

Dear Councillors

I attended the Biffa/Weinerberger CLG on Thursday 25th August with Cllr Eve Jones; afterwards I asked a simple question of two of the managers representing Weinerberger and Biffa.

‘Would they be willing to either give help regarding materials or financial assistance to help the community of Hartlebury?’

Stephanie Palmer the sustainability manager for Weinerberger stated that they would love to help the local community; she also wondered why no one had asked before as other factories within the group have given assistance to local communities. It could be thousands of pounds depending on the project, or they may be willing to give materials if it were more preferable.

<http://wienerberger.co.uk/about-us/corium-and-off-site-manufacturing> It's worth looking at what they produce as a collective organisation it's not just bricks.

Russ Parrett manager for the Biffa landfill site went one better. He said large projects they like to see have maximum of £50,000 per year per project. He also said that they could give direct funding for smaller items like play bark, all they need are the quotes or the bill and they will either pay for all or part of it say around £500. Again he would like us take advantage before the tips are closed; otherwise the funding closes when the tips do. I would like us, via Brian to contact Russ for funding of play bark and timber needed to repair the fence around the play area. **(Decision)**

I noted that they responded in a more favourable way, in part because I am acting as the chair of the Parish Council. As we are aware major fundraising such as this must be done through the council and not by any third party, since we are there to represent the community and were elected to do so. We are also duty bound by our standings orders and code of conduct.

Other options open to us:

I am currently collating a list of potential contributors that may be of assistance to the Parish Council more will be given at the September meeting.

Regards the Smart Water:

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Please read the following link Localism panel

<http://mgov.wychavon.gov.uk/modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=784&MIId=4213&Ver=4>

I have been informed by Councillor Neil Davies that from 30-08-2016 there is a possibility of the parish council having 100% funding for Smart Water, (50% NHB 25% via funding from the rural crime unit (District) and 25% from the West Mercia Police). This may need to be confirmed.

With the above I would like to put forward that we continue to make efforts to attain Smart Water, as it would be a positive move forward for our community. We will need to make sure we have covered all the requirements of the Localism panel and NHB; Cllr Neil Davies has more information on this and is to inform the clerk and myself, so that it can be debated at the meeting in September. I would like to propose that we decide that we continue with our efforts to obtain Smart Water, particularly since others are willing to help finance it. **(Decision)**

Prior to receiving the above information I had considered the following: Our Clerk had an email from Peter Tomlinson the new County Councillor regarding funding from County to the Parishes in which he stated that we have £1400. If we use £1000 from our reserves it then means that we only need to ask for £3000 from NHB. Another Parish Council has asked the same.

Question for our new County Councillor

Email from Peter Tomlinson 19th August to Brian, Sandra, Nigel and myself.

I wondered the following, since the sums didn't add up in my mind as it stated that we would have potentially £1400:

Peter Tomlinson's words:

Apparently Maurice had not given any of this year's allocation before he died so I have £10,000 to hand out for economic, social or environmental benefits within the 9 parishes. I really don't know what precedents Maurice set in his day if any, whether he shared his fund equally or even shared with you all what each parish had been given. I intend to be open and transparent as far as I possibly can and would ask that you furnish me with suggestions as to your parish needs bearing in mind that I would like to be even handed in my first year at least !

Looking at the money from County via our previous County Councillor Maurice the money was split equally between each Parish ward. Would it be fair to say the £10,000 should be divided by the number of rate payers in the county councillor's ward multiplied by the number of people in each Parish?

In 2011 there were 8084 electorate in the Ombersley County Ward (see below). £10,000.00 divided by 8084 = £1.23 per resident. In 2011 the figure for the Electorate of Hartlebury was 2185 which should equal £2,702.00 (rounded down), so why only £1400? I believe we should ask what method is used to arrive at the figure of £1,400.00 are we only getting 64p per each member of the electorate?

If the funding is for projects then that is a different matter; could we therefore ask for funding up to £2700?

Appendix

Below taken from the analysis polling district areas Wychavon district Council 2011

2185 Hartlebury

659 Ombersley Doverdale

39 Ombersley Doverdale

1228 Ombersley Doverdale

675 Inkberrow Hanbury

73 Inkberrow Hanbury

235 Inkberrow Stock and Dradley

1720 Dodderhill

276 Upton Warren Dodderhill

378 Elmbridge Lovett and North Clains

269 Elmly Lovett Lovett and North Clains

290 Hampton Lovett and Westwood Lovett and North Clains

57 Hampton Lovett and Westwood Lovett and North Clains

Total 8084