

Broadwas & Cotheridge Council – District Council Report - October

Please find attached a report for the Parish Council that we've asked the Chief Exec, Vic, to put together every month for Parish Councils. It includes a lot of the general goings on in terms of this month at the District Council and you can see we've been stimulating the economy with lots of good events and have launched our Town Centre Transformation Consultation.

We've also launched our Connected Communities strategy - this basis of which is to change the council to one that works based on what is needed by communities. Here is a link on the update to a presentation that we'd love your feedback on.

On town centres, our 5 Town Centre's play an important role in the economy of our district but we know that Town Centres were changing prior to Covid and since are going to change even quicker. We are blessed that all five attract visitors and have a strong local community – and we're very fortunate that great businesses continue to evolve these towns. This can be seen in Great Malvern with lots of great new restaurants and bars, as in Tenbury.

To look at what we need to do as a District Council and what we require from partners we've launched a Town Transformation Consultation, using external Consultation company and new survey software.

You can find out more at : <https://letstalk.malvern hills.gov.uk/towncentres>

We're already getting a great response, but I'd love the Parish Council to encourage residents to get involved and tell us their thoughts and experiences of any or all of the centres.

There are lots of ways to do it – all via this page.

As well as our support for high street business, through this and our High Street funds we are looking to launch further support for rural businesses and to support joint working hubs later in the year, as well as more.

Our Apprenticeship funding is working well and I know from my experience with businesses over this side of the district that there are plenty of available apprenticeships.

This last month has seen the final report from the Covid Recovery Group. This was a cross party group designed to review the practises of the council in terms of our recovery, dare I say it, post Covid. This is to support the ongoing Council's 5 year plan and work that has been specifically done with communities and local business.

The full report can be found at (Pages 5-12)

<http://modern gov.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/g2989/Public%20reports%20pack%2021st-Sep-2021%2017.00%20Executive%20Committee.pdf?T=10&J=4>

The other major news is around the appeal at Rushwick, which didn't go in our favour, meaning that 120 homes will now be built behind the Whitehall in Rushwick.

The Rushwick application, which went to appeal was
<https://plan.malvern hills.gov.uk/Planning/Display/19/01378/OUT>

The appeal decision is listed as the 9th September. There are a lot of docs on the page so hopefully you can find it. It does say in the decision that the decision made was not related to the 5 year

housing land supply saying that a supply of 5.76 had been presented although the appeal did state that adding this 120 houses would help the supply. That was done with no regards for impact on local schools, roads or lack of infrastructure in a category 3 village.

The Council have recently published the yearly housing land supply report:

South Worcestershire Five Year Housing Land Supply Report 2021, which you can find at:

<http://modern.gov.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/s33274/EC1583%20-%20South%20Worcs%205%20Year%20Housing%20Land%20Supply%202021.pdf?J=5>

South Worcestershire Five Year Housing Land Supply Report

<http://modern.gov.malvern hills.gov.uk/documents/s33275/EC1583%20APP1%20-%20South%20Worcs%20Five%20Year%20Housing%20Land%20Supply%20Report%202021.pdf?J=5>

Which backs this up.

I have asked for the appeal to be challenged legally but that's been turned down.

Overall, this is very disappointing. The current 5YHLS is yet to be tested but we do expect that it will be at some point but are confident that the new report shows a robust HLS across the 3 joint districts of the South Worcestershire Plan.