

Ledbury PACT meeting  
1 February 2010



**Chair: Cllr Pat Morgan**

**Cllr Mary Cooper**  
**Cllr Roy Stockton**  
**Cllr Peter Watts**  
**Sgt Sarah Hughes**

Julie Gethin, Head of Partnership Support, Herefordshire Partnership  
David Powell, Director of Resources, Herefordshire Council  
Ashley Tucker, Web Content Team Leader, Herefordshire Council  
Ruth Kinsella, AMEY  
Ross Garbutt, AMEY  
Keith Lloyd, AMEY  
John Maddy, AMEY  
Rachel Rice, AMEY  
Community Protection Team  
25 members of the public

Issue	Response
<b>Item 1:</b> The Chairman informed the meeting that copies of the Local Development Framework book were available for collection and encouraged everyone to read the section relating to Ledbury and to put forward their views either in writing, via the local ward member or by attending the upcoming public meeting.	
<b>Item 2:</b> Ashley Tucker from Herefordshire Council's ICT Services introduced himself and advised that the Council's website was being redeveloped and invited members of the public to view the web display and to speak with him at the close of the meeting to provide comments on the display and encouraged members of the public to participate in workshops on the redevelopment of the website and how it could be improved, which are to be held in March.	
<b>Ruth Kinsella, AMEY, Herefordshire, gave a presentation on the work of AMEY for Herefordshire Council.</b>	

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<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p><b>Item 3:</b> Informed by neighbour that potholes are filled by putting tarmac in the hole and reversing the wheels of the works vehicle over it to tamp it down. Therefore the hole is not sealed and will need to be continually patched.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Currently potholes are a problem across the country and there is a standard to be adhered to. For main roads the hole is to be cut out and then filled. Minor roads are just filled, but to a standard. The member of the public was asked to provide details of where this work was done following the meeting.</p>
<p><b>Item 4:</b> Gritting, who is responsible? At the start of the bad weather and snow there was no sign of a gritting lorry on the main crescent and nothing was done in the way of gritting on the pavements.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Amey were very busy gritting throughout the bad weather. Gritting is only carried out on the main A and B roads, not on estate roads. It is planned to give a talk on gritting during the August round of PACTS so that members of the public are informed of gritting priorities, particularly during extended spells of poor weather.</p>
<p><b>Item 5:</b> Why is there an environmental issue with the salt for the roads?</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> There is no environmental issue with salt, just a shortage nationally. Herefordshire has had deliveries of salt, but during extended spells of bad weather salt use is strictly monitored to ensure that there is enough available country wide and Amey, along with all other authorities have to be more restrained in the amount they use to ensure supply stocks are maintained. It was agreed that for the next or a following meeting of the Ledbury PACT there would be a short report on the gritting undertaken throughout the county and how successful it was.</p>
<p><b>Item 6:</b> Did Herefordshire Council lose any money through investing in the Icelandic banks?</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> The Director of Resources advised the meeting that the Council had not lost any money on the Icelandic banks due to good investments and money management.</p>
<p><b>Item 7:</b> Why was gritting not carried out during the most recent cold weather?</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> The meeting was advised that this was due to the met office predicting mild not cold weather.</p>
<p><b>Item 8:</b> A member of the public advised that they had had to telephone twice to the town council and to Herefordshire council to report a blocked drain.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> It was requested that details of the location of the blocked drain be provided to Amey staff following the closure of the meeting. – This information was provided and the blocked drain can be found opposite the railway station. These will be reported and cleared.</p>
<p><b>Item 9:</b> Amey stated in their presentation that they had increase the</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Yes a register is held on what assistance is provided for projects and</p>

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amount of time staff were allowed for volunteering, has Hereford volunteer centre been contacted?	the amount of volunteering that staff undertake is monitored. Amey will continue to support Ledbury in Bloom and the other 'in bloom' committees around the County
<p><b>Item 10:</b> A member of the public raised a question on proposal for yellow lines on Woodley Road and New Street.</p> <p>Another member of the public advised that this issue had been on going since July last year and that it was difficult for residents living in the area as they were having their driveways blocked.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Cllr Watts advised the meeting that the issue of yellow lines was being pursued. Once this had been resolved, the establishment of a bus stop could be solved.</p> <p>Cllr Watts advised that he was taking this matter forward and hoped to have a response fairly shortly. Amey advised that they would also look into the matter and try to move it forward.</p>
<p><b>Item 11:</b> Have Amey taken over the P3 scheme as well as lengthsman scheme?</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Yes – Amey now run both the P3 scheme and the Lengthsman Scheme on behalf of Herefordshire Council. The P3 Scheme allows Parishes to opt to apply for a grant from HC via Amey to maintain their own public right of way footpaths – the sum given is based on the km of path to be maintained.</p>
<p><b>Item 12:</b> Woodley Road, bins under bridge. The bins look rusted and would like some of the bins replaced.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Request should be put into the Town Council who can then put in a formal request to Amey to replace the bins.</p>
<p><b>Item 13:</b> Noise issue. United beverages are putting out noise 24 hours a day 7 days a week, which is very disrupting for residents and makes it very difficult sleeping at night.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Cllr Watts responded by stating that a check was being carried out and that it shouldn't be above 50 decibels in the day and 45 at night. Currently in the area it was believed to be at 52 decibels. He advised that he would report back to the next meeting.</p>
<p><b>Item 14:</b> White lining on junctions, the paint is fading at various locations in the town.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> There is a programme currently being put together for redoing white lines once the weather improves.</p>
<p><b>Item 15:</b> Dog fouling. There has been another outbreak of dog fouling on Elmsdale Road and New Street.</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> The Community Protection team advised they would take up the issue with member of the public following the meeting.</p>
<p><b>Item 16:</b> Are the cats eyes in the road at Ledbury and Bosbury to be replaced?</p>	<p><b>Response at the PACT:</b> Cats eyes are not replaced on B roads.</p>

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Although it is a B road it takes a considerable amount of traffic.	The meeting was advised that it would be put forward as a request so that Amey could look into it.
<b>Item 17:</b> The road on the Ledbury side of Tarrington is flooding and people are having accidents. Why is it not being treated and drained to prevent the accidents?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> The accident prevention team from Herefordshire Council are looking into the issue and is to be put onto the work sheet for Amey.
<b>Item 18:</b> The Amey Liaison Officer that attends parish council meetings is this just a formality or do Amey take any notice of the views of the parish council?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> It is not just a formality and where possible things will happen as a result of what is discussed at the parish council meeting. As ever we must always be mindful of balancing the budgets available.
<b>Policing Matters:</b> Sgt Sarah Hughes advised that the Ledbury policing team was supported by four Community Support Officers.	
<b>Item 19:</b> Anti social behaviour in New Street.	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> New foot patrol in the area and situation has now improved.
<b>Item 20:</b> Traffic stopping at 1 stop shop.	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> 10 tickets have been issued in response.
<b>Item 21:</b> Are cyclist bound by red lights?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Yes.
<b>Item 22:</b> Sgt Hughes reported that regular surgeries were held in rural areas and at Tesco or Somerfield supermarkets every month.	
<b>Item 23:</b> Could the police look at the traffic lights at Homend turning right?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Traffic lights are not the responsibility of the police. Amey maintenance team will look into the issue.
<b>Item 24:</b> Can speed checks be done in town as some people go above the limit?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Doing speed checks is governed by where they can be carried out and the centre of town is not one of them.
<b>Item 25:</b> What policy is there for Community Support officers to make contact with local people? Do they cover the Colwall area and know the local councillors?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Community Support officers door knock and walk round their local area. Cllr Stockton advised that he had not been contacted by the CSO since they had been in place.
<b>Item 26:</b> Home base car park is used by local youths to race around.	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Have enlisted the help of officers in planning cover and already some warnings have been issued.

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<b>Item 27:</b> It was asked that compliments be passed on to the local CSO for stopping graffiti on walls and to Amey for dealing with it within 2 days.	<b>Noted</b>
<b>Item 28:</b> Speed indicator devices, Bosbury Parish Council's have cost about £200 per session; will the police follow up with other data gathered?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Sgt Hughes – yes.
<b>Item 29:</b> It has been noticed that several drivers are jumping the lights at the top of New Street, is there a CCTV camera there to monitor?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> No, but the police can do some more patrols.
<b>Item 30:</b> When snow was bad on the crescent people were driving down the one way system.	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> The police have had no reports of this.
<b>Item 31:</b> Good news story – burglary in rural areas, the people concerned have been apprehended.	
<b>David Powell, Director of Resources, Herefordshire Council gave a presentation about the Council's budget for 2010/11.</b>	
<b>Item 32:</b> Why can't a lot of people living in a small house pay more than just 2 people in a larger house?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Council tax is used as an approximation for wealth. Previously for a short time we had the community charge, but it was very inefficient. Council tax is not necessarily the best system but is currently the best we have.
<b>Item 33:</b> Any projects not being supported this year?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Reviewing the Capital Programme, no new Capital works until Capital Programme review has been done. Doing the review in relation to service issues with the roads. Nothing to be cut at the moment, just reviewing the cost of the projects and impact on revenue budgets.
<b>Item 34:</b> Is it true that there has been estimated £5m damage to the roads?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Yes, it is based on a review done in another county but the estimate is reasonably accurate. Gritting the roads so far this winter is £1m over budget.
<b>Item 35:</b> Amey have done a good job on the main roads. Is the Amey budget set in stone? How can you have £1m in savings when	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> It was agreed in the budget round last financial year. This year there are other financial pressures to balance the budget against. There is

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there has been £1m extra spent on salt.	half a million held in reserve.
<b>Item 36:</b> Is the Ledbury library going to be part of the savings?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> No decision has been made on savings. The library is a scheme previously agreed in the budget process, but everything needs to be looked at thoroughly.
<b>Item 37:</b> Do you make public what investments will be made and who lobbies the government for funding?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Yes the Council led by the Leader lobby government. Investments are published in the Treasury Management Strategy, which is a matter of public record.
<b>Item 38:</b> Why do we not get funding?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> Government funding is very complicated. Currently the government is putting more funding into urban areas. Herefordshire doesn't fit into this category, therefore, one of the reasons why it is losing out on funding.
<b>Item 39:</b> How are the ESG plans going as they seem to be attracting a lot of criticism?	<b>Response at the PACT:</b> There is £20m of Advantage West Midlands (AWM) funding for this project. The moving of the livestock market along with the AWM funding is key to making much needed improvements to Hereford and attracting shoppers into the city. The recession has affected the timings for various stages of this project, but it is a key project for the future of the county.