a religious education. The council has a legal obligation to support schools in this responsibility.

After consultation with teachers an agreed new curriculum is to be adopted. It will officially be launched in September 2020 but there are early adopters. The knowledge based format fits with Ofsted requirements and presents the young people with 2 faiths per year and a thematic enquiry based on those two faiths to conclude the study: eg: Judaism and Hinduism – then themes of (for instance): beliefs, prayer, worship, daily life etc.

The committee has a new chair as John Stone having represented the committee for many years has made way for Lama Choesang.

Finally I have attended the first meeting of the **Local Access Forum**. I am yet to completely understand the way in which this works but I decided to join in order to try and give voice to local needs for well maintained and sustainable walking routes- for children to get to school and the community and our visitors to enjoy the countryside. My feeling is that urban walking routes might be prioritised over rural ones without a voice on

the forum. I would be interested to know if and local parish councillors with responsibility for public rights of way also have a voice on this forum?