



**Matthew
Jenkins**



**Stephen
Brohan**

COMMUNITY SPIRIT DURING CORONAVIRUS

Hello neighbour! Welcome to this electronic version of the Arboretum News.

We are delivering this by email and Facebook to make sure we keep you and our volunteer deliverers safe whilst we are in lockdown. This edition is a bit longer than normal and in colour as we do not have the normal constraints of physical printing – we hope you like it.

'We would like to say a massive thank you to the people in the Arboretum who have become community Covid champions.'

Matthew & Stephen

Northfield Street, Chestnut Street, Lower Chestnut Street, Wolverton Road, Shrubbery Avenue and Shrubbery Road are some of the many areas in which the community spirit has been in full flow, with collections organised for Worcester Foodbank after the clap for carers.

Karen Lewing, who has been helping with the collections, said, "I really want to thank everyone who donated - there was amazing support and people were so generous. Combined with the NHS clap it really brought neighbours together and Worcester Foodbank were very grateful."

It is important to continue to support each other throughout the months ahead. If you need any support or advice, please contact us.

Please tell your neighbours about this newsletter – we won't be able to reach everyone by email or Facebook. A paper version will be coming out soon!

COMMUNITY ACTION

Even as some parts of lockdown are eased, there are many people who still have to self-isolate.

Can you spare a few hours to help the Here2Help scheme? Or do you need help with shopping or picking up prescriptions?

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help>

**HERE 2 HELP
WORCESTERSHIRE**



Karen Lewing with donations from Shrubbery Avenue and Shrubbery Road for the Worcester Foodbank

RESIDENTS' PARKING SCHEME START DATE

We're nearly there! The work to install the signs and paint the lines for the residents' parking scheme is expected to take 3 weeks and begins on 18th September.



That should mean the scheme will be live from 9th October. As we get nearer to this date I will let residents know how to purchase permits.

Sorry it has taken far longer than expected. Please let other people know about the news. I intend to deliver a newsletter as soon as possible letting all residents know.

PUBLIC WATER FOUNTAINS

A drinking water fountain will be installed in Pump Street as part of the public realm works.

The request for water fountains was first put forward by Green Councillor Neil Laurenson in February 2018.

The fountains will help to reduce the use of single-use plastics and will make the city more appealing to residents and visitors.

LITTERING AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Unfortunately there have been a number of instances of anti-social behaviour and littering in various places, such as along the canal and in Lansdowne Park.

Matthew and other councillors are working with the local police and the city council to try and prevent such activity from happening, as well as getting any litter and dog mess cleaned up as soon as possible.

Please report any anti-social behaviour to the police via the 101 telephone number. Littering and other activities can be reported to the city council. You can also contact your councillors who can report any issues on your behalf.

ACTIVE TRAVEL PLANS

As lockdown eases, the government is asking councils to help more people to walk and cycle in safety.

They have said that it will be vital to provide more space for walking and cycling, both to shift capacity from public transport and to enable social distancing – particularly in urban areas.

Worcestershire County Council can receive up to £1.35m to help with supporting active travel. Some examples of how this could be used are:

- Reallocating road space for walking and cycling using cones, safety barriers, or road closures to motor traffic
- Actively routing car traffic away from congested areas
- Encouraging walking and cycling to school, through measures such as school streets

The first funding bid by the county council (for £271k) was criticised as inadequate by walking and cycling groups, by various District councillors and by Councillor Matthew Jenkins. This resulted in the council only receiving half the money: £135,500. The county council also blocked the installation of bike racks opposite the Museum & Art Gallery, as they didn't want to lose any spaces for car parking!

The second funding bid is worth over £1m. Schemes that do not meaningfully alter the status quo on the road will not be funded.

Matthew said: 'More people are cycling now, but many of them will go back to driving when it gets busier. This is an ideal opportunity to help those who want to cycle to carry on doing so.'

'Worcester will become more congested than ever unless we can support those who want to walk and cycle instead of driving.'



An example of poor cycling infrastructure (at Perdiswell Leisure Centre).

PETITION TO IMPROVE SAFETY

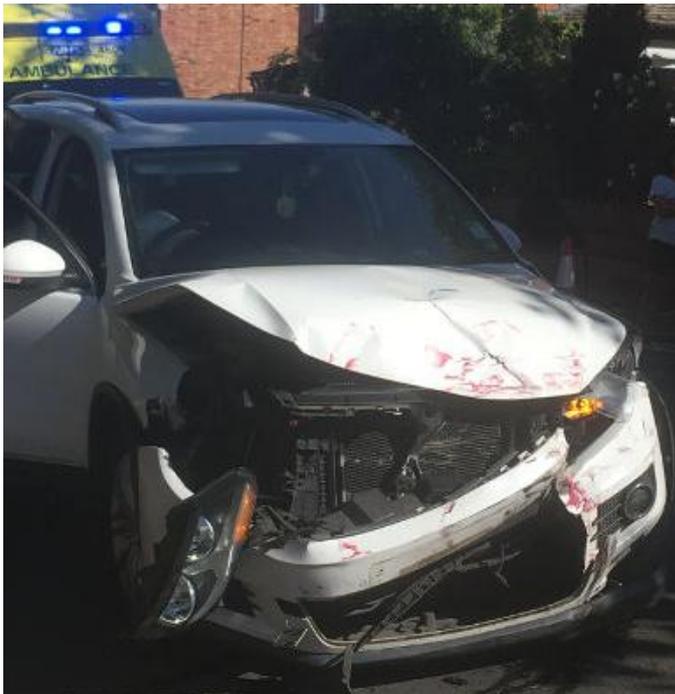
In early June there was a serious collision between two vehicles at the junction of Shrubbery Avenue and Flag Meadow Walk.

Matthew spoke to many local residents about the crash and how best to prevent future crashes. As Matthew and local residents knew, there have been a number of similar accidents at this location.

In 2013 Matthew was able to get better signage and road markings to clearly show that traffic should give way coming from Shrubbery Avenue. The road markings are to be repainted, but many residents wanted more to be done.

Matthew has set up an online petition (<http://chnq.it/yFYQG6NB>) that calls for: **20mph & traffic calming in Flag Meadow Walk and Shrubbery Avenue area to improve safety.**

Please sign and share this petition to put pressure on the county council to improve the safety of this junction and the surrounding roads.



Calls for action after another crash at the junction of Shrubbery Avenue and Flag Meadow Walk

CANAL LITTER PICK ON 25TH JULY

The Worcester Canal Group litter pick is back on Saturday 25th July at 10:30am.

Join Matthew for a socially distanced litter pick. Meet in Lansdowne Park. Litter picking equipment provided, but please wear a mask. If you have your own gloves please use them.

HOUSING FOR OLD SWIMMING POOL SITE

Worcester City Council is searching for a developer to build new homes on the former swimming pool site on Sansome Walk.

Clearing the site of asbestos and then making it safe and ready for development will take some time. The expectation is that the old pool will be demolished by the end of this year. However, they do not expect work to start on new housing until 2022.

We will ensure that local residents are kept informed of developments and have a say in what type of housing will be built.



Former swimming pool site to have housing built in 2022

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

The first phase of the consultation for the draft Environmental Sustainability Strategy is now live.

Green Councillor Neil Laurenson has been heavily involved in the city council's sustainability strategy. Its aim is to make Worcester a carbon neutral city, with energy and transport transformed, by 2030.

You can have your say via an online survey: www.worcester.gov.uk/council/consultations

CAN WE HELP?

If you have a comment or query about our area, we would love to know. Here are the ways you can get in touch:



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MATTHEW & STEPHEN: HERE ALL YEAR, NOT JUST AT ELECTION TIME