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to help the city thrive?

Autumn 2018

Inspiration Study for Holme Lacy Road

From our consultants Witteveen + Bos UK

Planning Matters

Despair with Planners

Amazing Places

Lower Bullingham

Hereford Now

Trevenant Court

A Master Plan for Hereford

Nearly everybody thinks we should have one, we've had ideas from Hereford BID, the LEP and others, and inspirations from HCS; but there is no Council driven move to create one.

Our enclosed Supplement inspires you to consider the future shape of our City, we'll publish your thoughts, January 2019, and get our politicians to comment at our Hustings meeting in April 2019, prior to the May local elections. (Details back page)

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PREFACE

We publish today, at our AGM, when we report on another successful year. Our work has included commenting upon planning applications, nine evening meetings, a study trip to South Wales (see back page) and our Annual Lecture at the University Centre in Folly Lane, entitled **Upcycling Cycling**. Industry experts, our Highways, Minister Jesse Norman, and Council officers discussed how we can improve movement within towns in safe and better ways. Coming out of this meeting we developed the

Declaration of 17th of May 2018 (PLACE Summer 2018) being our view of what is needed to turn Hereford into a 21st century City.

In June we commissioned, at our cost, professional consultants Witteveen+Bos UK, urban planners from the Netherlands, to consider the design of Phase 2 for Holme Lacy Road improvements. Convinced that our criticism of the work of Balfour Beatty Living Places is valid this report is summarised on pages 4 and 5. This inspirational report shows how we

can create a much better environment for all to enjoy and use; turning this currently unpleasant route into one that will inspire walking and cycling as an alternative to the car.

Our enclosed Autumn supplement highlights the urgent need for a master plan for the City. Here we highlight what we think might be needed and ask you for your input. Together we can create a great City and we'll be asking our local councillor candidates, for next May's local elections, what they intend to do at a major event on 11th April 2019 at

the University Centre. We are hosting this public meeting to debate and challenge all political parties to include in their election manifestos their visions and proposals for "Hereford" for the remainder of the 21st century.

Please take time to study and respond to our request for your comments. We'll feed these back through this publication, and on our website, in January 2019, and stimulate all to create the vision for Hereford that we so desperately need.

John Bothamley - Editor

NEWS & COMMENT

Sites for NMiTE

It is great news that decisions have, at last, been taken on which Council buildings are to be used as the starter buildings for the new university. With their offices already based in St. Peter's Square on the corner of Offa Street, plans are about to be submitted for the refurbishment of the former employment office in Bath Street (See page 7) for learning areas. Former Robert Owen's School in Blackfriars Street is the third facility but with the container like extension (formally from the 2012 Olympic Park) demolished; hardly an eco-friendly approach? In Rotherwas the former Shell Store is to provide more room together with facilities for start-ups. With students already started last month Hereford is now a university City.



Pontevedra

In August the Guardian reported – "People don't shout here – or they shout less. With all but the most essential traffic banished, there are no revving engines or honking horns, no metallic snarl of motorbikes or the roar of people trying to make themselves heard above the din – none of the usual soundtrack of a Spanish city. What you hear in the street instead are the tweeting of birds in the camellias, the tinkle of coffee spoons and the sound of human voices. Teachers herd crocodiles of small children across town without the constant fear that one of them will stray into traffic".

"How can it be that private property – the car – occupies the public space? How can it be that the elderly or children aren't able to use the street because of cars?" asks César Mosquera, the city's head of infrastructures. Miguel Anxo Fernández Lores has been mayor of the Galician city since 1999. His philosophy is simple: owning a car doesn't give you the right to occupy the public space.

Parking Policy

Cllr. Durkin recently said "The council has actively listened to feedback from two rounds of consultation, and used the responses to develop the best possible means of ensuring amenable parking for local residents. These changes are in line with the principles of our Local Transport Plan, and will ensure residents can park within a reasonable distance of their home and discourage parking congestion in residential streets from commuters and visitors." HCS thinks Barry Durkin should holiday in Pontevedra.

Brian Deegan

Following his impassioned presentation at our Upcycling Cycling event, where he illustrated innovative highway designs being delivered in London, we are pleased to hear he has been commissioned by Balfour Beatty Living Places to undertake a peer review of their work on the cycle contra flow in St. Owen's Street. What we don't appreciate is that this is yet further consultancy costs on a project that has been consulted upon so many times (See PLACE Winter 2017/18). When are we going to see work commence?



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Contributors

John Bothamley – Chairman HCS, property developer and chair of charitable grant making trust

John Faulkner – Chartered Civil Engineer, former chairman HCS

David Fowler – Financial Executive

Freda Known – Communications executive

Jeremy Milln – Archaeological conservation consultant

Stanley Vincent – Planning visionary

David Whitehead – Hereford historian and author

Design & Layout - Gary Nozedar

Front Cover

Witteveen and Bos Inspiration Study

NEWS & COMMENT

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The well established overarching planning policy established in March 2012 has been revised. Running to over 70 pages it continues to highlight sustainable development with three objectives. Economic - involving a supply of land to support growth, social including cultural well-being and environmental.

HCS is pleased to see "effective enforcement is important to maintain public confidence in the planning system". Mixed use development is encouraged "including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other". i.e. no to gated estates, a long established view of HCS.

Creative Cities Network

The Great Places Programme, from the Arts and Heritage Lottery Fund, supports Hereford's a Great Place run by Lauren Rogers. At a meeting in September, attended by over 30 of the County's creatives, it was proposed, by Price and Pearce (consultants) that Hereford could apply to be a UNESCO Creative City. With a network of 180 cities in over 70 countries this could potentially "put us on the map". The rules are tight and it is necessary to decide which principal theme to adopt with a choice of design, media/arts, film, music, literature or gastronomy. There was initial enthusiasm to be the city of gastronomy which can embrace our agriculture, our food and drink manufacture and diverse range of eateries. One or two people will be needed to work on the bid for six months, but there was no reference to cost. What is odd is that member cities range from huge conurbations to small towns, such as Obidos in Portugal, much smaller than Hereford.

However wide the gastronomy label stretches it hardly covers our present lively creative organisations such as

H-art and Borderlines etc etc.; and forgets our creative STEM subjects from our new university, and our established reputation with the SAS and security?

Building Communities

An All Party Parliamentary Group on Building Communities has been formed and aims to progress political discussions on good design and place-making and how they could help to solve the housing crisis.

In June, Bob Blackman MP (Conservative) was voted chair, Liz Twist MP (Labour) and Stephen Hammond MP (Conservative) vice-chairs, and Mark Prisk MP (Conservative) as group secretary. The cross-party group of MPs and peers will meet in the autumn for its first session.

Blackman said: "We need to find new ideas to tackle the housing crisis and build the homes the country needs. I firmly believe that only a holistic approach which marries community engagement, place-making and strategic infrastructure spending will enable this." Wow - more great words - but we need action and will be asking our council candidates for the May 2109 election what they intend to do, what is their vision?

Green Dragon

What great news that this old, well known coaching inn is to be restored and revitalised. Amongst the retail gloom this is a positive story and this upgrading of a hotel, with many memories for Herefordians, is fantastic news.

Shell Store Refurb.

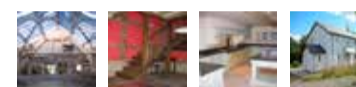
Work is to begin on a £7.3m redevelopment of Hereford's Shell Store in January 2019, transforming the historic building into a flagship business incubation and innovation centre. The redevelopment of the derelict building, which is not a listed building, was built in the First World War and used again as an ordnance site during the



shell store interior

Second World War. The project will see commercial space created within the existing building footprint, retaining much of the original factory including its steel roof structure. There will be more than 6,000 sq. feet of employment space, with room for new and growing businesses to set up and expand alongside facilities for development and innovation, earmarked for the new NMiTE University. Funding is via the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) £2m., Herefordshire Council c£3m and a loan from the Marches LEP's Investment Fund £2.5m.

This is tremendous news for those keen to retain the building and see it transformed into a positive forward looking space for start-ups. HCS pleads for a pragmatic solution to the retention of the amazing long spans of the roof beams. Current standards are likely to condemn retention but creative insertion of discreet supports could maintain the impressive space; consultants are likely to have a field day.



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HEREFORD NOW

Trevenant Court, Newton Farm

Trying to link some connection to the locale in new buildings is not an easy matter and here Herefordshire Housing have really only built some creditable but pretty standard block of flats. What is inexcusable is the complete lack of attention to the large carparking area to the rear. No relief from hard

services and not a tree to be found. This critic's preference is for field maple, easy to establish and requiring little maintenance. If there is a tenant who doesn't use their car space why not dig it up and plant one? HCS will provide the tree!



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INSPIRATION STUDY

HCS committee, members, many Herefordians and visitors have been concerned by the appalling design of the new City Link Road. Nobody has a good word to say about it; we are advised it was designed by using out of date software. It presents a most disagreeable gateway to the

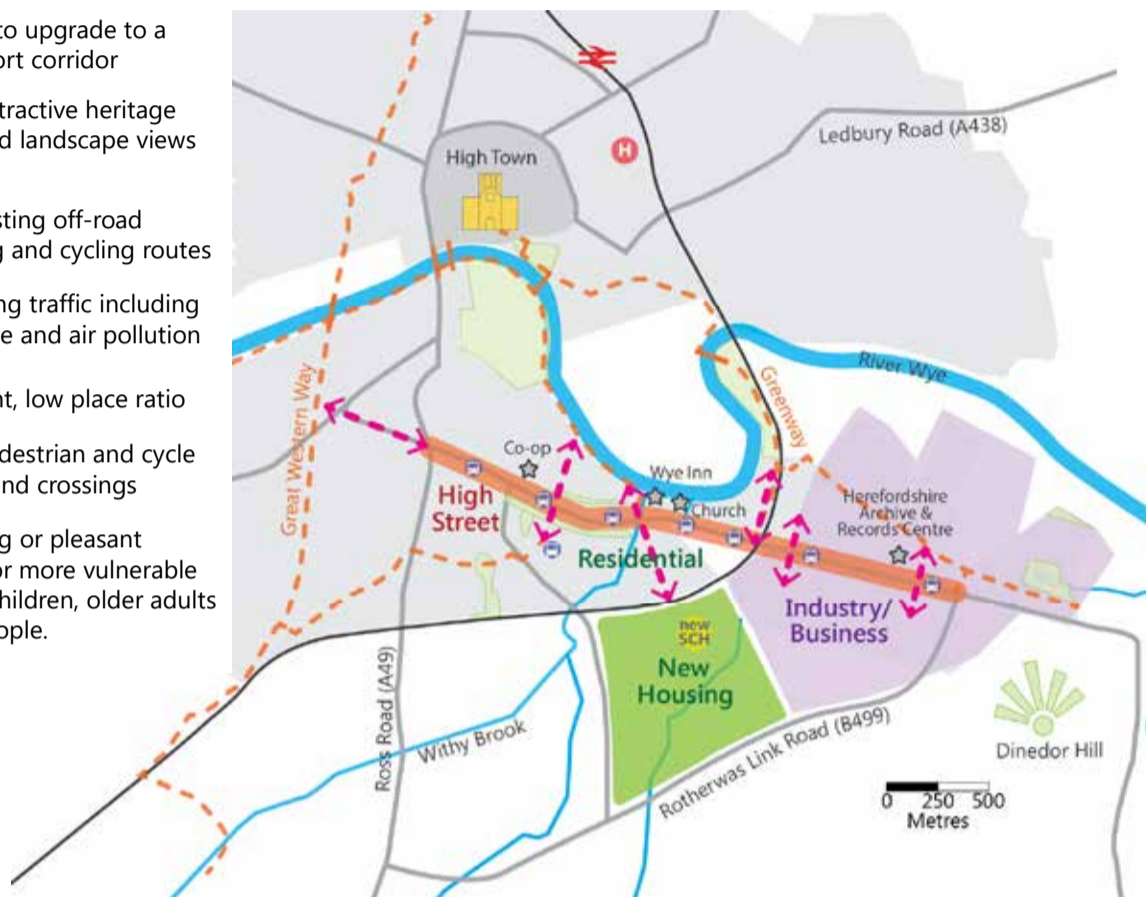
City of Hereford. The design work was undertaken by Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) who also designed the so called improvements to the west end of Holme Lacy Road. Our approaches to Herefordshire Council resulted in indifference from the Director for Corporate Services

(Page 8 PLACE Summer 2017) and the apparent absence of a process for querying design competence. These two examples prompted us to take some professional advice from Witteveen and Bos UK. Consultants don't like criticising each others' work and we decided that a better

approach would be to ask for an Inspiration Study to encourage officers and local politicians to consider a different approach to highway design.

Holme Lacy – Straight Mile East West Corridor (3 km / 2 miles)

- + Opportunities to upgrade to a healthy transport corridor
- + Potential for attractive heritage architecture and landscape views along route
- + Links up to existing off-road circular walking and cycling routes
- Busy fast moving traffic including HGVs with noise and air pollution
- High movement, low place ratio
- Lack of safe pedestrian and cycle infrastructure and crossings
- Not an enabling or pleasant environment for more vulnerable users such as children, older adults or Disabled people.



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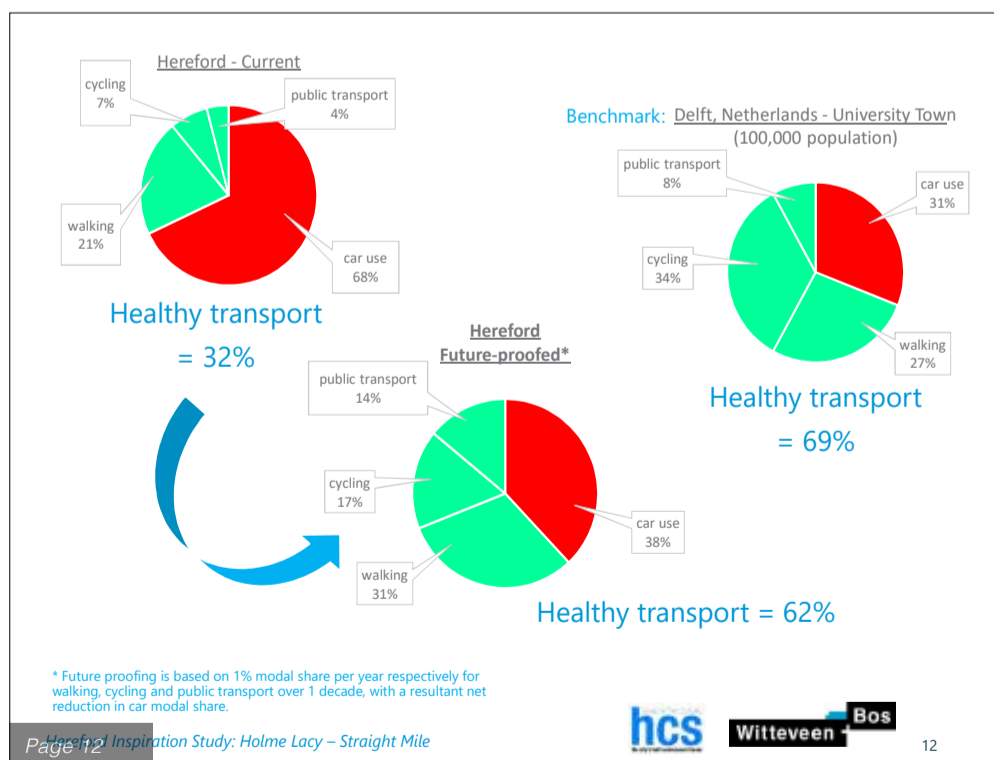
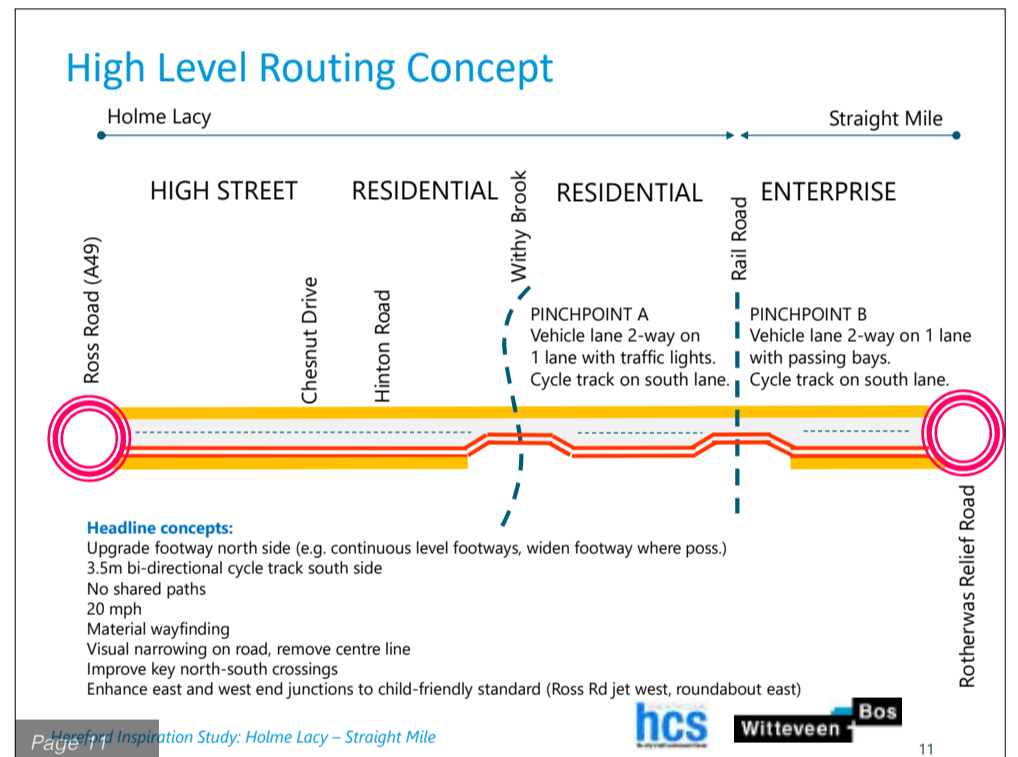
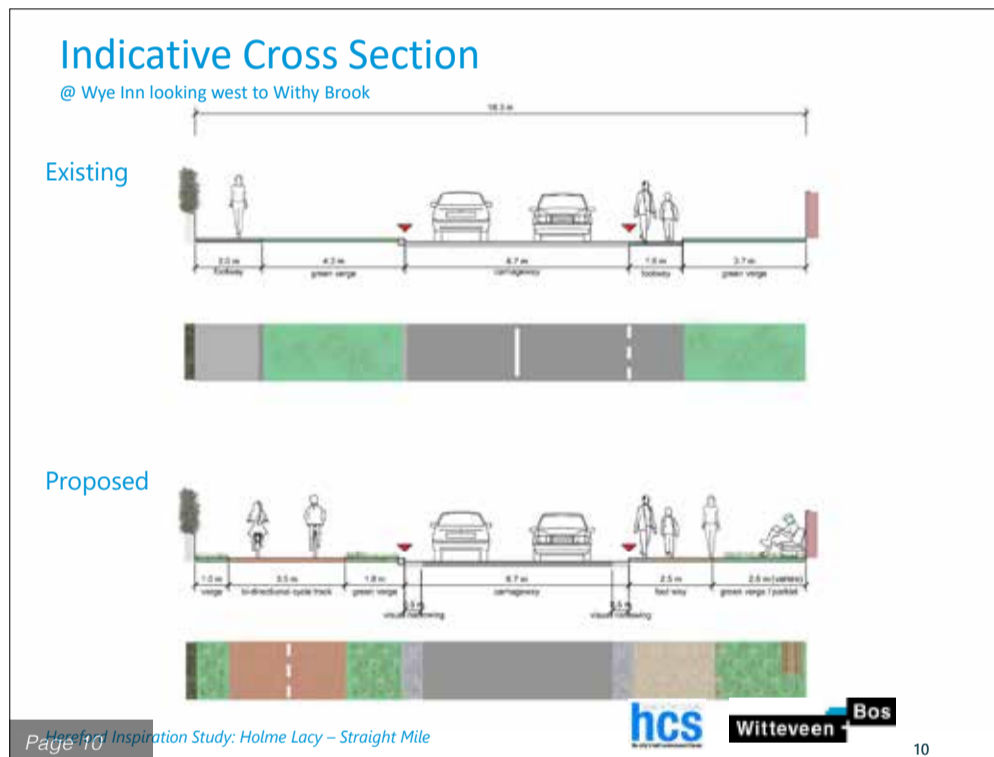
INSPIRATION STUDY (2)

We chose the Holme Lacy Road, near the Co-op store, through to the Straight Mile for our retained consultants to come up with an

enlightened approach. Throughout this process we have worked with the Council's officers and BBLP in a most cooperative and positive way. BBLP

is due to undertake consultation later in the year and have agreed that this report will be part of that work. Here are extracts from the report, which we

suggest could be an inspiration for the whole of our road network. Please let us have your views – as always we are keen to promote discussion.



High Level Capacity by Mode Comparisons

Current	Future-proofed	Growth Scenario	Future-proofed +++	
Total trips	14,706	Total trips	24,706	
Mode	Share	Trips	Share	Trips
car use	68%	10,000	38%	5,588
walking	21%	3,088	31%	4,559
cycling	7%	1,029	17%	2,500
public transport	4%	588	14%	2,059
Total	100%	14,706	100%	14,706
Healthy transport	32%	4,706	62%	9,118

Scenario Assumptions
 Modal share derived from Census 2011 data for Herefordshire urban areas, excluding unemployed and working from home (39,580). Total trips calculated from known number of vehicles per day (10,000/0.68=14,706). There are inconsistencies, for example derived 1029 cycling trips is higher than rates surveyed (500 cycling trips at peak). Modal trends may have changed since 2011. Future-proofed scenario allows for 1% modal share increase per year respectively for walking, cycling and public transport over 1 decade, with a resultant net reduction in car modal share. This is an interpretation of modal increases achieved elsewhere, and related to the international benchmark of Delft that such levels are achievable.

Scenario Assumptions
 1000 new homes expected to be built in Lower Bullingham area, with in addition increases in enterprise zone occupancy. As such, 10,000 is an initial broad estimate of potential trip increases, added to the existing total estimated current 14,706 trips.

Page 13

Comment

Well at last Hereford seems to be getting some good advice. This inspiration study is surely more than that – looks like a scheme that should go forward for detailed consideration. However I have one strong objection being the use of traffic lights; whilst understanding the possibly inevitable use for the one-way stretch under the railway line, we don't need a second set at Withy Brook. Surely the "bridge" can be widened just a little without too much expense. Two sets of lights is too much.

SV

You will also notice that this report follows the aspirations of our HCS Declaration of 17th May 2018 (PLACE Summer 2018) and on our web site, turning Hereford into a truly super place to live and work.

The full 16 page report is available on our web site at www.herefordcivicsociety.org.uk

Please respond and contribute your views to us – details below - to the Hereford Times, to your local councillor, to BBLP – let us together inspire a new approach to highway design.

David Fowler - david693fowler@btinternet.com – 01981 541058

John Bothamley - john@johnbothamley.co.uk - 01981 580002

AMAZING PLACES OF HEREFORD

Lower Bullingham

The editor suggested that I write about Lower Bullingham – a once discrete place between Hereford and Rotherwas but now lost beneath suburban development. In 1970, when I came to Hereford, it was dominated by religious institutions, albeit the parish church was some distance away at Bullinghope. Originally, both settlements were known as Bullinghope – hence the lower and upper. However, sometime in the 19th century the lower of the two adopted the common ending ‘ham’. Bulla is an early personal name – presumably a local landowner - and hop is a common name in the Welsh Border for a valley, most likely referring to the inconspicuous valley cut by the Withy Brook, which rises just below Haywood Lodge and issues into the Wye below the Wye Hotel.

In the Domesday Book (1086) Bullinghope is in the hands of three landowners and was a populous place with eleven villeins (prosperous farmers); eight smallholders and nine slaves. Slaves were common on the Welsh Border but fairly rare elsewhere in England. Slavery had also been abolished in Normandy. Before the Conquest part of Bullinghope provided an income for the sheriff, Alnoth, but afterwards it was absorbed by Roger de Lacy who owned most of Herefordshire immediately to the west of Hereford. He also held some woodland here, which had been transferred by the Conqueror to the new royal forest of Hay. Roger shared Bullinghope with Ansfrid de Cormeilles and Gilbert son of Tuold. Ansfrid came from the Norman town where the earl of Hereford, William fitz Osbern had founded a monastery, and where, in 1071 he was buried. Gilbert had a long lasting impact upon Lower Bullingham since he attached it to Rotherwas, which he also held. This connection in land ownership lasted until the First World War.

Lower Bullingham's large medieval population was marked until recently by

the earthworks found in the orchards surrounding the Convent of the Poor Clares and the Manor Farm. These were probably the house platforms of the shrunken medieval village. They, and the convent, were levelled for modern housing. Today there is only one timber framed house in the hamlet, although the low-profiled and rendered Manor Farm (Manor Guest House) looks as if it hides an interesting interior. Apart from any other feature it is constructed with early brick of c.1700, probably built by the Bodenhams of Rotherwas, who were quick off the mark in the use of brick for their own mansion in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. Also from the same source is the late 17th century brick Manor House, found in the complex of buildings, behind a high wall on the north side of the main road, which until recently belonged to the Marian Fathers. It has two brick pediments on its main range. There are several other brick buildings, which share classical features modelled in brick, including a number of barns with multiple horizontal relieving arches in brick.

It was the last of the Bodenhams,

Charles de la Barre and his Polish wife Irena, who turned Lower Bullingham into a Catholic village. It is a remarkable story of charity and patronage. The couple had no children, so in 1860 they established an orphanage, run by the Sisters of St Vincent de Paul, within the grounds of the Manor House. In 1876 there were sixty-one children boarding here, and another eighty day students. This included Protestant children, who were all taught without any charge. The school is now painted a glaring white to cover-up the bad workmanship when it was converted for residential use. The children shared the site with the first Catholic Bishop of Wales, Thomas Brown (1798-1888), who lived and died at the Manor House, awaiting his palace to be built at Belmont. Following her husband's death in 1883, Irena invited the Poor Clares to Lower Bullingham and a purpose

built convent was built in 1886 across the road from the orphanage. It was designed by the architect of the City Library, F.R. Kempson. It survived until c.1995 when the nuns moved to Much Birch. Irena's next project was to build St Charles's Home (she canonised her husband!) in 1887 as a retirement home for the servants of Rotherwas House. A splendid building by the youngest Pugin, built as if it was intended as the officers' mess of a remote fort on the Khyber Pass. It was saved in the 1980s from demolition by the former Hereford Civic Trust, which secured its listing. Irena died in 1892 but her cousin and heir, Count Bodenham Lubinski provided the Sisters of St Vincent de Paul at the orphanage with a chapel, which continued to be enriched with furnishings and stained glass until 1984. Is it all still there? David Whitehead



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Allies and Morrison (A&M)

On 20th September A&M held a sort of launch party for their work on the creation of Hereford's Special Planning Document (SPD). The inevitable power point showed lots of examples of major projects in which they are involved but few that have an immediate relevance to Hereford. Unfortunately the PP diagrams are not clear when downloaded so it is difficult to know the precise steps for their proposed work. However they did explain that a draft report, of sorts, will be delivered at the end of the year, with a final document by April; likely to be delayed because of the local elections. The four staff spent an hour trying to understand the comments given by members of the HAP Steering Group as their knowledge of Hereford was scant. What a pity that this work could not have been overseen by one of our employed planners, who has a full knowledge of our history, together with outside input from experts, including HCS of course.

New GP Centre

NHS England recently published its Ten Healthy New Town Principles: Putting Health into Place. These are intended

to demonstrate how to create new places that offer healthier choices e.g. by providing safe walking routes and attractive green spaces. After all it is NHS's interest as well as our own to address social isolation and car-borne obesity.

So you would think that with its proposed new combined medical centre in Hereford (application 181583), adjacent to the station, it would want to set a good example; far from it. Instead it is to press ahead with a plan for another 1980s style steel, glass and curtain wall behemoth on the site of what was intended for the Transport Hub (bus and coach station) by the new City Link Road. Isolated from any community and surrounded by tarmac, it is an unlovely temple to the private car.

Our detailed 2500 word advice given in May on matters of site location, design, setting, context, access, site planning, health and well-being was strongly supported by enlightened councillors but brushed aside by the ruling group. Objections from Historic England were also ignored. Don't say we didn't try.

Jeremy Milln

Heritage Open Day

This September there was another interesting weekend across the country that enables many of us to see inside buildings not usually open to the public. Although both Herefordshire Council and our Society have tried to find willing property owners over the recent years, we have not been successful in persuading many property owners to share their "interiors". Anybody with an interesting or quirky property we would love you to share it with us for an afternoon or two next September- any offers?

PLANNING MATTERS

183042: Land rear of 56 Eign Road

HCS continues to work proactively considering planning applications; here is an example, of a well thought through suggestion to improve an application that has several serious flaws and could be so much better if our advice is taken.

We see the proposal is to demolish a pair of modern carports and replace them by a two bedroom two storey house on the same footprint. The carports do not contribute positively to the cohesiveness of the street scene and on the face of it their replacement may be welcomed.

We have concerns that all of this part of Harold Street could succumb to piecemeal redevelopment without taking the opportunity to plan a more cohesive street scene. There has been a long standing desire in the community for a footpath along this side of the road. Fifteen years ago the Community Association lobbied hard with the Council to put one in, given the number of people that walk this road to reach Rainbows Nursery and now the Greenway. The scheme should make clear provision for that to happen at some point.

Domestic redevelopment of the Harold Street-facing service areas to the Eign Road houses has already begun and there seems no reason why there should not be windfall houses here,

provided well-designed. However the sites are individually fairly small and it would be better therefore to treat them together rather than individually, so as to ensure they may be collaboratively serviced or that they do not impinge upon each other's amenity.

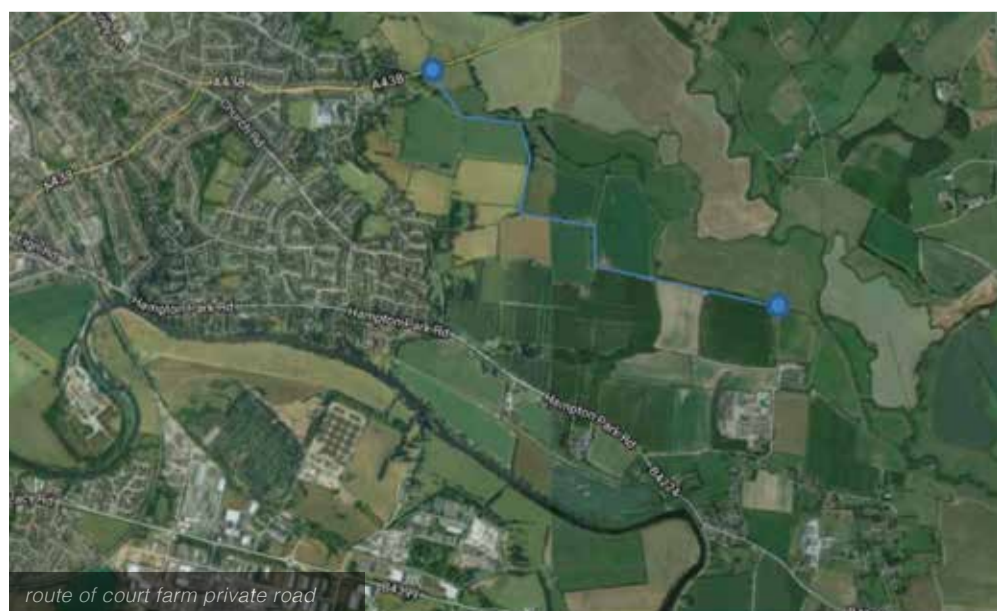
The application design is inoffensive but the site is really too small for a detached dwelling - one of a terrace would be appropriate. Because it is so small the architect has not been able to provide adequate natural light, with windows only to one main elevation and one side, less even than for a mid-terrace house. That it is built up to three sides of the boundary creates all sorts of issues for foundations, gutters, maintenance and legal access. The windows on the western side will not comply with Part B Building Regulations (spread of flame) and without the window to the bedroom it cannot be used, and that bedroom window will look directly onto private gardens.

The applicant is encouraged, therefore, to extend the plot at the rear, sufficient to allow his house a back door, yard and access to natural light on this side. He is also encouraged to work with the Council to allow for improvements in pedestrian and cycle access on this side of Harold Street and to consider how adjacent plots might be redeveloped in future to tie with his own. Extracts from letter (24/9/18) to Planning Dept. by Jeremy Milnn HCS

the same location as an eastern relief road would connect to a new eastern crossing of the Wye. Why has there been no outcry? Where is the joined up thinking? Why is the digester in such a location? Nobody is overseeing the development of this City and it's environs. This is surely a disgraceful lack of oversight.



court farm roadworks



route of court farm private road

NMiTE proposals

Before submitting a detailed planning application NMiTE has obtained consent to use the former council offices in Bath Street as educational facilities. The model displayed to the public, which may or may not be the basis of the application, has received mixed reactions. One Councillor suggested it looked as though there was a stockade to be erected around the existing building, "Like an African village, presumably to protect the students from marauding Herefordians or to keep them tied to their desks?"



model of stockade

Shrewsbury Big Town Plan

Shrewsbury Business Improvement District, Shropshire County Council and Shrewsbury Town Council have recently published their "Big Town Plan" for the future of Shrewsbury over the next 20 years. It is the result of a major cooperative effort between individuals and organisations, decision makers, business leaders, Council officers and local experts.

It is in two main parts, Vision and Framework. The 'Big Town Vision' sets out how Shrewsbury could develop over

the next 20 years providing balanced growth in a way that is centred on people and place. It includes much reduced traffic in the centre, priority for cyclists and pedestrians, more traffic free zones, car parks moved to the edge of the central zone, improved green spaces and routes and the need for design standards. All future development would be tested against the vision and will have to pass what is termed "the Shrewsbury Test".

The production of the Plan involved defining what people understood by "Shrewsbury" and the challenges the town faced. Priorities were developed in relation to movement and traffic, business development and enterprise, key public areas and improved open spaces and walkways.

This then led to a Framework Plan which sets out the actual works needed to realise the vision by easing movement, balancing growth and producing the communication network and environmental improvements required together with the design quality that should be met. Specific priority projects are defined and detailed.

The complete document is well worth reading to show what can be done if a community puts its ideas together. See www.shrewsburybid.co.uk or read on our web site. In the absence of any sign of any such proposals from the Council the Civic Society is inspiring us all, including our politicians, to get designing, get thinking about the sort of City you want Hereford to become.

John Faulkner

P180927/XA2

A new road, in Hampton Bishop, is being constructed apparently without planning consent as the conditions applied on the consent have not been discharged. What is remarkable is that this private road, for the sole use of lorries accessing a bio-digester, runs for over a mile and a half in much



Steven Thomas of Watkins Thomas

Steven Thomas first joined the company in 1987, and became Director of Watkins Thomas Ltd in 2012. Born in Hereford in 1964, Steve graduated with a BSc. in Estate Management in 1986; is a Fellow of the National Association of Estate Agents (FNAEA) and a Member of the Association of Residential Letting Agents (MARLA).

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Our 'black and white' office is situated just beyond Hereford Cathedral on the left hand side of King Street. Whether you are seller or a buyer, a landlord or a tenant, we are happy to offer advice so why not drop in for a chat? Our experienced staff will be pleased to advise you on sales and rental related matters. Alternatively we can visit and provide a market appraisal of your property, with a view to either selling or letting; our initial visit is without charge or obligation. So if you are thinking of making a move in 2018 contact us now - we look forward to hearing from you.

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01432 272280

MEETINGS

20th September 2018

Hereford Museums

Judy Stevenson (Museum Team Leader) and Jane Adams (Secretary of Hereford Museum Service Support Group - HMSSG) spoke about the work of the Museums, their present problems and their future.

There are three museum buildings; the Library and Museum building in Broad Street, at the Old House in High Town and at the Resource Centre and Store in Friar Street. The limited space at Broad Street houses both permanent and temporary exhibitions of Herefordshire's archaeology, history, and items of art and other artefacts from the extensive collection at Friar Street. The Old House has recently been revamped as a tourist attraction (and rebranded as the Black and White House!) and there is now an admission charge and shop which is successfully raising income for the museums. Friar Street is the centre for conservation, storage, research and work with universities and schools. The museums, not being a statutory service, have suffered from severe financial cuts and now operate with only 4.5 full time equivalent staff and around 25 volunteers from the Support Group. The future is uncertain. The service and HMSSG have been involved in a recent review of possible future organisation with consultants, who recommended setting up some form of trust, but all is still unclear until the Council completes its present outsourcing studies. This very interesting presentation with a lively discussion demonstrated clearly how the museums are, and in the future, must continue to carry out and maintain a vital role.

YOUR OPINIONS



Public Art

Whilst it is great to see the statue to Lance Corporal Allan Leonard Lewis VC installed in the Old Market we must remember there is always a place for bold symbols to create a focus in public places. Our Hereford Bull remains a favoured place to linger near and perhaps we should be wondering what to consider next? Our picture shows the latest Heatherwick creation nearing completion in New York; it's a folly but one that boldly creates a sense of place within some rather tedious and over blown sky scrapers. He has admitted that it was his eccentric father Hugh, a lapsed HCS member, that was his greatest inspiration; come back Hugh, Hereford needs you.

Tony Hull

writes extensively about a master plan for the City including:-

- a system of 'free' bikes and bike parks for people to use around the City
- tree lined cycle paths out to the urban estates and beyond to the countryside
- red routes around all schools combined with compulsory walking and cycling for all school kids
- a system of school buses to bring country dwelling kids to "cycle park & rides" based in towns (central or periphery) for them to then use to get to school

Cllr. Tony Johnson

Speaking during the planning meeting considering the proposed GP hub the former leader of our Conservative Council said "It may not be the most attractive building in the world but then **people don't come to Hereford because it's the most attractive either**". That says a lot about our current administration – look how they have demonstrated a completely uncouth approach to our City with the City Link Road.

Local Plan (LP) Review

Time to be thinking about this work which is due to happen next year. The Core Strategy of the LP is the document that sets out our policies for the years ahead. Remember the public hearing in front of a Planning Inspector in 2015 at Hedley Lodge, Belmont Abbey. With a horseshoe layout on one side there were representatives from Herefordshire Council, some of our politicians and local people concerned about our future. On the other side developers and their consultants, two deep, pressing for policies to suit their businesses. This review, whenever it is convened, must be seen to be driven by people living in Herefordshire not by companies that have no interest here apart from making money. This is no criticism of developers; just that they have no right to contribute to the discussions about the sort of place we want to create.

Forthcoming Events

All meetings at the Kindle Centre, by ASDA, Belmont, Hereford HR2 7JE. 7.00pm refreshments for a 7.30pm start

15th November 2018

Housing: the endless conundrum
Steven Thomas and experts discuss. Markets versus need, the local scene

13th December 2018

Hereford's shops: despair or optimism?

Retail therapy from Mike Truelove, Hereford BID manager

17th January 2019

A Cathedral Schoolboy diary of 1919

An illustrated talk by Dr. Howard Tomlinson, former headmaster Hereford Cathedral School

21st February 2019

Rich and Poor in St. Martin's Parish 1500 – 1800

Life in an Early Modern Suburb
An illustrated talk by David Whitehead, historian and author

21st March 2019

Houses of Hereford

An illustrated talk by Dr. Nigel Baker, Shropshire based freelance archaeologist

6.45 for 7pm 11th April 2019

Courtesy of Herefordshire & Ludlow College, Folly Lane, Hereford. HR1 1LS

HUSTINGS

What plans do our political candidates have for our built environment if they are elected in May 2019?

A lively structured pechakucha meeting with all parties invited.

Each will be able to show five slides in a five minute presentation.

Then questions from YOU

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HELP

We could do with a bit of help emailing members and updating our web site – not onerous and be great to hear.

Please contact David Fowler

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Join Us

If you want to influence the future of the City and enjoy lectures and discussions about the built environment, old and new, JOIN US - your membership fee covers printing and distribution of our magazine, meeting expenses, web site and publicity costs. It does not cover members' time - all of which is freely given.

Subscription: Single £15 pa. / two memberships at the same address £25 pa. Questions?

☎ 01981 541058

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Join By Cash

Pay at one of our meetings.

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Send a cheque and your details including address, phone and email address to

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