

Parish Council Meeting

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Phil Grove

## **Open For Business**

A new approach to promoting Worcestershire regionally, nationally and internationally has been launched at the annual LEP conference. The ambition is to encourage businesses, organisations and individuals from across the county to get involved by championing Worcestershire.

The plan is to attract champions from all parts of the county to join the **Worcestershire 1000**. Branding has been developed to help to promote the county. A film has been produced to showcase Worcestershire.

The County Council supports the ambition of this new approach and hopes it will help us to attract more inward investment to Worcestershire. You can find out more and watch the promotional film by visiting the new website: [www.oneworcestershire.com](http://www.oneworcestershire.com)

A total of 340 people attended this year's **Worcestershire Apprenticeship Awards 2018** ceremony held on Thursday 15 November 2018. The event is organised by Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership and Worcestershire County Council.

25 of the county's best apprentices, apprenticeship employers, schools and training providers were celebrated in a total of 12 categories in the Treetops Pavilion, West Midland Safari Park.

The awards ceremony ended with the announcement of the winners of the two overall awards. Buzz Electrical were named as the Worcestershire Apprenticeship Employer of the Year, sponsored by Yamazaki Mazak, and Bethany Clayton from Morgan Advanced Materials won the Worcestershire Apprentice of the Year award, sponsored by Worcester Bosch.

## **Children and Families**

Our Children's Social Care staff have been working on ways to improve referrals and avoid delays in getting the right support to children and families. This has resulted in new referral pathway coming online from today (Monday November 26).

Accessed from our website (<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/earlyhelpfamilysupport>), our new "Request for service, Early Help Family Support" referral pathway allows young people, parents, carers and professionals to make direct requests to their locality. In addition we have amended the existing 'Cause for Concern' to be more clear that this is a 'referral to children's social work services' for safeguarding concerns.

We are renaming it 'Referral to Children's Social Care' and we have added the referral form to our website (<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/childrenreferral>) to allow wider access for professionals outside of Worcestershire to refer directly in.

Last month (November ) the Cabinet approved proposals to broaden the scope of services and responsibility transferring into **Worcestershire Children First**.

Subsequently, the Department for Education have agreed to the proposals and a decision on the final scope of services transferring into the new company will be made in Spring 2019.

## **Adult Social Care**

The County Council has launched its vision for delivering adult social care over the next three years. With pressures growing nationally on social care, **Promoting Independence: Our Vision for Transforming Adult Social Care in Worcestershire** sets out the key priorities up until 2022.

It outlines how services will be delivered, highlighting areas for development, outcomes that will be achieved and how progress will be tracked.

The plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and the County Council also intends to produce a local account of how well, or otherwise, progress is being made. [Take a look at the plan.](#)

Extremely busy night, with 5 h Council meeting to attend this evening.

If I've not been able to meet with you this evening,

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Do not hesitate to make contact if I can be of assistance on any County Council matter/issues.

Best wishes,

Phil Grove.