

The Cidder Press

August 2020

Neighbourhood Development Plan



STOKE LACY PARISH

Stoke Lacy NDP Call for Sites

As you know, Stoke Lacy Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for the Parish. As part of this process, the Parish Council is undertaking a Call for Sites. (Although we have met our current housing target numbers for Herefordshire Council, this number may change as the new Core Strategy is developed, so the call for sites is to ensure we are ahead of any future requests.)

We would like to invite local landowners, developers and their agents to submit potential housing sites in the neighbourhood / group parish area for consideration.

Please note that potential sites should be located within or adjoining the built-up areas of the settlements identified for growth in Herefordshire Council's adopted Local Plan Core Strategy. In our Parish these settlements are Stoke Cross and Stoke Lacy.

All submitted sites will be subjected to a technical site assessment process by consultants AECOM as part of the Locality Technical Support Programme for NDPs. Sites considered suitable following the technical assessment will be published for public consultation, and then considered for possible inclusion in the Draft NDP as proposed housing site allocations.

Please complete the Site Submission Form which is available from the website (www.stokelacy.co.uk) or on request from the Clerk to the Parish Council (parishclerk@stokelacyparishcouncil.org.uk) and provide a clear site location plan (preferably using an OS base) identifying the site boundary in red. All completed forms and site locations plans should be submitted by 19th August 2020.

Bill Morgan Acting Co-ordinator Stoke Lacy NDP

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Wood Works in Netherwood



Thinning work is due to take place this autumn to improve the structure and diversity of this developing woodland and to remove ash trees seriously affected with ash die-back disease. This will improve the condition of the path, increase the ground flora, give more space for the remaining trees to grow and encourage new saplings to germinate.

This is the first major work carried out at Netherwood since the trees were planted 20 years ago. The woodland, situated near the church, was originally acquired after a fundraising campaign, through local donations and from the late Peter Morgan of the Morgan Motor Company. It was taken on by the Woodland Trust as part of their 'Woods on your doorstep' Millennium project to create 200 local woodlands. Netherwood consists of over 9 acres of mixed native woodland planted by the community as part of the millennium celebrations. There is a large rock at the centre of the woodland on which is carved

"We planted the trees
underneath the wheeling wings
with the breeze in our faces
and in our minds
the thought of the shading leaves
over the generations to come. "

MM

Whilst the work is being carried out, the woodland will remain open for access but some paths may be closed and diversions may be in place.

There's not going to be any big machinery on site, as the contractors will be using heavy horses to extract the timber. You're very welcome to say hello to both horses and their owners whilst they are working but please obey

any warning signs you might encounter in the wood, as these will be in place for your own safety.

If you would like more information regarding this work please email operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Wildlife Conservation Continues in the Church Yard at Stoke Lacy.



(Photo Bill Morgan)

Despite the Coronavirus we have been able to continue some aspects of the Wildlife Conservation programme in recent months.

Mark De La Torre has made a couple of Swift nesting boxes and also erected them on the north side of the church. Swifts have suffered a loss of natural nesting sites over a number of years but there are some nesting at the bottom of the village and it is hoped that more will do so now.

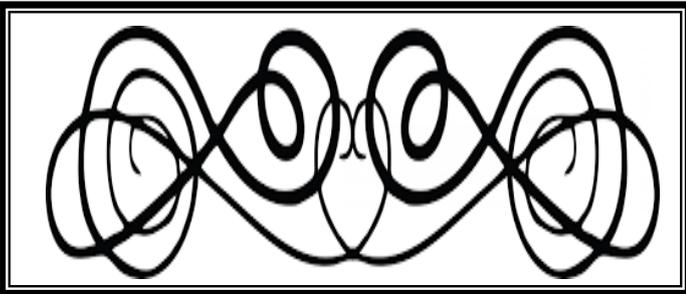
These nest boxes add to the owl and other nesting boxes erected last autumn by Richard Combe.

Forty-two saplings have been planted, largely beside the main road, by Patrick Howells and John Davies. The drought posed a problem after planting but with watering all but 3 have survived. The trees were chosen to supply fruit and pollen for insects and other wildlife and include Viburnum, Euonymus, Crab Apple, Field Maple, Birch and Amelanchier. Several wild cherry trees were planted last autumn by Richard Combe.

The grassland under the new trees has been left unmown and has already enabled an encouraging show of wildflowers including, at the time of writing, Hawkweed and previously Bugle, Cats Ear, Yarrow, Cowslip and others. Further wild flower seeding is planned to include fox-gloves.

There is more to be done to keep the exterior of the church tidy whilst sharing it with other species. I hope we can enlist in a few volunteers this autumn. More details to follow.

John Davies



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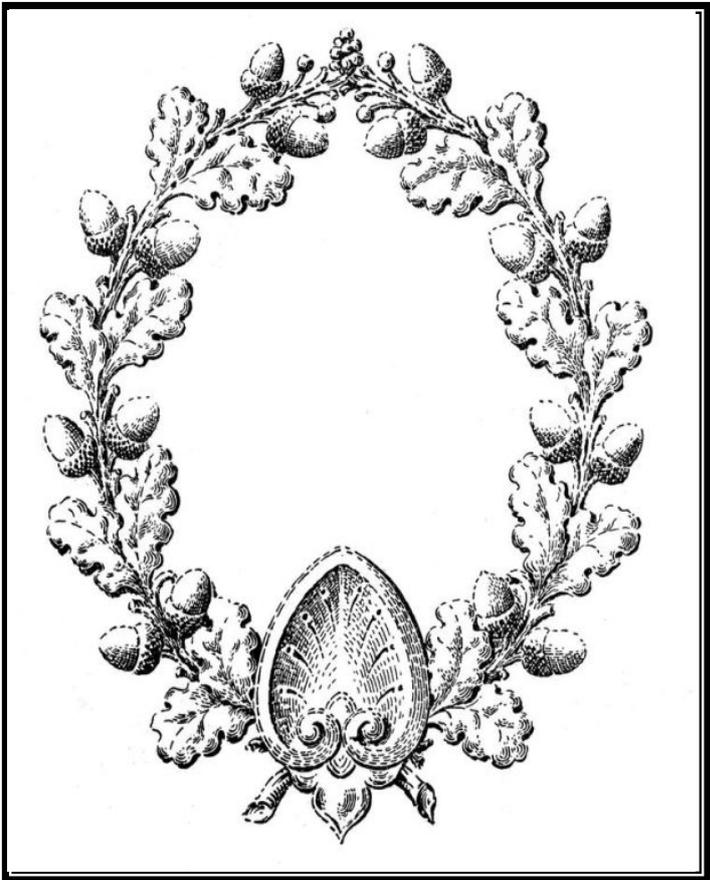
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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Village Halls were advised by The Government and Community First that they could start to re-open from Monday 6th July. After receiving a twenty page document to read and digest about opening up again, it meant that there were some measures which would need to be adhered too. So the A.G.M. followed by an Ordinary Meeting of the Trustees was called on Wednesday 8th July where the implications of re-opening were discussed in great length. The Parish Council and the NDP Steering Group were both wanting to meet in person after four months, as remote meetings weren't successful for everyone. It was clear from the advice given that we would only be possible to host a total of 20 people at any one time in the Hall to comply with the social distancing requirement, so we have reduced the hall capacity in order that these meetings will be able to take place. A Special Conditions of Hire during Covid-19 and a Risk Assessment to undertake, would be issued to any one hiring the Hall. The Kitchen will have to be closed temporarily and out of bounds, due to cross contamination by hirers, who would all be advised to bring their own refreshments. All furniture and equipment has to be wipeable so the new chairs would be exchanged for the old plastic ones for the time being and along with the trestle tables, would be set up in a large 'U' shape with 2 metres between seating. Hand sanitiser, cleaning materials, cloths and a bin would be set up at the entrance to the main Hall, and anti-bac soap and paper towels in the Toilets. We feel that we have taken all the suggested measures that we can, and hope that it may encourage people to try and get back to some form of normality and use the Hall for small gatherings, if it is felt safe to do so, until we can resume our normal service!

Unfortunately due to our capacity at the present time only being 20 people, it was felt that all Fundraising/Events would have to be put on hold for the time being, but watch this space in the hope that the next update from the Government may allow us to reopen the kitchen and cater for more numbers in the Hall.

Stay Safe and Stay Alert.

Janet Ivison

Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees

St Peter's & St Paul's, Stoke Lacy

I am pleased to say we had our first service on Sunday 5th July at 3.30pm, the first Sunday churches were allowed to open for public worship. We held it outside in the churchyard and it was lovely to see everyone again after so long, even though the weather was rather cool and extremely windy. We discussed the good, the bad and the ugly of the last few weeks, how we had coped, who and what had been a blessing and where God was in all this. We are not allowed to sing yet but we had some songs played to us electronically and we hope that next time we will be able to raise our voices in praise. Also we hope to be allowed to provide refreshments.

Kina and the PCC have discussed the pattern of services for Stoke Lacy for the next three months and agreed that we hold our Afternoon Praise on the first Sunday of the month at 3.30pm during August (2nd) and September(6th), in the church if the weather is bad, and that this be the only service here in these months. A review will be held in September to decide how to proceed from October onwards.

We look forward to resuming our usual pattern of weekly services as soon as possible but in the meantime are very pleased that we are at last allowed to use our churches again.

Please join us on the first Sunday in August at 3.30pm for this time of informal worship. You will be most welcome.

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For more information contact

Jan Henson

janhenson23@gmail.com

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Any contributions for the February edition of the Cider Press should be submitted by 15th September, please.

Letters, articles, advertisement of events should be sent by email to :

jjpw.davies@gmail.com or contact the editor, Jo Davies on 01432 820732.

Many thanks



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A New Life in a Hop Kiln.

Two years ago, we were in the middle of purchasing a new home in an unknown area -Herefordshire!

No regrets at leaving a working life in Europe Spain Belgium and -for 30+ years for me -France. Retiring means changing completely with new adventures and new challenges and Year 1 was indeed that. Fabulous countryside to explore, Hereford just a short drive up the road with its wonderful cathedral and café culture, a plethora of villages and towns to discover in every direction and people to meet not to mention many visits from France as they “checked out” our new life.

Friendly people -fantastic neighbours indeed life was quite exciting!

Then year 2 began (in effect the famous honeymoon period was over) with the realities of country living – local fauna pigeons on my roof -squirrels in my roof - mice ,flies, bees, MUD and potholes, followed by the November floods; dismal weather all round with more flooding in the New Year and boom -a virus which we couldn't ignore as reality and lockdown hit!

The positives of living in this beautiful county were evident -blessed with a heat wave and plenty of space it was quite easy to live in a bubble. Gardening (without a recycling centre) and repairs to parts of this very old house, though challenging, got us through the worst. Walks in the lanes with a boisterous puppy were an excuse to go out: we bumped into “new” people some of whom we hope to get to know better in the coming months and others who passed by and were never seen again- joggers, bikers and dog walkers alike.

So, thank you Herefordshire for providing a haven through thick and thin!

Jan Henson

New Members of the NDP Steering Group

In July the NDP steering group met for the first time in person since the Corona virus lockdown was imposed. Parish councillor, Bill Morgan, the acting co-ordinator of the group welcomed two new members to the group.

Freddie Lewis, an IT project manager who lives with his family near the church and moved to the village from London about six years ago.

Ali Parker, born in Herefordshire and from a long-established local farming family is a marketing graduate and works for a PR company which specialises in agricultural and the rural sector. Freddie and Ali will bring additional expertise to the group which is co-ordinating the development plan for Stoke Lacy.

Jo Davies

Notes from Stoke Lacy Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2020 in Stoke Lacy Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to this first ‘real’ meeting after the recent ones held remotely by Zoom, due to the Coronavirus. Those present signed in and were suitably distanced and carried out all necessary health & safety measures. The Clerk requested that anyone showing symptoms of the virus please contact her so that others present could be informed and take necessary action.

Present: Councillors Janet Ivison (Chairman); Anne Reece; Helen Bufton; Bill Morgan; James Wilson, Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester and 1 member of the public.

There were no apologies for absence or declarations of interest on Agenda items.

The Minutes of the previous meeting held by Zoom on 11th June 2020 were approved.

Ward Councillor Lester gave an update on Herefordshire Council matters. There was no police report.

Finance: The bank balance and accounts to 1st July were approved, as were payments to Kirkwells and other accounts related to the NDP.

The Annual Accounts and Annual Governance Statement were considered, approved and signed.

An update on the NDP was received; see Parish Council website

The Clerk's report on progress of the bus stop, double white lines and Hidden Dip sign at Crick's Green, SIDs was received. Noted: the 30mph sign had been moved by Newlands and gates installed, but no gates at the south end of the village. The Clerk was asked to follow up outstanding matters. No planning applications or decisions had been received.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Alma Westwood, Clerk, Stoke Lacy Parish Council parishclerk@stokelacyparishcouncil.org.uk

Lampacre Cottage, Stoke Lane, Stoke Lacy, Bromyard, HR7 4HD

Agendas and minutes of all parish council meetings are available to view on the parish council website <https://stokelacyparishcouncil.org.uk/>

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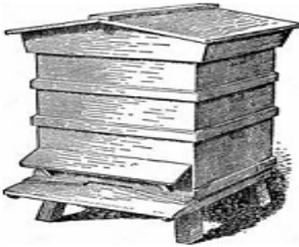
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Notes from ward councillor Jonathan Lester

Just when we think things are returning to some semblance of normality the country is having to cope with localized outbreaks of Covid 19. The farm in Mathon is a case in point. However, the Council and their Health partners reacted swiftly to assist the operators to ensure that every necessary measure was being taken. No doubt there will be further outbreaks in other locations and the debate about wearing masks and physical distancing will continue. 'Physical distancing' is my phrase. The term 'social distancing' is an excellent example of *doublethink*. It contorts our language without understanding the negative impact that it can have in our lives. If anything, the need to be social has never been more important. Communities have done much to pull together, both via the internet and at arm's length, and this has been a very positive outcome in the face of such loss. In terms of Herefordshire Council's operations, it is currently having to contend with the aftermath of the severe flood damage that took place at the beginning of the year, the ongoing demands of coping with Covid 19, and the inevitable huge strain on the finances. The coalition running the council continues with its review of the need for a Hereford Bypass, is defending the decision to purchase the leasehold of the Maylord shopping centre, and is attempting to work out how best to build council houses. Please visit Herefordshire Council's website to see when the meetings are and then you can read all about such council decisions in the published agendas. You can also view the council meetings via YouTube for the foreseeable future as to date all council meetings are still via zoom. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about all things council related. Meanwhile, my best wishes. Jonathan Lester, Herefordshire Councillor for Three Crosses Ward.

jlester@herefordshire.gov.uk mb 07792 88 20 57.

Thank you and Good Luck

A big thank you to all those individuals and businesses who have helped to support the community through the Covid crisis.

As lockdown eases we wish all those opening up for business especially The Plough Inn, Wye Valley Brewery and NSA Event bars whose sectors have been particularly affected by lockdown, the very best of luck.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this edition of the Cider Press. The deadline for submissions for the October edition is 15th September.

Jo Davies—Editor jjpw.davies@gmail.com



Get Involved – Volunteer with us

if you want to be a part of a vital service at the heart of your local community and you'd like to develop your skills, consider volunteering for Citizens Advice Herefordshire (CAH).

What types of voluntary work can I do with the Citizens Advice Herefordshire?

- Advisers, who provide advice and information to members of the public.

Admin Assistants/Receptionists, who type perform general office duties and "meet and greet" clients who arrive at bureau.

How much time would I have to give?

- Volunteer advisers are asked to give 10 hours a week during the initial training, and then 5-10 hours per week.
- Reception volunteers are asked to give 4 hours per week for at least one year.

Administration volunteers are asked to give 4 hours per week for at least one year

What qualifications will I need to volunteer?

- All you need to train as an adviser is to enjoy helping people and to be:

- Good at listening
- Able to work in a team
- Open-minded and non-judgmental

Able to meet time commitment

Do you pay expenses?

- The organisation will pay reasonable travel expenses to and from the organisation or other venues you attend as a necessary part of your volunteer role.

How old do I have to be to volunteer? To volunteer for the organisation you must be 16 or over

How do I apply?

If you would like further information or an application pack please contact our Training Manager or fill out our application form: [Volunteer Application Form – Hereford](#)

- E mail: sonya.gregory@citizensadviceherefordshire.org.uk
- Write To: The Volunteer Operations and Training Manager, Citizens Advice Herefordshire, 8 St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2PJ

VJ-Days?

Bromyard.info refers to VJ Day briefly as “... these victories 75 years ago, ...”

A history of VJ Day must do justice to the joy and relief, but it must also, being History, and with History's secret weapon hindsight, bring out what was hidden to the people at the time. In doing this it will upset people, because 'historians upset everything'.

VJ Day refers to Victory over Japan, so when did that happen? No less than seven different days have a claim to be VJ day! First there was 10th August, the day of the Japanese decision to surrender (I shall call this VJ1). Early on that day, following the two atom bombs and the Soviet invasion of Manchuria, the 'sacred decision' was made by Emperor Hirohito and the Japanese Prime Minister Suzuki to seek an immediate peace: a statement was issued on Radio Tokyo accepting the unconditional surrender which the Potsdam Declaration had demanded.

VJ2 was 14th August. The news of the Japanese surrender was by now known across the world. Nearly six years of war, costing 80 million lives, had ended, and on Okinawa six more men were killed and dozens were wounded as American soldiers 'took every weapon within reach and started firing into the sky to celebrate'. In Australia strangers danced together. Melbourne's Chinese community called it 'VC Day' for 'Victory in China' and set off fireworks. Australian sailors joined in helping them parade a ceremonial dragon. In Auckland the city went out to enjoy with people drinking, dancing and scattering confetti. 'Rowdy people' began throwing bottles, and by evening, 51 people had been taken to hospital and 15 tons of glass lay in the roads. In Manila, residents sang 'God Bless America'. Americans and Frenchmen in Paris paraded on the Champs-Élysées singing 'Don't Fence Me In'. In Singapore no British troops were able to get back for a fortnight, and there were widespread incidents of looting and revenge-killing. Americans began celebrating. There was a 'coast-to-coast frenzy of [servicemen] kissing ... everyone in skirts that happened along,' with LIFE magazine publishing photographs of such kisses in Washington, Kansas City, Los Angeles, and Miami. The New York Times featured a uniformed sailor passionately kissing a Navy nurse in Times Square in New York. In Washington, D.C. a crowd attempted to break into the White House grounds as they shouted 'We want Harry!' At 7.00 that evening 'Harry' (President Harry S Truman) officially broke the good news of the surrender at a press conference at the White House 'This is the day when Fascism finally dies, as we always knew it would.' At midnight Britain's brand-new Labour Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, spoke on the radio 'The last of our enemies is laid low.' The following day throngs of people crowded onto the streets of every town and city shouting, singing, dancing, lighting bonfires and letting off fireworks.



The world knew the war was won, but the Japanese people did not yet know it was lost. In Japanese tradition surrender was unthinkable, but it was now unavoidable given the two atom bombs and the huge Russian invasion of Manchuria. Japanese Emperor Hirohito decided to broadcast to his people preparing them to 'endure the unendurable'. He recorded the message on August 13th or 14th, 1945. Senior officers of the Imperial Japanese Army, to whom surrender was unacceptable, found out. To try to stop the broadcast going out they raided the Imperial palace on the evening of August 14th to find and destroy the recording, but it had been smuggled out of the palace in a laundry basket of women's underwear and was finally played around mid-day on 15th August, about 11.00 at night on 14th August in Washington. The emperor announced the surrender of Japan to the Allies, in medieval Japanese language not actually including the word 'surrender'. 'The war situation had developed, not necessarily to

Japan's advantage'. Few people understood it and, to make things worse, at the end of the speech a radio announcer explained that the Emperor's message did not mean that Japan was surrendering! Three high ranking officers, who knew that it did, committed suicide rather than accept it. Scores of other Japanese soldiers took their own lives, unable to live with the shame, and nearly 100 American prisoners were murdered outright.

Although the rest of the world was celebrating peace and its victories over Japan, there was still one more victory to come. In February, at the Yalta Conference of the Allied leaders, Stalin had promised the Allies he would join the war against Japan three months after the defeat of Germany. It would take three months to transport the Red Army to the Far East. On the morning of that precise day, six days before all the peace celebrations across the world, and on the day Nagasaki was bombed, a million battle hardened and heavily armed Red Army soldiers invaded Japanese-occupied Manchuria. Thus began the last campaign of the Second World War.

Manchuria was enormous, but no-one had better experience in conducting campaigns over vast distances than the Russians. By the time the famous kiss was appearing in the New York Times, the Russian soldiers were advancing through swamps, across a desert and over a mountain range. The Japanese in Manchuria were not sure if Japan had surrendered. They'd heard the Emperor's broadcast, but its poor audio quality and the medieval language in which the speech was composed, meant that either they did not understand it, or they ignored it. Resistance continued. Japan had possessed Manchuria for fourteen years, and many Japanese had gone there as colonists. The local Chinese population nursed grudges. The colonists knew this, and began committing mass suicide as the Red Army approached. In three weeks the Russians took Manchuria and North Korea, occupied by a unit in which the future dictator Kim-il-Sung was serving.

September 2nd was VJ3. Before the Manchurian Campaign was over, Japan surrendered to the United States and its other allies. Aboard the battleship Missouri, moored in Tokyo Bay, Allied commander Douglas MacArthur, the Japanese foreign minister, and high-ranking Japanese officers signed the Instrument of Surrender.



They were not quite closed. The Japanese in Korea and Manchuria held out till 9th September. (VJ4) VJ5 might refer to the official peace treaty between Japan and most of the Allies in 1952, and VJ6 to the similar treaty with the Russians in 1956. Finally, VJ7 would be 18th December 1974, when the last of the six million soldiers in the Imperial Japanese Army, Teruo Nakamura, was finally persuaded to hand in his (still functioning) pistol and go home to Taiwan. (VJ7)

What were the consequences? The Americans fought to avenge Pearl Harbour, but within five years Japan became an ally: celebrating VJ Day became politically incorrect. On the 50th anniversary President Bill Clinton avoided the term VJ day altogether, calling it 'the End of the Pacific War'. Capitalist America and communist Russia, though allies, were suspicious of each other. The Americans didn't tell the Russians about the atom bomb, (though British communist spies did); the Russians shot down a B29 dropping supplies to POWs in Korea on 29th August. The Cold War had begun.



**STOKE
LACY
PARISH**

Neighbourhood
Development
Plan

Call for Sites

Proposed sites will be assessed by independent planning consultants (AECOM) and then submitted to the community for final decision at a public meeting later this year.

Community approved sites will then be included in the NDP.

If a site is approved it will still need to go through the Herefordshire Council planning process.

close date
19th. August

information and submission form
go to website

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NDP Steering Group meetings are open
for parishioners to have their say
check website for details