

## Report for Clifton upon Teme Parish Council meeting – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

Dear all,

### **A short report for circulation.**

**Malvern Hills District Council launches new £1,500 upskilling grants for businesses:** Local businesses could receive up to £1,500 towards the cost of taking on a new apprentice or trainee thanks to a new Upskilling Grant. Businesses in any sector can apply for up to two upskilling grants from Malvern Hills District Council, as long as the trainees started after 1 October 2022. The grant can be used to support the training of any apprentice or trainee carrying out an accredited qualification.

**To qualify, businesses need to be based in the Malvern Hills district postcode area and employ fewer than 250 people.** They must pay at least the minimum wage to the trainee for a post of at least 20 hours a week, including training, over a minimum of three months. They must also provide for the trainee to gain a recognised qualification.

The new grant has been launched because of the successful Malvern Hills and Wychavon Upskilling Project which was part-funded by the UK Government through the UK Community Renewal Fund, which has now ended. The £283,000 project involved a range of activities designed to boost skills, help businesses grow and support people into work.

The 2022 programme supported 39 businesses to which 56 grants were paid out, totalling £112,000. 41 apprentices were supported with training incentive payments totalling £20,500, of which 27 claimed further bursary support for equipment, work clothing and travel of £12,931.

Visit [www.malvern hills.gov.uk/grants-and-funding](http://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/grants-and-funding) to find out more about the grant, and how to apply.

Thank you.

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