

# MARTYN HOLLAND

## Notices to the community Nº 27

9<sup>th</sup> August 2021



Over 400,000 people in North Wales have now had two doses of the covid vaccines.  
That's 7 in 10 adults.

Analysis from Public Health England shows that the Pfizer vaccine is 96% effective against hospitalisation after both doses and Astra Zeneca is 92% effective. Two doses should also help to protect people against long covid.

As many of you may have heard I tested positive for covid in July after I developed what I thought was a chest infection and slight cough. I called 119 went to the drive through a test centre then in Corwen and then within 36 hours I received a text confirming that I was positive. After ten days self-isolation I am pleased to report that I am no worse for my experience and I am also pleased to say that my mother who lives with me tested negative. The two jabs certainly helped.

Denbighshire's Libraries are now open for those of us who want to pop in, browse and pick up some Library books. The order and collect service will continue and the Home Library Service is still making deliveries to those residents who are unable to visit the libraries themselves. You still need to make an appointment to use a computer, book a study place or access the One Stop Shop Service.

Just a gentle reminder that if we do not use the mobile Post Office Services, we could lose them.

They provide a full range of services and they do stop us having to drive to the Main Post Office in our local area where the queues are often long.

The developers of the proposed housing development at Erw Goed have submitted a revised planning application which includes some minor changes. You can still view the revised application on the Denbighshire Planning Portal by inputting the planning reference 15/2021/0318.

DCC and I have concerns about the housing mix and how affordable the affordable housing will be. The proposed properties will be very close to the boundaries of the properties in Maes Ial and they will have very small rear gardens. We have asked that the current conifers be retained to provide privacy for the Maes Ial residents and we have also asked for a pavement to be added inside the development so that the lane and its hedges can be retained as much as possible.

While I am still on planning issues, I can confirm that there has been no formal planning application to date for any other developments in Llanarmon but residents are aware that survey work is being undertaken on the land at the rear of Maes Gynnan and Maes Garmon.

Can I just remind everyone that if you are looking to extend your home, erect a new farm building or house or create a new entrance onto a road you should always check to see if you need planning permission. A refused retrospective planning application can be very costly and Denbighshire has now increased its planning enforcement team.

In January this year the Welsh Government announced through Natural Resources Wales that they had major concerns about the levels of Phosphates in a number of our rivers across Wales. Phosphates come in the main from farming through fertilisers and animal waste but they also enter the rivers through human waste and the products that we dispose of via our sinks and toilets. The catchment area for the River Dee has been designated a Special Area of Conservation [SAC] and because the river Alyn flows into the Dee we are included in that SAC.

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Some sewerage works have been upgraded to deal with Phosphates but sadly only one sewerage works in the south of the County meets the new standard and this is in Llangollen. This means that all sewerage works in our ward cannot remove phosphates and as Welsh Water have no plans to update these works in the next five years. This may impact on future developments in our ward.

I have noticed in many of the recent planning applications that NRW are questioning the impact of septic tanks, slurry pits and housing on phosphate levels and I have personally asked for more information about the impact of Phosphates on developments and planning in our ward.

I am pleased to report that Denbighshire has a new Chief Executive. Graham Boase has worked for the authority for a number of years in varying roles and he has a good knowledge of the County's strengths and weaknesses. There are a number of challenges that we have to face as a County from pre and post covid.

At a recent meeting of the Burley Hill Quarry Liaison Committee Tarmac announced it would be submitting a planning application to extend the life of the quarry for a further fifteen to twenty years. They will be undertaking a number of surveys in and around the quarry over the summer months which may be in part as the result of the Scoping Exercise early this year.

They also intend to undertake a test blast in August and they will normally let us know a week in advance of the planned date.

They have indicated that they intend to submit the planning application in November this year and as your County Councillor I will call a public meeting as soon as those plans are submitted.

Those local members of the Quarry Liaison committee who are opposed to the application will meet in early September to formulate their opposition to the application.

Flintshire County Council have just granted Tarmac an extension to their quarry at Hendre and also increased the area it can quarry. This may be good news.

Denbighshire CC have announced the first phase of the installation of Charging Points for Electric Cars on Council owned land. Those in Ruthin will be sited in the Cae Ddol and Craft Centre Car Parks. The Tesco supermarket in Ruthin have already installed four charging points in their car park.

Welsh Water have installed a new water pressure valve in their main under the B5431. Hopefully this will help to resolve the constant water leaks and road closures!!

Sadly, Ash Die-back is a big issue in our ward and after a recent survey by DCC staff a large number of trees have been identified with the disease. The County will be looking to put extra money in the budgets for the next few years to cover the cost of felling and removing trees but this will only apply to trees on Council land/road sides.

If you have any diseased Ash trees on your own land you will be responsible for removing them and extra care should be taken when dealing with the leaves and thin branches which will also be infected.

The wood from Ash Trees with the disease can be burnt safely on your fires or in your wood burners.

There have been a number of reports of drones passing over people's properties and back gardens in the Llanarmon area.

If you believe they are being used to view your property you should report the fact to the police and if possible, please try and identify where they are coming from especially if they are returning to a vehicle in the area.

If you own a drone, please do not infringe people's privacy and be careful that you are not reported to the police by unhappy residents or neighbours!!

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Once again due to Covid, the Llanarmon and Llanferres village shows and the Eryrys Tractor Show have been cancelled this year.

A much smaller Llandegla village show will still be held on the 4th September.

The Eryrys Tractor run was held on the first Sunday in July but again because of covid regulations only the drivers took part this year.

The X1 bus service that passes through Llandegla has a new time table and these are available at the bus stops and on the Counties Website. Arriva have staffing issues and a number of smaller local bus companies have stepped in to provide a slightly reduced service. Many thanks to those companies for helping out.

Watch out for scams.

Since the pandemic started the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau has seen a 400% increase in scam attempts.

Now that people can move their pensions around pension scams are on the increase. Your pension company will not call you unexpectedly about your pension. If you are speaking to a Financial Advisor, you should check that they are FCA regulated before doing business with them.

This can be checked at [register.fca.org.uk](http://register.fca.org.uk) or by telephoning 0800 111 6768.

If you get an unexpected call about your pension and if you are unsure if the call is real hang up and visit [fca.org.uk/scamsmart/how-avoid-pension-scams](http://fca.org.uk/scamsmart/how-avoid-pension-scams)

The Police have contacted me to say that they have now replaced the old Owl crime warning system with the North Wales Community Alert.

To sign up for the alerts you need to register at <http://www.NorthWalesCommunityAlert.co.uk>

Openreach have announced that more areas will receive Ultra-Fast Broad Band via Fibre To The Premises soon. To check if you are included go to [www.openreach.com](http://www.openreach.com) and enter your postcode. It looks as if areas around Llanarmon, Eryrys and Graianrhyd should go live between April 2022 and April 2025. Some may get them earlier!!

If I can be of any assistance, please drop me an e-mail or give me a call.

Keep well.

Regards,

Martyn

### STOP PRESS.

The County have announced plans to close the B5431 to undertake repairs to the road surface which will include patching.

The work will start on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> August to Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> August but the road will still be open to local residents for access. You will need to take care when using the road as sections of the road surface will be removed to a depth of a couple of inches. The main resurfacing work will take place on Thursday when a large asphalt laying machine will be in use. On most days they will be happy to let residents through.

I have been pressing the County to repair a number of our local roads and hopefully this is just the start. The work is undertaken by the Counties own work force and will include cutting back the verges and cleaning out drains and culverts at the same time