

Letters to the Editor

Send your views about local issues

✉ 54a Broad Street, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 7DY

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Dear Editor,
IN response to last week's article, let's not overlook the Council's reckless overspend of more than £1 million on their new office premises in Hereford.

The subsequent report found that key staff and senior officers were acting without authority.

A spokesman for the Council went on to say that 'it had failed to offer Herefordshire residents value for money.' However, I bet nobody has lost their job as a consequence.

It is wholly unreasonable for

Nigel Shaw, Finance Cabinet Member, to sight Herefordshire Council's overspend on 'extra residential placements of adults with learning disabilities and a net increase of looked after children,' who are some of the most vulnerable in society.

I suspect the waste is due to very poor management throughout the Council, and perhaps Mr Shaw can provide an accurate explanation as to where the real overspend has occurred.

Name and address supplied

Show support for British Farmers

Dear Editor

That's why we're holding Welly

Greytree plans will threaten local wildlife

Dear Editor,

I OBJECT to the proposed inclusion of this piece of ground at Greytree in the Neighbourhood Plan for many reasons, including the following:

Traffic access to the site along Second Avenue would not be a problem. However, major traffic problems would occur on the narrow Greytree Road leading to Homs Road, and also on Brampton Hill. These roads are already inadequate, over used and dangerous. Any residential development would

seriously affect the wildlife that inhabits and feeds on the fertile grassland.

To a casual observer, or even a visiting environmental expert, it may not appear to have much to commend it. But, in fact, it is a vital part of many animals' habitat and is an area that must be protected.

Periodically, up to 250 jackdaws visit and feed on the insects and grubs in the turn, and sleep in the adjacent woodland.

Green woodpeckers feed on ants living in the old pasture.

In the early Spring, up to 25 pheasants congregate on the meadow to sort out their mates. Magpies assemble on the turf for the same reason.

Lapwings, crows, ravens, collared doves, yellow and pied wagtails, partridges, mallards, and other birds visit. Summer migrants, chiffchaff and whitethroats nest in the surrounding trees and hedges.

Swallows, house martins and swifts feed on the flying insects that live in the grass. A small flock of starlings feed on insects disturbed by grazing horses.

Numerous small birds live in the

Return to rain

many places and can only hope that how the Wye has peaked, drier conditions will return by the weekend.

*Jo Scrivin
Editor*



• Photo via Juraj Mikurcik

hedges and woodland around the field. Wrens, robins, house sparrows, dunlocks, gold finches, chaffinches, green finches, linnets, longtailed tits and great, blue, and coal tits feed and nest in the surrounding areas.

Any change and disturbance created by housing development would seriously damage the environment for these birds and animals, which are all in decline nationally.

This proposed change in use would have such an adverse effect on the environment and its wildlife that it cannot be accepted.

*Tim Ward
Ross-on-Wye*

The Ross Gazette



Charity of the year 2018

The Ross Gazette's Charity of the Year 2018 is Rocky-Lee's Little Feet, a Ross-on-Wye based charity who fundraise for headstones for stillborn babies. 10 babies are stillborn every day in the UK. Rocky-Lee's Little Feet was set up in memory of the charity's founders' baby who was born sleeping in 2013. The charity aims to provide financial relief and assistance to people in the UK who cannot afford a memorial headstone or plaque for their stillborn baby. Alongside funding for headstones they provide memory bears to local hospitals with the charity Aching Arms UK, and provide specialist support and equipment for Hereford Hospital's Labour Ward for bereaved parents.

We are raising funds for this vital charity throughout 2018. If you would like to make a donation pop into the Ross Gazette office, or you can send a cheque made payable to Rocky-Lee's Little Feet to The Ross Gazette, 54a Broad Street, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 7DY.