

Ledbury North: Councillor Ward Report – September 2024

Signalling of Station Junction

Significant roadworks at the station junction have been proceeding to install a 3-way traffic light control at the junction, a signalised pedestrian crossing and the widening of the road and footpath/cycleway on the Hereford Road. These 'improvements' are part of the planning permission granted by the Secretary of State for the Bloor development of the viaduct site – now named as 'The Arches'.

Residents have expressed concern at: the reduction in grass area, felling of fruit trees, closure of the access from the Town Trail to the station, noise nuisance from generators and night-working, nuisance from arc lights, nuisance from vehicles queuing at the controlled roadworks, obstruction of the access to The Langlands, obstruction of the access to Bradfords Building Supplies, incorrect timing and failure of the temporary signals.

Changes and improvements to the layout of the pavement/cycleway have been agreed with ward members to reduce the number of trees damaged and the area of amenity grass lost to the development. Changes to signals, lighting, night-working and the positioning of controls have also been made. Additional 'KEEP CLEAR' road markings will be being installed to ensure junctions are not obstructed by queuing traffic when the works are completed.

I remain sceptical as to whether the junction will satisfactorily manage the traffic volumes once the development is fully built out.

The works are due to be completed by the end of the first week of October.

Pedestrian/Cycleway access to 'The Arches'

Progress has been made over the summer in installing the pedestrian crossing on the Hereford Road to connect to The Arches development site via the old canal tunnels under the railway embankment at Ballard Close.

Work has also taken place to lay a hard surface on the New Mills side of the road to connect to the pathway network and Town Trail through to the primary school and town centre. Tree works have been necessary and works to improve sight-lines at the crossing point have been necessary. The crossing itself will become operational after the completion of the junction works at the station.

Further Footpath/Cycleway improvements

Additional works to widen the bridge crossing of Orchard Lane by the Primary School and to provide a zebra crossing on Bridge Street at the Town Trail crossing point are planned.

Flooding

Heavy rainfall events have caused several flash flooding events around the town and surrounding roads/lanes. Areas at the bottom of Lower Road, Little Marcle Road, Dymock Road, Bridge Street, Worcester Road, High Street, Bromyard and Hereford Roads and The Common in Wellington Heath have all been affected.

Many drains and gullies have become blocked as the result of debris being washed into them. Councillors are asked to encourage members of the public to report blocked drains using the 'Report It' function on the Herefordshire Council website, so that these can be cleared before further heavy rainfall occurs.

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-problem>

TRO Consultations

Following public consultation I have received confirmation that the Residents Parking Zones requested for Queens Court and Belle Orchard will be going ahead.

Councillor Liz Harvey

IOC & Independents for Herefordshire – Ledbury North Ward Member – 4 June 2024

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