

Worcestershire County Council Report
Meeting of The Shelsleys Parish Council 10th January 2023

Message from the Leader of Worcestershire County Council – Councillor Simon Geraghty

“2022 was another exceptional year in many different ways. Communities all over the County joined together to celebrate the Queen’s Jubilee in the summer and then came together again to mourn the sad loss of HM The Queen in the autumn.

We have also seen increases in the cost of living which many will have felt, especially given the cold weather we have recently experienced.

As a Council, keeping our most vulnerable residents safe remains one of the County Council’s top priorities. We continue to support the most vulnerable members of our communities, both children and adults, through our Social Care and Public Health teams.

To keep our County moving, our highways teams have continued to work relentlessly on the improvement and maintenance of our roads and pavements and our gritting teams remain ready to respond whenever needed.

Our local economy is on course to have grown by one-third by 2025 from 2015 levels, despite the impact of Covid-19. We continue to support Worcestershire to be a growing and successful economy, embracing new technologies and providing businesses and residents with more opportunities and skills.

We are leading the way in the transformation of Worcestershire’s connectivity.

Throughout last year we have completed the dualling of the Southern Link Road, progressed plans for Shrub Hill and Redditch rail stations, completed the Northern Link Road at Pershore and are finalising plans for major improvements to A38 Bromsgrove.

Our role is also to help preserve and protect our environment for future generations. To enhance our environment we are on track to have planted 150,000 trees across the County within five years, creating woodlands whilst also being a pollinator-friendly and environmentally conscious Council when working with suppliers and contactors.

Looking ahead to 2023, Worcestershire will continue to be a great place which provides a good quality of life and excellent opportunities for all – a place where children and families can thrive and achieve their true potential and where we continue to focus on keeping people living independently for as long as possible and supporting our residents to live healthy and fulfilling lives”.

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On a personal note, I wish you all a very Happy New Year and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

David Chambers
County Councillor, Tenbury Division.