

**Aylestone, Tupsley & Central PACT meeting**  
**7.00pm 15<sup>th</sup> February 2010**  
**Shirehall, Hereford**



**Present:**

Cllr B Wilcox (Chairman)  
 Cllr Hubbard  
 Cllr Taylor  
 PS Neil Whitchurch (West Mercia Police)  
 PC John Yarwood (West Mercia Police)  
 CSO Emily Cooke (West Mercia Police)  
 CSO Anna Synnock (West Mercia Police)  
 Ruth Kinsella (Amey, Highways Services Manager)  
 Michelle Morgan (Amey, Customer Services Manager)  
 Jason Warman (Amey, Highways Supervisor)  
 Steve Thompson (Amey, Area Manager)  
 Laura Quincey (Amey Quality & Environmental Manager)

Martin Jackson (Amey Land Drainage Engineer)  
 Geoff Hughes (Herefordshire Council)  
 Gemma Dyke (Herefordshire Council, LDF)  
 Anne-Louise Phillips (Herefordshire Council, Finance)  
 Julie Gethin (Herefordshire Partnership)  
 Jane Jones (Herefordshire Partnership)  
 Ashley Tucker (Herefordshire Council, web services)  
 Rebecca Walder (Herefordshire Council web services)  
 Joanna Lindsay-Jones (Herefordshire Council, Enforcement Officer)

**Apologies:**

Cllr Walling  
 Ms Wendy Coombey

Approx 20 members of the public

| Issues from Previous Meeting   | Response  |
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| <p><b>Item 1. (Item 3 on previous sheet)</b><br/>                     The issue of additional dog bins in Tupsley had been dealt with. However, it was uncertain as to whether or not it is an offence for dogs to foul in public places. Could this be clarified?</p> | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>                     It was explained that not all areas of Herefordshire currently have a Dog Control Order, however it is hoped that this will be rectified in May, after which time it will be possible to issue Fixed Penalty notices. It was emphasised that it was hoped there would be no delay with this.</p> |
| <p><b>Item 2. (Item 5 on previous sheet)</b><br/>                     The issue of dropped kerbs in Hampton park Road remains an issue.</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>                     Amey acknowledged that this work was still to be undertaken. It was added to a list of work late last year and will be completed when funding and the weather allow.</p>   |
| <p><b>Item 3 (Item 18 on previous sheet)</b><br/>                     The issue of litter in Churchill Gdns had been treated as priority and as a result the area was much improved.</p>   |   |

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| <p><b>Item 4. (Item 22 on previous sheet)</b><br/> The issue of speeding on Hampton Park Road was still felt to be a problem.</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/> West Mercia Police responded that around 500 vehicles had been surveyed and the average speed was below 30 mph.<br/> The possibility of placing a Speed Indicator Device (SID) in the area was discussed.</p>         |
| <p><b>Gemma Dyke presented briefly on the Local Development Framework (LDF) and a forthcoming consultation event at Aylestone School on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 to which everyone was encouraged to attend.</b></p> <p><b>It was emphasised that this was a genuine and widespread consultation on the future of Herefordshire to 2026. The response rate to questionnaires was already high and it was hoped this would continue.</b></p>               |  |
| <p><b>Michelle Morgan gave a presentation about the services provided by Amey and how it works with Herefordshire Council.</b></p> <p><b>She asked that anyone wish report anything to Amey should give very specific site details so that problems can be identified as quickly as possible. The contact telephone number is 01432 261800 (Herefordshire Council's Info by Phone service). After the presentation a number of new issues were raised:</b></p> |  |
| <p><b>New Issues Arising</b></p>   | <p><b>Response</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Item 5.</b><br/> What is the programme for dealing with potholes? Are they properly sealed?</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/> “A” roads and “B” roads are taking priority over roads on estates, which is why some of these potholes are yet to be treated. Some of the seals are temporary, although the “A” and “B” road seals are permanent.</p> |
| <p><b>Item 6.</b><br/> How does Amey know where the potholes are?</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/> Roads are regularly inspected by engineers but Amey also relies on the public to report potholes. It is very helpful if exact locations can be given.</p>   |
| <p><b>Item 7.</b><br/> There are potholes on Folly Lane, just past Carter Grove</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/> Noted</p>   |
| <p><b>Item 8.</b><br/> How many miles of road are due to be resurfaced next year?</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/> It is very difficult to translate into exact mileage, but Herefordshire Council has made an additional £1m available to assist with road repairs. The</p>   |

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|  | criteria and priorities change over time and a number of factors are taken into consideration including structural reports from engineers, and road traffic accidents.   |
| <b>Item 9.</b><br>The white lines on the inner ring road in Hereford are poor quality and confusing.   | <b>Response at the PACT:</b><br>It was acknowledged that this is an issue and needs to involve the Highways Agency but nothing can be done whilst there is still the possibility of salt being spread. This issue will be considered.  |
| <b>Item 10.</b><br>Picking up from the presentation which mentions Carbon Footprint, how does Amey deal with that?   | <b>Response at the PACT:</b><br>Amey is constantly examining fuel consumption and ways it might reduce. It also undertakes a staff education programme regarding environmental issues.<br>The Chair added that Amey's use of electric cars should be acknowledged and applauded. It had recently been nominated for an Award of Excellence for this initiative and had reached the last 6 out of 200 entries, which had demonstrated a real commitment to addressing environmental challenges. |
| <b>Item 11.</b><br>The effectiveness of the traffic lights at the junction of Folly Lane / Church Road was questioned, and the environmental impact of traffic "idling" at the lights. | <b>Response at the PACT:</b><br>The Chair reported that these are subject to a survey.   |
| <b>Item 12.</b><br>What are the financial limits of Amey in respect of decision -making?   | <b>Response at the PACT:</b><br>This will be reported at the next meeting  |
| <b>Item 13.</b><br>Please could the street lighting on Aylestone Hill be checked?<br>The   |  |
| <b>Item 14.</b><br>The street lighting on Hafod Road is poor, please could this be checked?  |  |
| <b>Item 15.</b><br>Please could the street lighting be checked where the students walk down to Hereford (pavement one side only)? Aylestone Hill by Churchill Gardens                  | The exact location of this is being clarified with the gentleman who raised the issue.   |
| <b>Item 16.</b><br>The street lighting on the stretch of Hampton Park Road by the Salmon pub is poor   |  |

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| <p><b>Item 17.</b><br/>Littering – should street cleaners be picking up <i>all</i> litter, ie not just emptying bins?</p>   | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>Yes. A reminder will be issued to Amey staff</p>  |
| <p><b>Item 18.</b><br/>There is a lot of litter around Chiltern Square</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>This is recognised. Work will be done again to clean the area.</p>  |
| <p><b>Item 19.</b><br/>Please could the street lighting on the pathway from Quay Street to Castle Green be checked as some of these have not been working properly</p>  |   |
| <p><b>Item 20.</b><br/>Could Netherwood Lane be cleaned as there is litter along there? In addition there is litter on the bank going towards Lugwardine, below the Cock of Tupsley pub.</p>  |   |
| <p><b>Item 21.</b><br/>Please could the area surrounding the railway bridge at the bottom of Aylestone Hill be tidied up as this is an eye-sore approaching Hereford?</p>   | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>Amey have recently established that this area is their responsibility and are now actively pursuing a major clean-up programme. Because of the work involved there are Health and Safety issues which entail additional consideration, but the work is scheduled to commence at the beginning of March.</p>   |
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| <p><b>Phillips, Anne-Louise - Head of Financial Services, Herefordshire Council gave a short presentation on its Budget for 2010/11 and Beyond and the particular challenges facing the Council, including provision of rural services, an ageing population and falling birthrate.</b></p> |   |
| <p><b>Item 22.</b><br/>When the Government introduces new schemes like the free over 60's travel, does it fully fund this, or do we have to make up the shortfall?</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>Grants are usually made towards Government initiatives, although invariably it is not enough and the local authority has to find the remainder. At the current time there is discussion nationally about free care for the elderly, and with an ageing population in Herefordshire this may be an example of a major challenge for the County. The Chair commented on the difficulties faced by the Council when setting its budget. There are balances to be struck between, for example, the need</p> |

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|  | to provide school transport across the County against the backdrop of a falling birthrate, the financial challenges implied by ageing population, the requirement to find additional funds for road repairs arising from an unusually severe winter and to keep Council Tax within the 2.9% desired.   |
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| <p><b>Ashley Tucker from Herefordshire Council's I.T. team (web services) briefly explained that he would be happy to speak to anyone who might wish to be involved in discussing the Council's county-wide web access and services. He outlined the difference in cost between a face-to-face contact, a telephone contact and an electronic contact.</b></p> |  |
| <p><b>Item 23</b><br/>Can the Council apply pressure to get better Broadband in Herefordshire?</p>   | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>There are some local initiatives being undertaken, although as these are of a commercial nature the Council has no direct influence.<br/>However the Chief Executive is particularly keen for this to be a priority for the County and discussions have taken place with B T regarding upgrading the Hereford Exchange. The problem is particularly bad in some of the more rural areas of the County.</p> |
| <p><b>Item 24.</b><br/>Are the lifebuoys along the river checked regularly?</p>  |  |
| <p><b>Item 25.</b><br/>As the Plough Lane site has now been purchased by the Council, will Brockington be disposed of? Is it likely to go for housing development?</p>   | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>The Council and Primary Care Trust (PCT) wish to rationalise their services on the Plough Lane site. At some point Brockington, as well as other building surplus to requirements, will be sold, but it will need to be at a time when the market is right to ensure the best return for the taxpayer. It is possible that the site will be developed for housing.</p>                                     |
| <p><b>Item 26.</b><br/>There is some confusion over the V1th form college development plans by Prospect Walk. Also, an oak tree has been taken down.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Item 27.</b><br/>Please can the police do speed checks along Whittern Way?<br/>Is there any news on the request for a 20mph limit?</p>   |  |

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| <p><b>Item 28.</b><br/>         At a recent ESG meeting, there were plans for a library in the Maylord Orchards site. Is this still a possibility and is there any scope for repairs to the existing building?</p>   | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>         At the present time the Maylord Orchard site is one of a number of options being considered. At the present time, and with current budget pressures, it is unlikely that anything other than essential repairs will be done to the existing building.</p>   |
| <p><b>Item 29.</b><br/>         We are very happy with the recycling system but wonder whether there is scope to recycle even more, e g plastic bottle tops and aluminium?</p>   | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>         It was explained that it can cost more, both financially and environmentally, to clean aluminium than makes it worthwhile. However, Amey would take this back for consideration. It was remarked that the recycling services had come along way over the past year, and that further developments were a possibility.</p>   |
| <p><b>Item 30</b><br/>         There are serious parking problems in Pigott Close. Some residents without a drive do not use their cars in the daytime as they cannot return and park. Students park and sometime obstruct the roadway which means that larger vehicles cannot gain access to load/unload.<br/>         Please can a Residents Parking Scheme be considered?</p> |  |
| <p><b>Item 31.</b><br/>         The line and signs on the ring road heading towards the Cattle Market roundabout are confusing.</p>  | <p><b>Response at the PACT:</b><br/>         It is recognised that much of the City traffic has to navigate the Cattle Market roundabout and this causes excess traffic at a hotspot. Various options are being considered, including allowing traffic from Maylords Orchards to turn right out of the car park, and thus save unnecessary journeys towards the roundabout.<br/>         Discussions about this and the local road network are taking place with the Highways Agency. An offer was made for a presentation on this to be brought to a future PACT meeting.</p> |