

Report for Clifton upon Teme Parish Council meeting – Thursday 4th July 2019

Dear Councillors,
An update for your perusal:

Worcestershire County Council's Community Solutions Fund: Councillor Hodgson, Cabinet Member for Communities helped launch the Community Solutions Fund at the Celebrating Volunteering Event on the 3rd of June 2019. This fund, which totals £145,000, can support parish & town councils, voluntary and community sector organisations, schools and community groups to address local issues and increase community capacity through projects and initiatives that reflect the priorities of the Corporate Plan and help reduce future demand and costs for the County Council. The Council has received some applications but I would encourage you to promote this within your parish and visit the Act Local Website <http://www.actlocalworcestershire.org/CommunitySolutionsFund> where you will find details of the fund, the criteria and the application form. All applications to be sent to communitysolutionsfund@worcestershire.gov.uk - closing date **5pm on 8th September 2019**.

More funding... **Councillor Ward Budget Scheme** – allocations for 2019/20 will be available from 1 July. Please contact me if you have a small project that needs support. I have previously funded local good initiatives such as Clifton Rovers FC and Teme Triangle. Any allocation could be used alongside other funding opportunities such as the Councillor Divisional Fund, available via Councillor Ken Pollock.

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20013/councillors_and_committees/113/councillors_divisional_fund_scheme

Latest consultations: Passenger transport: Worcestershire County Council is consulting with residents and stakeholders on the draft Passenger Transport Strategy in order to fully understand the contribution that these services make to the local economy and their value in terms of community, health and wellbeing. Please click on the link to take part – <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/passengertransportstrategy>

Please also copy and share this link. **The closing date is 13 September 2019.**

Loneliness and Isolation: Worcestershire residents are also invited to give their views on a new service aimed at reducing loneliness and isolation. Worcestershire County Council's Public Health Team and the Clinical Commissioning Group's Strategy and Integrated Care Team are interested to hear your opinions on loneliness and isolation, this to help ensure local services better meet the needs of Worcestershire residents. Please click on the link to take part or copy and share it as suggested with the consultation above – <http://bit.ly/reducingloneliness>.

The closing date for this one is 5pm on Monday 8 July 2019.

Broadband for Rural Communities – Gigabit Voucher Scheme: As part of the Government's Rural Gigabit Connectivity programme, businesses and residents in rural parts of the UK (most of the Malvern Hills district is classed as rural – other than the Malvern town area) can claim additional funding towards the cost of installing gigabit-capable broadband to their premises when part of a group project. Rural premises with broadband speeds of less than 30Mbps can use vouchers worth up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs), and up to £1,500 per residential premises to support the cost of installing new gigabit-capable connections. Group projects are eligible for this funding – this is when two or more residents and/or SMEs get together to combine their vouchers towards the shared cost of installation. Single connections are not eligible for this additional funding. For more information visit gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/rural/ or contact Joel Keller in the Economic Development Team via email joel.keller@malvernhillsgov.uk.

Kind regards

Caroline

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