



Hello,

We held our PC meeting on the 1st March and as always covered a wide range of topics. Here are the highlights, with the full draft minutes available from the website:

<https://fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk/agendas-and-minutes>

Highways:

SID data continues to be monitored on a monthly basis and is now available to download from the website: <https://fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk/traffic-calming>. Please note periods of roadworks are marked with an asterix.

And some good news - BBLP have confirmed that the litter bin removed from outside Fairfield Green will be replaced imminently (hopefully it has by the time you read this); and they have launched a new 5-year funded scheme in which we will receive a base sum of £94.15 per km of C and U roads within the parish. This amounts to an additional £903.84 for our Lengthsman budget each year for the next five years.

Pavements:



A full survey of village pavements has been carried out; and those requiring attention have been reported to BBLP – unfortunately BBLP do not have resources to make repairs immediately but we will continue to monitor the situation and work with BBLP to effect improvements.

Our Lengthsman has completed work to remove moss on sections of Noverwood Drive and Scotch Firs, and clear silt and debris from the pavement between West End Stores and Lower House Gardens.

Traffic Calming Scheme:

We received a presentation detailing two options to narrow a section of the B4224: 1) the original proposal using a two-way scheme, and 2) with a one-lane priority; and are waiting for Herefordshire Council to confirm whether these are viable options for the Traffic Calming Scheme. If the answer is yes to proposal 2, we will begin a further public consultation to establish community views as this was not included in the original plan.

Tarmac Repairs:

We have commissioned work to repair some areas of tarmac on both the Recreation Field Access Track and Biggs Lane. Work is due to start week commencing 3rd April which is the first week of the Easter holidays and will mean that vehicular access to the Pavilion and the Recreation Field Car Park will be restricted during that week. The Memorial Hall is

installing a new streetlight at the beginning of this week also, which will mean Biggs Lane is also restricted for a couple of days.

The tarmac work on Biggs Lane will run consecutively and therefore vehicular access to Biggs Lane will also be restricted for a few days during the second week of the Easter holidays. We do hope this doesn't inconvenience too many people but it is important we maintain our community assets.

Fownhope Community Saturday: 25th March 2-4pm:



Our second Community Saturday will be on Saturday 25th March, 2-4pm at the Pavilion and we're all about **Gardens and Habitats**. I'm putting it in here by way of a reminder as you may just have received your copy of the Flag – if not, I hope you joined us and had a great time, but if you missed it, please **SAVE THE DATE** for the others – dates and details on the website here: <https://fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk/fownhope-community-saturdays>

King Charles III Coronation:

Here's another **SAVE THE DATE** ... on **Monday 8th May** we will be celebrating the coronation of King Charles III with a street party vibed community event on the Recreation Field and will have tables and chairs set up for you to bring along a picnic. We're delighted to be working with St. Mary's PTA to make this a super event and you'll find more information detailed on another article within this issue of the Flag. Further posters and publicity will be coming out shortly to give more details but please pop it in your diary and come along to celebrate our wonderful community and another historic royal event.

Annual Parish Meeting:



This year, the Annual Parish Meeting will be on **Sunday 23rd April (St. George's Day)** at 6pm at the Pavilion. It's a little earlier than usual as May is pretty busy with the Coronation and Local Council Elections but in the spirit of the Coronation, we shall be focusing on celebrating our volunteers.

We'd like to put together a presentation from a number of speakers who would like to share their experience of volunteering or talk about the community group they are part of so we can learn and promote the very many volunteer reliant activities available in the parish.

So, if you would be happy to talk about what you do to support the village, we'd love to hear from you - please pop me an email or give me a ring.

Fownhope Community Service Awards:

This leads me very nicely to announcing that we are now taking nominations for the 2023 Fownhope Community Service Awards.

Do you know someone who helps make Fownhope a lively, vibrant and caring community? Who do you think deserves recognition of their service to the local community? The award is

given to those who have made a difference in any aspect of village life, whether in leisure, sport, village clubs, church or business, or in supporting others in any capacity.

We are asking you to nominate deserving parishioners and, to do so, to please complete a Nomination Form and either deliver it to the Councillors named on the form or to the Clerk (details on the form) in a sealed envelope addressed to 'Community Awards'. Please remember that nominations are also sought for the Fownhope Sports Award recognising persistence and dedication in any sport and is open to all ages.

Forms are available from website: <https://fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk/community-service-awards>, via the Clerk on 07989 066782 or email on clerk@fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk; or from the West End Stores, the Shop @ Coe Corner or the Fownhope New Memorial Hall.

There is no limit to the number of people who may be recognised but nominations must reach the Council Awards Group by **16th April 2023**.

Local Council Elections: Thursday 4th May 2023

On 4th May, you will be asked to vote for your Ward and Parish Councillors. All Councillors must stand down every four years and be re-elected.

For voters:

The polling station in Fownhope will be at the New Memorial Hall, and you will be able to vote at any time between 7am and 10pm.



In order to vote, you must be registered to vote by 11.59pm on Monday 17th April 2023. Photo ID is now required to be able to vote at a polling station, which can be a passport, driving licence or blue badge, proof of age card, certain concessionary travel cards or some other government issued documents. You will **NOT** be allowed to vote at the local elections on the 4th May if you do not bring with you approved photo ID so please get in touch if you are unsure about what can be used or have a look at the Electoral Commission website:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/>

If you wish to apply to vote by post, you will need to complete a postal vote application form and make sure it arrives with Herefordshire Council by 5pm on Tuesday 18th April 2023.

If you wish to apply to vote by proxy (allowing someone you trust to vote on your behalf), you will need to complete an application form and make sure it arrives with Herefordshire Council by 5pm on Tuesday 25th April 2023. The person you choose to vote on your behalf will need to go to the polling station to vote and will need to show their own photo ID.

The usual A5 Polling Card will be replaced this year with an enveloped A4 letter. They are being dispatched via Royal Mail from Monday 27th March so please look out for that.

Guidance booklets from The Electoral Commission providing information on how to vote and some changes that are being implemented at these elections are available to collect from the New Memorial Hall.

If you'd like to become a Parish Councillor:

Fownhope Parish Council is a busy, proactive council with 12 seats. If you would like to find out more about becoming a Parish Councillor, please get in touch or have a look at Herefordshire Council's website: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/elections-1/elections-4-may-2023>

Website:

Just a gentle reminder to keep an eye on the website for updates and information, or subscribe to my emailed newsletter if you don't already receive it.
<https://fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Love Trees? Can you be our next Volunteer Tree Warden ...

And finally, we are still looking to fill our vacancy for a Volunteer Tree Warden.



The main role will be to include giving advice on planning applications involving works to trees and being aware of the current status and condition of trees within the parish boundaries under the responsibility of the Parish Council, though the annual tree survey is carried out by a qualified local tree surgeon.

The Parish Council subscribe annually to the Herefordshire Tree Warden Network for support and advice.

So, if you love Fownhope and love trees and would like to volunteer to be the next Parish Tree Warden, please get in touch – we do really need you!

Dates for your diary:

- **Fownhope Community Saturday: Saturday 25th March, 2-4pm, Pavilion**
- **Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 5th April, 7pm, Pavilion**
- **Tarmac Repair Works, Recreation Field, week commencing 3rd April**
- **Tarmac Repair Works, Biggs Lane, week commencing 10th April**
- **Annual Parish Meeting, Sunday 23rd April, 6pm, Pavilion**
- **Local Council Elections, Fownhope New Memorial Hall, Thursday 4th May**
- **Coronation Celebrations, Monday 8th May, Recreation Field**

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