

## **County Councillor report to the meeting of Wells Parish Council held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

### **New Chief Executive announced for Worcestershire County Council**

Worcestershire County Council has announced the name of its new Chief Executive.

Steve Stewart, formerly the Chief Executive of the City of York Council, will replace Clare Marchant who leaves the council at the end of June.

Mr Stewart began his career in local government nearly 40 years ago. As well as running the City of York Council, he has also previously been the Chief Executive at Northumberland County Council.

Steve will replace Clare Marchant who leaves the council after 7 years. Clare is to become the new Chief Executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, UCAS. He will take up the role from 30 June. It is expected that he will continue as Interim Chief Executive for the next 6 to 9 months as the council moves towards a permanent appointment.

### **New Leadership team is announced at the County Council**

Councillor Simon Geraghty has been re-elected to be the Leader of Worcestershire County Council.

He has appointed Adrian Hardman to be his deputy as well as the responsibility for Adult Services in a newly formed Cabinet.

Other Cabinet appointments announced today were:

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families – Councillor Andy Roberts

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education and Skills – Councillor Marcus Hart

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well Being – Councillor John Smith

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Communities – Councillor Lucy Hodgson

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning – Councillor Karen May

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for the Environment – Councillor Tony Miller

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Infrastructure – Councillor Ken Pollock

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways – Councillor Alan Amos

The new Chairman of Worcestershire County Council is to be Anne Hingley, councillor for St Barnabas in Kidderminster. Councillor Brandon Clayton, the member for Redditch North is to be the new Vice Chairman.

### **New Highway Liaison Engineer appointed**

The Malvern Hills area had a new Highways Liaison Engineer, Hannah Davies, she has been working for a number of years at the Newlands Depot and started working the job at the beginning of June. Gerry Brianza is supporting her whilst she settles in to the role. I have met Hannah to discuss some of the issues around the division which includes a long list of pavements that need assessing.

### **Worcestershire on top for care quality**

Worcestershire is currently ranked the best county in the country for quality of care.

The rankings, compiled by the organisation Trusted Care, are based on county by county industry regulator scoring. The ranking combines the ratings of Nursing Homes, Care homes and Home Care Providers to give a collective view on local care services and how many of them are meeting industry standard.

In recent months, Worcestershire has been rated second or third for the assessment of care quality based on CQC ratings but has now moved clear in first place. This is based on a 96% Outstanding/Good rating across care services, which acknowledges the hard work of providers to ensure their customers receive good quality care.

The rankings change on a daily basis as the calculations access live data on the CQC website. For more information visit <http://www.trustedcare.co.uk/care-map/>

### **The proposals for the next stage of the Upgrading of the Southern Link Road Have been announced**

An artist's impression of what Carrington Bridge could look like when it is made into a dual carriageway have been revealed for the first time this week.

The works to dual the bridge and the road between Ketch and Powick are included in the plans for Phase 4 of the programme of works to upgrade the A4440 Southern Link Road with construction planned to start in 2019.

An additional bridge, featuring two westbound lanes, will be built adjacent to the existing Carrington Bridge in order to minimise disruption to drivers throughout the project. The existing bridge will remain open to traffic for the majority of the duration of works. The Southern Link Road is one of the county's most important routes providing a link between Worcester/the M5 and the south of the county/Herefordshire. It also provides an important bypass for the City and residential areas.

Improvement works on the Southern Link Road have been progressing well, including the current works to make improvements between the Norton and Whittington roundabouts. Once completed, the Southern Link Road will be dualled from junction 7 of the M5 all the way to Powick Roundabout reducing journey times, improving journey time reliability and reducing traffic in the city centre and residential areas as well as being important for the local economy.

A series of public information exhibitions are taking place in Worcestershire this week and next week for residents and businesses to take a first look at the plans for the next phase of the scheme. In addition to this there will be an unmanned display between **Thursday 29**

**June and Saturday 1 July, 10am – 4pm at Malvern Library**

For those unable to attend these dates, the information is available to view on our website at [http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20254/major\\_infrastructure\\_and\\_improvement\\_schemes/1017/the\\_a4440\\_worcester](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20254/major_infrastructure_and_improvement_schemes/1017/the_a4440_worcester)

### **Renewable energy marketplace**

Businesses and residents in Worcestershire are being invited to a Renewable energy marketplace.

Renewable energy is a great way to save money, improve your environmental performance and increase your energy capacity.

Come along to the event on **Tuesday 11 July, 8-11.30am**, to find out about which renewable energy systems might work for you, meet local installers and find out about the grant funding available for businesses. Taking place at **Worcestershire County Cricket Club**, attendees will also have an opportunity to hear from a local business which has installed renewable energy already. The Specialist programme advisors will be on hand for one-to-one discussions with businesses after the presentations.

From 8am, attendees will enjoy a breakfast and an opportunity to meet local installers of renewable energy. Presentations will finish by 10.30am with the event closing at 11.30am. This event is part of the Low Carbon Opportunities Programme, which offers support and funding for businesses to install renewable energy systems in Worcestershire and is funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

The event will give local businesses the chance to find out about this programme which could support them to install renewables, including: solar panels, biomass boilers, ground source heat pumps, battery storage and more. It will also take attendees through our easy application process, which can lead to up to 45% funding for projects.

For further information contact Don Gembeckas on 01905 843 902 or email [dgembeckas@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:dgembeckas@worcestershire.gov.uk)

### **Driving Home Works on Track With 93 miles Of Local Roads Now Completed**

More than 90 miles of roads have been successfully repaired or resurfaced since the Driving Home programme launched, with almost 20,000 residents in Worcestershire so far benefitting from the works.

Two thirds of the scheduled works have now been carried out following the launch in April 2016.

The Driving Home team has been continually collecting data about the condition of the roads and speaking to local residents to ensure the roads that need improvement, and those which are most important to residents, are included in the programme.

The region's roads continue to be some of the best in the country following the busy timetable of improvements and repairs ranging from minor surface dressing to complete reconstruction. The Driving Home programme will continue for a second year, with ongoing investments into local infrastructure.

For more information about latest updates about the Driving Home programme, including the roads we are planning to improve next, please visit [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/drivinghome](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/drivinghome)

## **HRH The Duke of Gloucester officially opened EnviRecover energy-from-waste facility**

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester has officially opened the EnviRecover-Worcestershire County Council and Herefordshire Council's flagship waste treatment facility. The EnviRecover Plant is the largest infrastructure project in the region and will deliver a massive reduction in the use of landfill for the disposal of household waste in the two counties.

EnviRecover will transform up to 200,000 tonnes of waste per year (that's the equivalent of over 13 million black wheelie bins of waste!) into enough electricity to power 32,000 homes, enough to power all of the homes in Hereford or Kidderminster, Stourport on Severn and Bewdley combined!

HRH The Duke of Gloucester joined the Lord Lieutenant of Worcestershire, representatives from Worcestershire County Council, Herefordshire Council, Mercia Waste Management and their main contractor, Hitachi Zosen Inova, along with other invited guests. The official opening included a tour of the facility and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque.