

## CLIFTON UPON TEME PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020,

By zoom

Worcestershire County Council verbal report by Ken Pollock

1. The County Council has cooperated over the production of website information for businesses through Worcestershire Business Central. This has been supported by the Hereford and Worcester Chamber of Commerce, the Worcestershire LEP, the FSB and the NFU.
2. On the home page of the WCC website is access to the Here2Help pages to give advice to all residents on what is available to help them and other organisations.
3. The District Councils will be the channel for all applications for financial support and will see that it is distributed appropriately.
4. We anticipate there will be a gradual lifting of the lockdown procedures, starting on Monday, after the Prime Minister's broadcast on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May.
5. Worcestershire will be opening 7 of its 11 household recycling centres, starting on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup>. The Tenbury site will open on the 14<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, and then resume its normal pattern of 3 days a week, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.
6. The County has 186 care homes, all but about two are independent. We are not aware of any deficiencies in PPE supplies to all those homes. Supplies currently in stock will last at least 6 weeks.
7. 52 of the 186 care homes have patients with C19, but the deaths in care homes are about one third of all deaths there, so, while serious, they are not overwhelming.
8. Some of you may have seen a letter from Paul Walters, of the Worcester Labour Party, in Tuesday's Worcester News saying that 70,000 beds had been lost to the NHS since 2,000. I had a letter published today (Thursday, 7th May) giving the correct figures from the King's Fund. In 1999/2000, there were 135,080 beds, and in 2019/20 101,255. The reduction over that 20 year period was therefore 33,745, not 70,000.
9. I pointed out the reduction might be due in part to enhanced medical care, as well as any possible cash restrictions.

Cllr Ken Pollock  
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Worcestershire County Council