

Report for Shelsleys Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 4th October 2022

Dear all,

A report for circulation.

Firstly, please don't forget that I have a small pot of money to support local projects. Unusually I have not received any requests so far, so the £500 is still available and must be spent by the end of the year. Please promote to community groups.

Worcestershire Household Support Fund: With the cost-of-living crisis continuing to escalate the Worcestershire Household Support Fund is still available for qualifying households.

At the moment, Act on Energy are only accepting applications for pensioners, the families and single household scheme is paused, however there is a waiting list that qualifying households can join.

Please pass on this information to anyone you think may need it, so that households who qualify can begin to claim and receive the help that they need. Visit the Act On Energy website <https://actonenergy.org.uk/project/worcestershire-household-support-fund/> for more information. Visit MHDC's General Advice and Support page for more information about support available. <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/community/general-information-support>

Wildflower project: Malvern Hills District Council trial project which started this year, in consultation with the AONB and other organisations, aims to encourage wildflowers and improve biodiversity within the Malvern Hills District.

We will be assessing what species are present within the selected areas and how they can improve the biodiversity.

The selected verges and open spaces will be cut once between July and September and the cuttings removed. The benefit of this is that it allows the plants to flower and seed and removing the cuttings will reduce the nutrients going into the soil allowing wildflower species to grow better.

Less vigorous species such as Oxeye Daisy, birds foot trefoil, orchids, and cowslip will all have a chance against the grasses and cow parsley.

The verges will still be cut back regularly at road junctions and a one metre strip along the roadside to make sure that sight lines are clear for road users. Visit www.malvern hills.gov.uk/wildflowers-and-verges for more information

Talk to Tom: Our new regular Leader's Surgery will take place on the first Monday of each month, between 10am - 12pm at the Council House, which started on 4 July 2022. **'Talk to Tom'** is an opportunity for residents to meet Cllr Tom Wells and chat face to face about any issues they believe we can assist them with. If you know of any residents that would like to discuss any issues, please ask them to visit our website www.malvern hills.gov.uk/talktotom to make an appointment via an online form

Thank you. *Caroline*