

Report for Shelsleys Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 15th November 2022

Dear all,

A report for circulation.

Sustainable Warmth Funding: Wychavon and Malvern Hills District Councils have been successful in gaining £2.1 million to make improvements to private homes (including owner occupiers and private rentals).

The funding is split into Local Authority Deliver Scheme 3 (LADS3), which is aimed at properties connected to the mains gas network, and Home Upgrade Grant 1 (HUG1) which is aimed at properties not connected to the mains gas network.

To be eligible for this scheme, you need to have a household income of less than £30,000 and have an EPC of D – G. To check a properties EPC please visit: [Find an energy performance certificate \(EPC\) by postcode – Find an energy certificate – GOV.UK \(find-energy-certificate.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Applications are being processed by our partners Act on Energy; to find out more, please completed an expression of interest form [here](#), or call them on 0800 988 2881. Complete applications must be submitted before the **end of November 2022**.

If you are eligible for funding, you will need to have a retrofit assessment completed on your property, this will highlight the works required to raise the EPC level and help to reduce your energy bills and carbon footprint. Those recommendations are then passed to the Local Authority, to agree the works that can be 100% funded to the household. Please promote.

Malvern Hills District Council has recently been awarded regional champion for its work on supporting businesses and town centres during the Covid pandemic.

The Local Government Awards, created by The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), aim to recognise and celebrate the efforts of those that had made the biggest impact on small businesses during the Covid crisis and beyond.

The winners were announced on Friday, 14 October, during an online ceremony where Malvern Hills District Council was named as regional champion in the category for COVID-19 Support and Recovery.

The council fought off more than 400 entries from 250 other councils across the country to scoop the regional award.

The award was given to the council based on their work around supporting local highstreets and the various events, activities and campaigns that surrounded this.

Council work and support across the Malvern Hills District included:

- Recruited a Town Centre Recovery Officer
- Launched a Town Centre Support Scheme towards shop front improvements, security measures and digital enhancements
- Provided business support including workshops, 121 support and improved communication
- Safety signage and measures including installation of hand sanitiser stations across five town centres
- New events created and existing events supported
- Town centre activities and trails

- Radio, video and digital marketing campaigns
- Established a footfall data platform
- Consultation and support for development of Town Centre Plans
- Flags and bunting, lamppost banners, refurbished street furniture and market stalls have all been provided to enhance town centres across Malvern Hills

Sustainable tourism grant on offer to help local businesses: Local businesses have benefitted from a sustainable grant helping them adopt greener business practices in the Malvern Hills District.

The Sustainable Tourism Grant Scheme forms part of Malvern Hills District Council's sustainable tourism programme which aims for the district to become a recognised green tourism destination.

The grant provides funding to be used towards expenditure that supports environmental sustainability. It also enables businesses to review and identify ways to reduce their carbon emissions and improve their impact on the environment.

Grants of between £500 - £2,500 are available to tourism and hospitality businesses within the district, the grant must be match-funded 50% from the business's own resources. Read more about the Sustainable Tourism Grants by following the link: <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/news-alerts/sustainable-tourism-grant-on-offer-to-help-local-businesses>

END:

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