**District Councillor Report**

**for**

**Berry Pomeroy Parish Council**

**4/06/2024**

Cllr Anna Presswell

D-Day 80 years Commemoration

May I say how well the day went – and how engaged the public and those involved were in making it a memorable day. Many people assumed the Town Council was involved, to which I said they had supported the idea.

The Child Evacuees at the South Devon Steam Railway was a great success, with Womens Institute ladies in attendance, and the children all dressed up appropriately with

A group of people posing for a photo

Description automatically generateda label and gasmask box and small suitcase for clothing. The Railway were hugely accommodating and had organised a 1940’s ambulance at Buckfastleigh for them to enjoy as well.

I was interviewed by BBC Radio Devon at 7.30am plus two kids who were about to go on the trip. BBC Spotlight came along and produced a great item for their evening programme with us. Do watch, some interesting interviews with the children and the local WI (the WI helped with the evacuees in the 40’s both at embarkation and receiving the children at their new abode).

Please watch at 20:15 into the programme, its excellent.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001zz58/spotlight-evening-news-06062024>

A group of women wearing sashes

Description automatically generatedA group of soldiers standing in a line

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Questions arising from Bridgetown Alive Meeting 28/05/2024

A community composting site is still to be decided and they await an update from Councillor Hodgson as to a potential site at the first smaller car park before the main Long Marsh Car Park. Other sites have been discussed but this site lends itself to the scheme best with amongst other things, ease of access.

Also, a lot of hedgehogs and their hoglets have been seen around the Parkers Way Estate (to be developed), and the site of the new Nursing Home along Steamer Quay Road. I’m getting in touch with various parties to find out the process of an Ecology Survey; if Hedgehogs are removed and the timeline of that prior to building starting, and if the building is delayed until after the hoglets are born and grown.

Benches – Cycle Path, Camomile Lawn Estate

We are still waiting on a final quote and then will be installing benches overlooking the river, on the flatter area in front of the oak tree for those who know the site. They will consist of two benches and one picnic bench. One bench will be a Dedication bench.

Bob the Bus

It was brought to my attention that Bob the Bus stops its service from the top of Bridgetown at the weekend on Saturday at 12.30. This leaves a lot of vulnerable, elderly and lonely people who depend on this service, to a degree of risk, from social deprivation etc. Many events happen at the weekend, and I intend to see what further can be done to accommodate those that find the weekend particularly stressful due to this isolation.

For interest only…

I asked the Elections office to clarify the number of Berry Pomeroy Parish residents at the top of Bridgetown ward and within the village itself.

The Village ward 329 electors

Bridgetown ward 588 electors

Therefore 56% of the parish live in Bridgetown.