

## Martley Parish Council

Parish Council meeting.

7<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Answered question re Ankerdine Hill.

Seven Trent road works.

### Infrastructure

The Council is pleased to be supporting a campaign that has been launched to promote Worcestershire as a place to work and to set up a business. The campaign objective is to raise awareness of the benefits of living here in Worcestershire and the work/life balance that people can have in the county. The campaign which is being led by a partnership that includes the LEP, the Worcestershire Ambassadors and the NWEDR is showcasing a range of real-life case studies of people from across the county who are thriving in Worcestershire. For more information and to get involved go to [www.oneworcestershire.com](http://www.oneworcestershire.com)

Work is progressing on the fourth phase of the scheme to fully dual the Worcester Southern Link Road. The site offices and main compound have been established and foundation works are progressing well with three out of the five piers for the viaduct already constructed. The embankment that will support the new carriageway on the south side of Temeside Way is now constructed up to almost 1 metre in height and the drainage system is complete. The next phase of works requires some overnight road closures on Temeside Way and A38 at the start of October. For more details visit [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/slrlatestupdates](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/slrlatestupdates)

### **Children and Families**

Worcestershire Children First is launching this week and with it a new way of delivering children's services in Worcestershire. The new company will be delivering services which include children's social care, education, early help and foster care on behalf of the Council. A launch event is being held from 1pm-2pm in the Council Chamber, County Hall on 1 October and all are welcome to attend.

A new Education and Skills strategy for the county has been approved. The strategy has been written with input from the newly-formed Education and Skills Strategic Group. The Group includes headteachers from Worcestershire's first/primary, middle, secondary and special schools, representatives from further education colleges, the University of Worcester, the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Council.

Health and Wellbeing.

Our libraries from across the county will be partnering with Public Health during National Libraries Week (7 to 12 October) for a local campaign to encourage more people to talk and get support for their mental health. 'Now We're Talking' is a campaign run by Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust and delivered through a series of pop up events in libraries countywide.

In the same week libraries will be showcasing their digital services as part of a national campaign to 'Celebrate Libraries in a Digital World'. Promotions will include e-books, e-magazines, adult learning digital skills courses. Digital champion drop-in sessions will also be run to provide customers with support using technology and accessing digital services.

#### Environment.

Local volunteers from Redditch came out in force last month to help add the finishing touches to the county's first Natural Networks project. The project has been headed up by North Worcestershire Water Management to prevent localised flooding. It received funding from the Natural Networks programme to improve an area of marshy woodland for local people to enjoy and promote wildlife.

The Council's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions have reduced by over 35% in comparison to levels recorded nine years ago. The Council has signed up to the Government's voluntary Emissions Reduction Pledge committing us to a minimum of 30% reduction in GHG emissions from 2009/10 levels by 2020/21. The Council is now working up a new plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 across its estate and operations.

#### Other News.

Five new Armed Forces Champions have been named in Worcestershire, with 2 more on the way. The Councillors from across Worcestershire have pledged to offer support and promote the needs of veterans in their areas. They will work with the Armed Forces Covenant Partnership to provide a perspective on services like housing that might be accessed by the armed forces community.