

Weobley Ward  
2018 March / April Report

Hereford poppies

Planning for the arrival of the poppy display in the next month or so is well underway. Local companies have been very generous with their sponsorship. Posters will soon be going up in the city and the council is pleased with the involvement of the town councils from across the county, most especially Ledbury and Leominster, who have both been very generous. There will be opportunities to volunteers nearer the time. Please let me know if you are interested.

Hereford University (New Model in Technology & Engineering (NMiTE))

On 22nd January the new university ran a very well attended briefing to Ward Councillors. Other than individual exam and career success it is still envisaged that the enterprise will bring in some £120M by 2022. This will be from some 1,000 additional young students living in and around the county.

From the long term economic perspective, the Council is anticipating that between 10-30% of graduates from the university will choose to live locally once they have graduated. This will further boosting the economy and helping to reduce the age of the average county resident!

Infrastructure, Hereford Transport Plan

Hereford transport plan consultation continues. This opened on the 5<sup>th</sup> February and will conclude on the 20<sup>th</sup> March. Display pods opened in the Old Market and this attracted some 1,000 people to meet the team.

As part of this consultation meetings have been held directly with home owners, along Kings Acre road and Roman Road, to explain the consultation process and the impact the bypass scheme will have on them and local businesses.

As you would expect responses vary considerably depending on how individuals may be impacted. These have ranged from those that just want to see the bypass built to those that will be directly affected and simply do not it anywhere near them.

Responses to the consultation will be summarised and analysed at the end of the process. This will propagate a preferred route by June/July.

This preferred route, once adopted, will set the Council on a course to planning, design, full business case, funding and delivery.

The western bypass will be approx. 8 kilometres in length long with two junctions where it crosses Kings Acre Road and Roman Road. At these junctions there maybe traffic lights or roundabouts. The road will be a dual-carriageway.

This completes my report.

Kind regards

Regards

Cllr Mark Cooper