

Report for Shelsley Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 10th November 2020

Dear Councillors,

A report for the meeting. I do hope everyone is keeping safe and well?

More support from the Government: The Government has confirmed that MHDC will receive another £152,000 in support to help cover losses and additional costs caused the coronavirus pandemic. Total supported received from the Government is £1,089,573. However, our total losses are estimated to be £1.4million.

Superfast broadband update: The Superfast Worcestershire Partnership is working to bring superfast and gigabit capable broadband connectivity to Worcestershire homes and businesses, whilst, at the same time supporting proactive communities with their efforts to secure gigabit capable connectivity, through the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme. I know how important this issue is for our rural community, so:

Worcestershire County Council welcomes your support in encouraging rural communities not currently in their deployment plan (red dots on the map): www.superfastworcestershire.com/#where-when to proactively pursue a community solution via the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme to potentially fully fund the build of the new fibre to the premise (FTTP) network. Please note that rural premises with access to good speeds (up to 100mbps) can also request upgrades to FTTP and utilise the Rural Voucher Scheme. Specifically:

- Support the transition for communities not in the deployment plan to move from 'complaining about lack of broadband' to taking a 'proactive approach' and engaging through the Gigabit Voucher schemes.
- Promote Take-Up; ensure residents know they need to 'sign up' to the newly available services.
- Engage with the officers if you have questions or require additional detail for communities.

Please see the attached FAQs for more information.

Social Prescribing: I have attached the most recent report for information.

As MHDC Youth Champion, I would like to promote the following:

Make Your Mark ballot for young people: Since 2000, the UK Youth Parliament, has provided a voice for young people to be involved in decision making. Make Your Mark is a national ballot which gives young people aged 11-18 the opportunity to have their say on what Members of Youth Parliament should debate and vote on during their sitting in the House of Commons, next year.

Last year **3913** young people across Worcestershire took part in the Make your Mark Ballot. Young people views are also used on a local level to inform Worcestershire Children First, Worcestershire County Council and local organisations. The top 3 issues are also campaigned on by Worcestershire Youth Cabinet working in partnership with services.

Young people can **vote online from the 1st – 30th November** on the [British Youth Council website](https://www.britishyouthcouncil.org.uk/)

Things to do: Learn a new skill and make some new friends – check out our updated [What's on Guide for young people](#) in the district, with a range of clubs and activities aimed at 11-17 year olds.

Volunteering: Develop your life skills with a [volunteer](#) placement at a local charity or organisation – our latest volunteer guide for 12-17 year olds in the district includes window dressing in a charity shop, planting in a woodland, supporting a local care home and using your make-up skills to play a live casualty!

Take care all.

Caroline

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