I hope you had a lovely Christmas, and I wish you and all your family a VERY HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

**New Railway timetable from 15th December 2019 – Cotswolds Line**
The new railway timetable for GWR North Cotswolds Line went live on 15th December, offering faster journey times, and more frequent services to Honeybourne. For more details see [www.gwr.com](http://www.gwr.com)

It is the biggest timetable change on the network since 1976. Lord Richard Faulkner, Chair of the North Cotswolds Line Taskforce said:

“We expect more people to travel by rail with the new improved timetable and numbers will increase further with the opening of the new Worcestershire Parkway station. We will continue to press for more doubling of the line so that in time we can achieve our plans for two trains an hour between Worcestershire and London.”

GWR now offers a fast service between Honeybourne to London Paddington, averaging 1 hour 42 minutes with reduce journey times to 1 hour 31 minutes at peak services. Worcester to London is down to 2 hours at peak times.

**Wychavon car parks have gone RingGo!**

When parking in a Wychavon District Council car parking – such as in Evesham, Broadway or Pershore, do you ever find you don’t have enough cash? Well no problem as you can no use RingGo to pay. RingGo is a quick, easy to use mobile phone service, which you can use to pay for your parking. When you park your car in an area featuring the RingGo service, contact RingGo by smartphone app, phone, SMS or online. Then simply book and pay for your parking session by phone. Download the RingGo app onto your phone, or go to [https://www.myringgo.co.uk/](http://https://www.myringgo.co.uk/)

**Highways:**

To keep up to date on the roads affected see [http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20602/roadworks_in_worcestershire](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20602/roadworks_in_worcestershire)
Or look at the national roadworks website below, and type in Cleeve Prior in the top right box to search.
www.roadworks.org

1. Leylandii hedge on the left hand side as you travel towards Cleeve Prior centre along the B4085 just past the Gypsy site entrance needs cutting – WCC will cut them and charge house owner.

2. Pavements – Offenham Rd towards Evesham over the A46 – need sidings out.

3. Warning Deer signs Offenham Rd past the Fish & Anchor on the hill – Requested

4. Deep ditches on side of Offenham Rd past the Fish & Anchor up the hill - filled

5. Blocked Culvert under Quarry Lane, Cleeve Prior - PROW 553 & 555 Cleeve Prior – Parish Council used Mark to improve drainage by laying extra pipe.

6. Flooding Review – I have asked Matt Maginnis – manager of flood alleviation at WCC to visit my Division and to look at improvements to drainage to alleviate flooding. Waiting date.

7. Lengthsman – I am trying to get some training organised to recruit new lengthsman.

As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it

Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

**Message from the Police - Significant reductions in house burglaries**

The number of houses being burgled has dropped significantly over the past year, BUT still be vigilant!

Comparing the month of November 2018 with November 2019, there was a 42% decrease in house burglaries with 98 fewer households having property stolen from them.

Detective Inspector Nailor welcomed the news, saying: ”We know the impacts burglary can have on our local communities, and we’re really happy to see we’ve had a reduction in these offences. However, every burglary is one too many and our work is ongoing to try and bring these numbers down even further. “

”Working with our local communities to tackle crime is paramount and we continue to urge people to come forward and report any concerns they have to us, whether it is suspicious activity or something out of the ordinary, if they report it we can take action.

”The information we receive from local residents helps us build a picture of what is happening in our local communities and allows us to take action to prevent further crime.”

To report concerns to police contact 101 or alternatively information can be passed to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Over the Christmas period, officers will be doing regular patrols but we are also reminding communities of key security advice to help keep homes safe:

• A well-lit home gives the impression someone is in - use timer switches to turn lights on when you are out.
• Lock windows and doors and keep gates and side entrances well secured.

• Keep cars locked and remove any valuable items from display.

• Don't leave car keys or valuables near windows, doors or letterboxes, where burglars can reach through to steal them.

• Lock your garden gates and side entrances. Don't leave tools lying around in the garden that could be used to break in to your home.

• Invest in external lighting.

**County Council Divisional Fund**

Divisional grants deadline is looming, so any community organisation that needs a little support to buy equipment or some essential service can apply by contacting me. Grant requests received in last 6 weeks are

1. Freedom Day Centre, Badsey – grant requested for new kitchen - Paid
2. Pebworth in Bloom – grant requested for more fruit trees- Paid
3. Evesham Walking Festival – grant requested for 2020 event
4. Blackminster School – grant for Poetry Day- Paid
5. Offenham British Legion – Grant for Skittles Alley and Hall
6. Grant request from Offenham Village Hall for a grant to refurbish the wooden floor.
7. Cleeve prior Heritage trust - Grant requested for new equipment log splitter and a multi tool
8. Cleeve Prior Cricket Club – grant request for equipment

*Your County Councillor, Alastair Adams can be contacted on adams.pebworth@gmail.com or mobile 07725 979 277 or www.alastairadams.org*