

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2021/22 MEETING TC11

Minutes of the meeting of TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL held on
Monday 7th February 2022 at 7.00pm held
in The Pump Rooms, off Teme Street, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8BA

PRESENT: Cllrs S. Bowkett, A. Corfield, M. Davies, J. Fielder, E. Hudson [**Chair**],
J. Morgan, D. Patrick, R. Plested, C. Slade and A. Wilkinson

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk, Leader of Malvern Hills District Council, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Infrastructure and Flooding, Worcestershire County Council Cllr D Chambers, Environment Agency Flood & Coastal Risk Management Advisor and two members of the public.

C21.189 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr. L. Davies due to a planned holiday.

C21.190 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by Members under the Code of Conduct pursuant to the Localism Act 2011, in respect of items on the agenda.

C21.191 DISPENSATIONS

The Clerk stated that there had been no requests for dispensation.

C21.192 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned for public question time.

(i) Public Question Time – General

None

(ii) Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Police Team (Appendix A)

The Chair read the report provided by the Safer Neighbourhood Police Team. The Town Clerk circulated to Members the 'On the beat in Martley and Tenbury' Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter.

(iii) Worcestershire County Councillor (Appendix B)

Members received a report from Cllr Chambers, which had been circulated earlier.

Cllr Chambers mentioned the projects he had provided funding for from his current Divisional Fund, which included £1,235 to the Town Council for a defibrillator to be located on the exterior wall of the library. In addition, funding of £1,460 has been allocated to Tenbury Community Pool for the purchase of seating in the spectator area, £943 to Tenbury High Ormiston Academy for sports equipment and £1,000 to the School of Creative Arts at The Regal.

(iv) Malvern Hills District Councillor (Appendix C)

Members received a written report from Cllr Bruton, which had been circulated earlier.

Cllr. Bruton highlighted the support provided from the District Council, particularly during the Christmas period. Funding from the ERDF Welcome Back Fund was provided to support several events including the Halloween outdoor cinema, the Santa Parade and Grotto and the free Christmas Films event in St. Mary's Church.



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Cllr Bruton stated that she will meeting the newly appointed Community Builder for Tenbury to discuss current assets, community activities and funding opportunities for projects, including potential support for improvements to St. Michaels pond. The District Council has appointed two Community Builders, funded by the Public Health Containment Outbreak Management Fund for Asset Based Community Development. The Community Builders will be working with residents and partners to strengthen community connections with aim of reducing isolation and improving health and well-being.

In addition, Cllr Bruton mentioned the District Council has allocated funding towards a popular car scheme to continue to support rural communities. The scheme aims to improve accessibility to transport for residents in rural areas as well as to help householders reduce their carbon footprint by not owning a car. The Council has provided £101,995 from its priority commitment to Community Transport and funding will go towards setting up four 'satellite hubs' to facilitate the scheme, with Tenbury being targeted

The meeting of the Council was reconvened.

C21.193 TENBURY FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME

The Flood and Coastal Management Advisor for the Environment Agency updated Members on the Flood Risk Management Scheme project.

The works completed since the last update include:

- Site Surveys
- Design development
- Modelling (with scheme)
- Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping responses received
- Biodiversity Net Gain discussions progressing
- Heritage Updates
- Low carbon innovation investigations

The text on the attached slides details the indicative design stage. The preferred options are shown however the options may be subject to change before the final design stage.

Regarding Teme Bridge, the Environment Agency do not consider stoplogs to a suitable solution and are in talks with the fire service regarding swing gates as an alternative option.

Two costed options have been received for The Burgage with the wall presently being the cheaper option. The embankment cost however will be investigated further. The decision between the installation of a wall or an embankment has yet to be decided.

A shallow foundation wall is proposed along the footpath in front of The Pump Rooms and the edge of the car park.

Following the public engagement event further topographical surveys have been carried out along Pembroke Avenue and Belle Orchard to update the modelling and consider some form of protection for properties in this area.



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The next steps for the project include:

- Completion of additional surveys for Kyre Brook and Teme left bank
- Ground Penetration Radar surveys in churchyard are complete and being reviewed
- Continue to progress discussions with Severn Rivers Trust for Biodiversity Net Gain on Kyre Brook
- Further engagement and agreement with landowners
- Compile feedback from Engagement event to inform planning
- Completion and pricing of outline designs
- Drafting of planning application

It was noted that there was a very good turn-out at the public engagement event, with over 150 residents attending. Good feedback was received however additional work was generated from the issues raised.

The planning application is the process of being produced. Further engagement with partners and the public is planned when the design freeze is in place. How the material will be shared has yet to be decided.

Key dates for the programme include:

- Outline design freeze – April 2022
- Landowner/partner consultation – February//March 2022
- Service diversions – Summer 2022
- Planning permission submission – May 2022
- Possible planning determination – August 2022

Whilst there has been a delay to the 'spade in the ground' by March 2022, it has been confirmed that the invasive ground investigations are counted towards the works and secures the Government funding.

Following the presentation Members raised several concerns .

1. Who would have the authority to close the bridge and barriers?

The Environment Agency Advisor state that this would have to be a community led scheme. The Environment Agency would liaise with the community and a set up a 'flood plan'. The Agency would give a threshold on when the defences would need to be operated. Positive feedback has been received from the Flood Action Group and public engagement. The Environment Agency are working with Worcestershire County Council on the scheme. The plan will include a Risk Assessment, which will inform the community of the risks.

2. Does the scheme deal with the rising water table?

The scheme will not prevent ground water flooding. However, properties should consider sump pumps alongside the scheme. As part of the flood risk assessment, the impact of the scheme on groundwater and surface water will be carried out. However, other measures will be effective with the scheme place.



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3. Why is the church the other side of the wall?

There would be a significant cost and delay to the scheme with the removal of approximately 150 graves. Property flood resilience measures will be included in the scheme for the church.

4. Will the bridge gates be kept on site?

Yes, the swing gates will fold back in a permanent position, which is the easiest solution for the community.

5. Will any properties be at more risk because of the scheme?

Modelling at 100-year plus climate change only shows the church at risk. No properties in Burford are considered at risk and road to Ludlow would potentially have deeper flood water however there is a route round that is workable.

6. Will Church Street wall be removed?

The existing wall will be removed and replaced with a series of king-post piled wall on the existing alignment.

7. There is concern that the wall in The Burgage will be inappropriate?

A decision has not been made for The Burgage. Costings for the two options have been higher than expected and the embankment option will be revisited. However, the embankment does have a higher carbon footprint. The feedback was that the embankment was the preferred option however the final decision will depend on the cost.

8. Concerns have been raised regarding the slippage in the scheme and planning application?

Unfortunately, the heritage elements have taken longer to resolve. The public engagement impacted on the scheme with additional survey works required. It is an extremely complicated scheme, which has been impacted by COVID. The scheme will not be in place by the winter of 2023. However, the contractors will try and gain back time during construction.

9. Cllr Chambers, Worcestershire County Council queried whether the funding was sufficient?

The Advisor stated that he could not guarantee that the allocated funding would be sufficient to fund the proposed scheme.

The Chair thanked the Environment Agency for the presentation and raised concern regarding the lack of information at this stage, which may result in the Council being unable to have any input in the final design.

C21.194 MINUTES

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Tenbury Town Council held on 22nd January 2022.

There being no comments it was proposed by Cllr. D. Patrick and seconded by Cllr. A. Wilkinson



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RESOLVED: (9 For, 1 Abstention)

The minutes of the meeting of Tenbury Town Council held on 22nd January 2022 were confirmed as a true and accurate account of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

C21.195 DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Wilkinson seconded by Cllr. J. Fielder and

RESOLVED: (9 For, 1 Abstention)

Members noted the draft minutes of the following Committee meetings:

- (i) **Planning Committee – 24th January 2022**
- (ii) **Finance and Staffing Committee – 24th January 2022**

C21.196 BOUNDARY COMMISSION DRAFT REPORT

The Local Government Boundary Commission's draft recommendations for the new electoral arrangements for Malvern Hills District Council was considered by Members.

The Boundary Commission review considered:

- How many councillors are needed.
- How many wards or electoral divisions there should be, where their boundaries are and what they should be called.
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division.

It was noted that proposal recommended that Malvern Hills should be represented by 31 councillors, seven fewer than there are presently. Tenbury would continue to be represented by 2 councillors however it was recommended that the ward boundary be increased to include Eastham, Hanley and Stanford with Orleton.

Following a discussion on the proposed electorate split it was unanimously

RESOLVED:

No comments to be submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission on the draft recommendations for the new electoral arrangements for Malvern Hills District Council.

C21.197 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Members consider the proposal for an event in The Burgage to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Sunday 5th June. Initial ideas for the event included:

- Civic Parade
- Party in the park with entertainment
- Cream teas in the pavilion
- Outdoor cinema
- Window dressing competition
- Planting of trees



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It was noted that the Museum had agreed to have a display in The Pump Rooms of 1950's items and the football club would like to arrange a mini-tournament. Tenbury Blooms will be selling Jubilee hanging baskets and updating the planters in a red, white and blue theme.

Taking part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons on 2nd June was considered. It was felt that it would be difficult to justify the expenditure on a beacon in the present climate and there were several health and safety issues with a gas-fuelled beacon.

RESOLVED: (9 For, 1 Against)

- (i) **To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with an event on The Burgage on Sunday 5th June.**
- (ii) **Not to purchase a gas-fuelled beacon.**

C21.198 GRANT FUNDING

The Chair stated that The Regal (Tenbury) Trust Ltd had requested if the Council would consider the current grant funding position. The grant this financial year was £6,000 however it will reduce to £3,000 in 2022/23. The 10-year term of the grant terminates with the final payment of £3,000 in April 2022.

Members commented that it was important to support The Regal at this stage, following the impact of COVID, which had also affected the recent pantomime. However, several Members felt it would be beneficial to understand how The Regal plan to spend the grant funding.

Following a discussion, it was unanimously

RESOLVED:

To invite the Chair of The Regal (Tenbury) Trust Ltd to the next Full Council meeting to establish the requirement and use of future grant funding.

C21.199 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

To receive reports from the representatives on outside bodies:

- (i) **CALC Area Meetings** – Mayor & Deputy Mayor – No report.
- (ii) **Regal (Tenbury) Trust** – Mayor – Trust meeting held today, which was followed by a volunteers' gathering. Presentations were made to two former members of staff. The Chair outlined the proposed staffing and volunteer restructure.
- (iii) **Tenbury Area Partnership** – Mayor – Tenbury Blooms and Teme Wheels have joined the group.
- (iv) **Tenbury Museum** – Cllr Patrick – Unfortunately the first bid for Heritage Lottery Funding has been rejected. No further update.
- (v) **Chamber of Trade** – Mayor – No meeting.
- (vi) **Philip Baylies Trust** – Mayor – The structural survey has highlighted issues with the roof, which requires remedial work. Works cannot proceed until agreed with the Conservation Officer.
- (vii) **Malvern Hills District Youth Action Network** – Cllr. A. Corfield – No report.
- (viii) **Tenbury Blooms** – Cllr. L. Davies – No report, jubilee proposals were noted.



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C21.200 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members agreed the exclusion of the Press and Public on the grounds that the consideration of the following items may involve the likely disclosure of confidential information (Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

C21.201 LEASE OF LAND

Members discussed the proposed lease of Town Council land. It was considered that the land was not well maintained and would be suitable to be leased for the proposed parking area.

RESOLVED:

To agree to the lease of Town Council land for the proposed parking area.

C21.202 RE-ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There being no further confidential business to consider Members agreed to readmit the press and public for the remainder of the meeting.

C21.203 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None

C21.204 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 7th March 2022 at 7:00pm

Meeting closed 9.05pm

Signed

Date



Tenbury Town Report February 2022

One Sit on Lawn Mower stolen from an address in Salt Box lane

St Marys Church a door forced open. Believed to have been children hanging around the area. Patrols will be made and also in and around Godsons close where needles have been found. Although the later we believe to be diabetic type, rather than the sort used for drugs.

We have been dealing with an ongoing situation with a male in Tenbury who has caused ASB, and issues in and around Kyreside and various shops in Tenbury. This male has been issued with A Community Protection Notice following an arrest made on Monday. He is currently bailed for the offences. Once at court for the offences, we are looking to serve him with a Criminal Behaviour Order (a bit like the old ASbo's). Magistrates may at that time stipulate certain conditions which must be adhered to otherwise he will be arrested. We have worked to date with other partner agencies. The Criminal Behaviour Order will stay with the individual for the amount of time prescribed by the Magistrates.

We have moved to the Fire station... its official I saw it in the Tenbury Advertiser. We are still able to see members of the public, but as before we are not a fully manned station, so you may find we are not at the station. There will be an A board placed outside when we are in situ.

Other than that, generally crime remains low in Tenbury.

We will be out and about in Tenbury and surrounding Parishes with the mobile Police van carrying out bike and property marking, dates to be advertised via Tenbury Cops on Face book, and Neighbourhood Matters, and we will be attending with MHDC Elliott Nixon on Monday 21st of February at The Swimming Pool 1 til 3.30 for Bike Marking.

Lastly we will be at Tesco 2pm til 4pm for our surgeries on 21st March

That's all for now..

If anyone needs the team you can email at mt.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Ness

On the beat in Martley and Tenbury

Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

January 2022

We are a dedicated group of police officers and police community support officers (PCSOs) who work with local communities and partner organisations to keep our residents, businesses and visitors safe, prevent crime and tackle anti-social behaviour in your locality.

Officers can be contacted on the below numbers concerning community issues.

To report a crime **in progress** call 999 and for non-emergencies, report online at:

www.westmercia.police.uk/report.

If you are unable to report online, you can contact us via the 101 non-emergency number.



Pc Jack Sykes

PCSO Ness Snape

PCSO Teresa Howells Brown

Team contact details

Team Email: mt.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Officer: PC Jack Sykes **Mobile:** 07890390717

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Ness Snape **Mobile:** 07814 040307

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Teresa Howells Brown **Mobile:** 07814041496

Sign up to Neighbourhood Matters ... your brand new community messaging service



Neighbourhood Matters enables residents, businesses and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can choose exactly what type of alert you wish to receive and how you receive them; whether that be by email, text or telephone.

Sign up now at: www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

National Campaigns

21/02/2022 – 27/02/2022 - Mobile phone while driving Operation NPCC Campaign. Patrols will be out and about dealing with this important issue.

Campaign-Local

Neighbourhood Policing Week started on Monday 17th January 2022. On Wednesday 19th January we attended Tesco Tenbury Wells (2 til 4) and handed out personal security advice, purse bells, and personal attack alarms. The purse bells were a huge hit. We need to re-order more, as demand out stripped supply! **Dates will be on Neighbourhood Matters with a new date so watch this space.**

Bike and Property Marking- we will be roaming the Parish's with Bike and Property marking days in February, details to follow via Neighbourhood Matters and emails to clerks.

Police Contact Contract Charter

As part of the Police Contact Contract Charter, we will be out and about in our more rural Parish's collecting speed data in the coming months. We have been on active rural patrols with PC Nigel Bolton, the 'We don't buy Crime Rural' and Business Police Officer, in areas where poaching has taken place. If any vehicles are seen if registration can be taken it is such useful information for us to have. One success story in Hallow where the Hare Coursing Van, which was not taxed or insured was removed by Police. The offenders had a long walk home!

Incident /Crime Statistics

Current statistics on calls to police and crime recording for your neighbourhood can be found at [police.uk](https://www.police.uk). If you wish to discuss further, please contact a member of your safer neighbourhood team.

Surgeries

We attended Hallow and Martley with the start of the 2022 Safer Neighbourhood team's surgeries. At Hallow we had a queue of people lining up with questions, and these have been fed back, for the most part, into the Parish Charter Contact Contract.

We have been in discussion with the Road Safety Team, and Highways, and will feed back results to the members of the Public and Parish Council alike.

Surgery Dates

We have a number of dates set up to meet the Police for our surgeries, which will be on:

21 st February	Hallow Martley	Ladygo Stores 10am til 12pm Martley Shop 1pm til 3pm
21 st March	Great Witley Tenbury	Outside Village Hall 8.30am til 10am Tesco Tenbury Wells 2pm til 4pm
11 th April	Hallow Martley	Ladygo Stores 10am til 12pm Martley Shop 1pm til 3pm
25 th April	Great Witley Tenbury	Outside Village Hall 8.30am til 10am Tesco Tenbury Wells 2pm til 4pm

These dates will be advertised on face book Tenbury Cops, and Neighbourhood Matters as well as emails to the Parish Clerks.

Kind regards.

Worcestershire County Council Report
Meeting of Tenbury Town Council, 7th February 2022

1. Latest Covid Figures as at 7th February 2022 are:
 - a. Worcestershire is showing an infection rate of 1,115 cases per 100,000.
 - b. The infection rate in the Malvern Hills District is 1,202 cases per 100,000.
 - c. The direction of travel is down in Worcestershire as a whole, with only Malvern Hills District seeing an upward trend.
 - d. Worcester City has the highest infection rate in Worcestershire with 1,378 cases per 100,000. Bromsgrove has the lowest infection rate.
 - e. The rate of infection in England as a whole is 973 cases per 100,000.
2. The message from the Director of Public Health at the County Council remains the same: Adhere to Government guidelines, ensure you are fully vaccinated, use doctors surgeries, pharmacies, Minor Injury Units, NHS111 etc., wherever possible and only call an ambulance or visit the Acute Hospital if it is absolutely necessary, in order to keep pressure off these two key services, as far as possible.
3. A full programme of events is being planned by the County Council, to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year, and in particular, over the Bank Holiday weekend in June. Over 5,500 trees have already been planted in Worcestershire as part of the Queen's Green Canopy, with many more being planted during the course of the year.
4. Worcestershire County Council have received £52million of Government Grants for Covid support, including:
 - £21million for the most vulnerable in our communities.
 - £9million on testing, tracing and support for outbreak control.
 - £3million on support for free school meals.
 - £3million support of businesses.
5. The final touches to the Council Budget for 2022/23 are being made and I will update you, following the next Full Council meeting, when the Budget is agreed.
6. It has already been agreed that Local Members' Highway Fund of £22,000 and Councillor's Divisional Fund of £10,000 will be extended to the next financial year. If there are any community projects that you believe would benefit from financial support, then please let me know from April onwards.
7. Out of my current Divisional Fund, I am please to have been able to assist the following projects in Tenbury:
 - £943 to Tenbury High Orminston Academy for sports equipment.
 - £1,460 to Tenbury Community Pool for the purchase of new seating in the spectator area.

- £1,000 to the School of Creative Arts at the Regal Theatre.
- £1,235 to the Town Council for an additional defibrillator to be located outside the library.

David Chambers
County Councillor, Tenbury Division.

Malvern Hills District Council Report – Cllr Lesley Bruton (Tenbury Ward)

Chief Executive's Roundup

Vic, our CEO, has produce a report from the District Council to Parish Councils - please find attached Vic's January report, which gives a more general update about what is going on.

COVID-19 Updates

Please see below a few links for COVID-19 updates.

To view the latest infection rate visit WCC Coronavirus Dashboard

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/COVIDdashboard>

Vehicle Charging Points

Malvern Hills District Council has a commitment under both its 5 Year Plan and Destination Zero report to install electric charging points in its public car parks. The Council has agreed to install six in Teme Street car park.

Events Support

Funding through the ERDF Welcome Back was provided to support several events including the Halloween outdoor cinema, the Santa Grotto and free Christmas Films event in St Mary's Church. From my Ward budget I also provided funding towards the Santa Parade and the Christmas films event.

Christmas Events

On Thursday 9 December 2021 a Christmas Arts Market was held at the Tesco MarketSpace. Entertainment was provided by the Royal British Legion Choir, Tenbury CofE Primary Academy Choir and Tenbury Town Band.

Following the success of last year's market, a Christmas Market is being planned for Thursday 8th December this year.

Christmas Swags were also funded by the District Council and provided to businesses in the town. The Swags were purchased from a local business who made a donation from the order to the Christmas Lights appeal.

There was a Christmas Santa Needs You Trail with characters hidden in shop windows in 3D Augmented Reality. The trail aimed to help families go out and explore the town, get some exercise and have fun.

Free parking was offered in all the Council's car parks on Saturdays throughout December.

Community Builders

Funded by the Public Health's Containment Outbreak Management Fund for Asset Based Community Development, the Council has appointed two Community Builders Officers. The Community Builders will be working with residents and partners to strengthen community connections with the aim of reducing isolation and improving health and well-being.

I will be meeting the Community Builder for Tenbury to discuss current assets, community activities and funding opportunities for projects including support for St.Michaels pond.

Poverty Summit

The District Council held its second Poverty Summit in November to discuss support needed in the district to tackle poverty and rough sleeping across the district. This will guide the development of a partnership plan.

Omicron Business Support Funding

New funding support was announced by the Government for businesses affected by the Omicron variant of CoVID-19.

This support includes:

- One-off grants up to £6,000 for qualifying businesses in the hospitality and leisure sectors.
- New Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) funding for other businesses impacted by Omicron – such as those who supply the hospitality and leisure sectors. It will up the discretion of the Council to allocate this funding to businesses most in need but as with previous ARG funding allocations, it is unlikely to be enough to support all business affected.

Council's Five-Year Plan

A refresh of the Council's Five-Year Plan was agreed at Council on 25 January. New additions include support for Malvern Hills District Youth Forum to improve mental wellbeing education in schools, investment in the refurbishment of five town centre toilets by 2025 and investment of £150,000 in major flood alleviation schemes, including Tenbury and Severn Stoke.

Tenbury Business Park

The District Council has agreed the sale of 0.6 acres of undeveloped land at Tenbury Business Park to G.E.Bright Electrical. The Council will be supporting G.E Bright Electrical, who plan to build as an investment in the local economy.

The Council is responsible for the management of the industrial units together with negotiating sales and agreeing terms for the disposal of the land. Of the original 5.2 acres of undeveloped land, 2.3 acres have been sold developed. The remainder of land is being marketed by a local estate agent.

Worcestershire Household Support Fund

Following a recent Government announcement, a new Household Support Fund has been made available to those most in need this winter and through until the end of March 2022. £3.9m has been allocated to support people in need in Worcestershire. Up to 50% of the funding must be ringfenced to support families with children under 19. Please attached for further details.

£500 Incentive to New Apprentices and Trainees

Payments of £500 are on offer to anyone starting an apprenticeship or training course as part of a new incentive scheme. The 'golden hello' has been introduced by the Council to encourage the take up of apprenticeships and trainee programmes, which will help many take their first steps in the world of work.

The incentive forms part of Malvern Hills and Wychavon Upskilling Project, which has received £283,000 from the Government's UK Community Renewal Fund.

Support payments of £1,000 are also available to help apprentices and trainees cover the cost of travel, equipment, clothing and other associated expenses.

Upskilling Funding for Businesses

Local businesses could receive grant funding up to £2,000 towards the cost of taking on a new apprentice or trainee. The Council has introduced the grant as part of the Upskilling Project, as mentioned above, to boost skills, help business grow and support people in work.

Businesses in any sector can apply for up to two upskilling grants, as long as the trainees started after 1 April 2021 and before 31 March 2022. To qualify, businesses need to be based in the Malvern Hills district postcode area and employ fewer than 250 people.

Car Share Scheme

A popular car scheme has been given a funding boost of more than £100k from Malvern Hills District Council to continue to support rural communities and reduce carbon omissions.

The Malvern Hills Community Car Club is a voluntary organisation, run by volunteers and members themselves, providing access to pay-as-you-go vehicles. The scheme aims to improve accessibility to transport for residents in rural areas as well as to

help households reduce their carbon footprint by not owning a car and having more consideration about their car use.

The Council has provided £101,995 from its priority commitment to Community Transport and is calling out to communities to get involved. The funding will go towards setting up four 'satellite hubs' to facilitate the clubs, with the small town and larger villages of Tenbury, Upton and Kempsey being specially targeted.



21 January 2022 (MHDC)

To be shared

Have your say on a new political map for Malvern Hills District Council

New boundaries are being proposed for council wards in Malvern Hills District Council.

The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and local organisations think about the proposals. A 10-week week consultation on the proposals will run until **21 March 2022**.

The Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It is reviewing Malvern Hills to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that ward arrangements will help the council work effectively.

It is proposed there should be 31 councillors, with 13 single-councillor wards, six two-councillor wards, and two three-councillor wards.

Proposed changes include:

- Significantly altered wards for Malvern to unite key centres within the town
- New wards in the north east of the district based on responses from parishes and councillors

How can I comment on the proposals?

To have your say all you need to do is tell the Local Government Boundary Commission what you think of the proposals and your reasons why. You are also welcome to put forward alternative proposals.

[Have your say on the new Boundary Review proposals.](#)

You can also:

- Email reviews@lgbce.org.uk
- Write to: Review Officer (Malvern Hills), LGBCE, PO Box 133, Blyth, NE24 9FE

Prime Minister's statement to Parliament on COVID-19 and the Omicron variant

On Wednesday 19 January The Prime Minister gave a statement to Parliament on the progress against the Omicron variant and the review of the Plan B measures.

In his statement, he said the latest Office for National Statistics data show clearly that infection levels are falling in England and that scientists believe it is likely that the Omicron wave has now peaked nationally.

He added that hospital admissions have now stabilised, with admissions in London even falling, and that numbers in intensive care are also falling.

As a result, the Prime Minister announced that the country can return to Plan A in England and allow Plan B regulations to expire. From 27 January, mandatory certification will end although organisations can choose to use the NHS Covid Pass voluntarily.

He also confirmed that the government is no longer asking people to work from home and that once regulations lapse, the government will no longer mandate the wearing of face masks anywhere.

He added that from 20 January, the government will no longer require face masks in classrooms, and that the Department for Education will shortly remove national guidance on their use in communal areas from 27 January.

He also announced that the government will also ease further restrictions on visits to care homes and will set out plans in the coming days.

He concluded by explaining that the self-isolation regulations will expire on 24 March and that he would not expect to renew them and could even bring that date forwards if the data allowed it. In advance of that, the government will set out their long-term strategy for living with COVID-19. [Visit the Gov website to read the full statement.](#)

Using your NHS COVID Pass for travel abroad and at venues in England

On Tuesday 18 January, the Department of Health and Social Care updated the guidance on how to use the NHS COVID Pass to demonstrate COVID-19 status when travelling abroad and domestically at venues and settings in England.

The update includes a video about the NHS COVID Pass letter for domestic use in British Sign Language (BSL). [Visit the Gov website for guidance.](#)

Omicron business support funding

The Government has announced new funding to support businesses affected by the Omicron variant of Covid-19.

This support includes:

- One-off grants of up to £6,000 for qualifying businesses in the hospitality and leisure sectors.
- New Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) funding for other businesses impacted by Omicron – such as those who supply the hospitality and leisure sectors. It will be up to our discretion to allocate this funding to businesses most in need but as with previous ARG funding allocations, it is unlikely to be enough to support all businesses affected.

We have yet to receive detailed guidance from the Government about how these two support funds are to be administered or what our allocation of the money available will be.

Once we have this information, it is likely there will have to be an application process. We hope to be able to make a further announcement about this early in January. We will keep this page updated or [sign up for our business e-newsletter](#).

Businesses could win £1,000 by taking part in skills survey

Businesses are being encouraged to take part in a survey to find out what their skills and training needs are.

The survey is being run by Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils with telemarketing agency, Team Telemarketing, and will end on **31 January 2022**.

They will be contacted via phone call to take part in the survey but it can also be done online. All entrants will be entered into a prize draw to win a £1,000 cash prize.

The results will help guide the councils in providing targeted support to businesses including future subsidised courses to meet their needs, help with recruitment and to fill the skills gap.

The survey is being run as part of the Malvern Hills and Wychavon Upskilling Project which has received funding of £283,050 from the UK Government Renewal Fund.

[Read more about the survey and how to take part.](#)

Commonwealth Games baton-bearers

The excitement is building for this year's Commonwealth Games, taking place in Birmingham from 28 July to 8 August, and bringing an economic boost to the whole of the West Midlands.

The anticipation has stepped up a gear this week with the opening of nominations for baton-bearers for the Queen's Baton Relay in England.

The 294-day relay is already under way, with the baton – containing a message to the Commonwealth from Her Majesty The Queen – set to visit every corner of the Commonwealth.

The relay arrives in England in early July and thousands of people will then carry the baton around the UK during the final 25-day leg before the games begin in Birmingham.

This is your chance to nominate someone who you'd like to see carry the baton as part of the relay. The Birmingham 2022 organisers are looking for individuals who:

- are always willing to take on a challenge and has a unique and inspiring story;
- has made a meaningful contribution to sport, education, the arts, culture, or charity;
- is a figure of inspiration who positively challenges others to achieve their best;
- has taken on a challenge or cause and made a positive impact within their community.

[You can make a nomination here](#). The deadline is **14 February 2022**.

Keep Britain Tidy award



Our Community and Environmental Protection Team have been shortlisted for one of Keep Britain Tidy's national awards.

The award is within the Community Engagement category for efforts on environmental improvements for local residents.

Improvements by our team include Adopt-a-Street Scheme, Community Litterpicks, Green Dog Walkers Project, Schools Eco Sessions and more.

The Keep Britain Tidy Awards will be presented at the charity's annual Network Conference at the Birmingham Hilton Metropole hotel on Thursday 10 February 2022.

The awards recognise and celebrate local authorities that are committed to making significant improvements to the environment on people's doorsteps, from community engagement work to waste enforcement work.

There are ten award categories altogether, each with three shortlisted contenders, we are in the running alongside The City of Westminster and Manchester City Council. We will keep you posted on the results.

Valentine's Breaks

The Malverns is being promoted as a Valentine's Break destination with a dedicated Valentine's Breaks blog story via Visit The Malverns social media channels.

Other promotions include romantic walks, romantic meals, and jewellers. Various media enquiries have also been responded to which will hopefully generate some national newspaper coverage. The campaign also promotes 'Fall in love with our Town Centres' as part of town centre recovery to encourage footfall. [Read more on the Valentine's webpage on the Visit the Malverns website](#).

Upton upon Severn Easter Trail

Plans are beginning to take shape for Upton Tourist Information Centre as they prepare to host a new town centre trail after the success of the Pumpkin Trail in October.

The new Easter trail will encourage visitors to tour the shops whilst solving riddles to find the golden egg. More information coming soon.

Priory Park lower pond plans



The lower pond in Priory Park will be cleaned and enhanced for the first time in over 30 years.

The works, which will see the pond desilted and repaired, will form part of the council's Five Year Plan to improve the play area and biodiversity enhancements in the popular Great Malvern park.

Following the recent desilting and repair of the upper pond in Priory Park, which has reinstated water flow into the lower pond further, more significant works are required to the lower pond to improve water quality and biodiversity. Desilting will enable the pond to start capturing carbon again and provide the right environment for plants to grow.

The project will take place early in 2022, to avoid key amphibian and bird breeding seasons and to ensure the least environmental impact to the wider park. Read more about this on the [Priory Park webpage](#).

Worcestershire Household Support Fund

Following a recent government announcement, a new Household Support Fund has been made available to those most in need this winter and through until the end of March 2022.

£3.9million has been allocated to support people in need in Worcestershire and will help support those who may struggle with their bills this winter.

Up to 50% of the funding must be ringfenced to support families with children under 19.

In Worcestershire, support provided countywide is:

- Food vouchers for those in receipt of free school meals which will be managed through the schools.
- Support with energy bills and essentials linked to energy will be provided through Act on Energy for those residents meeting certain criteria. The online application form for support is now live on the website [WORCESTERSHIRE HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND - Act On Energy](#)

In addition, local district councils have also set up a range of provision to provide support to vulnerable residents.

There is a dedicated webpage which summarises the support available [Household Support Fund | Worcestershire Winters Well | Worcestershire County Council](#).

Below are the relevant contact details to signpost to about the support available in the districts.

District	Organisation	Contact
Bromsgrove	Citizens Advice Redditch and Bromsgrove	https://www.cabr.org.uk/ ; 01527 881288; 0808 278 7890
Redditch	Citizens Advice Redditch and Bromsgrove	https://www.cabr.org.uk/ ; 01527 64252; 0808 278 7890
Malvern	Citizens Advice South Worcestershire	citizensadvicesw.org.uk ; 0808 278 7891; 01684 563611
Worcester City	Worcester City Council	Coronavirus - Worcester City Council 01905 722233
Wyre Forest	Wyre Forest District Council	Household support fund Wyre Forest District Council (wyreforestdc.gov.uk) 01562 732928
Wychavon	Worcestershire County Council – Here2Help	Coronavirus (COVID-19) update - Wychavon District Council Here2Help Coronavirus (COVID-19) Worcestershire County Council 01905 768053 then press option 3.



4 February 2022 (MHDC)

TO SHARE

Support for energy prices – the council tax rebate

Yesterday (3 February), the Government announced measures to help protect millions of households from rising energy costs.

This includes a £150 council tax energy rebate. Detailed guidance and funding allocations will be published in the week beginning 7 February.

The Government will provide funding for billing authorities to give all households in England whose primary residence is valued in council tax bands A – D a one-off council tax energy rebate payment of £150. This payment will operate outside of the council tax system, using council tax lists to identify eligible households. [Read more about the council tax rebate.](#)

Levelling Up White Paper

The Government has published its long-awaited Levelling Up White Paper.

This sets out the plan for reversing the UK's geographic inequalities and improving the country by:

- Unleashing the full potential of the private sector, boosting pay, productivity, innovation and economic growth
- Improving public services, including giving everyone access to higher quality schools and training, improving people's health, particularly in disadvantaged communities, and increasing the supply and standard of housing
- Regenerating town centres and high streets, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour to make streets safer, and ensuring everyone has access to culture

The White Paper contains 12 national missions – all quantifiable and to be achieved by 2030 – which will be given status in law in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, including:

- A new devolution framework which sets out a clear menu of options for places in England that wish to unlock the benefits of devolution. By 2030, every part of England that wishes to have a 'London-style' devolution deal will have one.
- A transformation of the government's approach to data and evaluation, with a new independent body created to improve transparency of local government performance.
- A commitment to simplify the local growth funding landscape.
- The intention to mobilise £16 billion of the Local Government Pension Scheme for investments in local projects.
- The £2.6 billion UK Shared Prosperity Fund will be decentralised to local leaders as far as possible.
- Councils will be given the power to require landlords of empty shops to fill them if they have been left vacant for too long.
- 68 more councils to be supported by the High Streets Task Force.
- All homes in the Private Rented Sector will have to meet a minimum standard – the Decent Homes Standard.
- 55 Education Investment Areas (EIAs) will be designated where school outcomes are currently weakest and will benefit from intensive investment and support.

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, has written to all councils in the UK with details of the White Paper. See the attached document.

Youth investment fund

One of the announcements alongside the Levelling Up White Paper was the creation of a Youth Investment Fund.

Youth services across 45 Local Authorities, and around 600 district wards in the most deprived parts of England, will be eligible to apply for the £378 million Youth Investment Fund.

I am pleased to report that Pickersleigh is one of the ward areas chosen.

The first phase of funding is open for applications now and charities, voluntary sector organisations, schools, uniformed groups and sports clubs providing activities in the Droitwich West area can apply.

Read the [Youth Investment fund announcement](#).

Find out how to [apply for money from the Youth Investment Fund](#).

Lower Pond Works

Work is set to start next week on cleaning out and enhancing the lower pond in Priory Park.

As part of preparations this week, the surrounding trees are being pruned and draining of the pond started. Specialists will remove the fish safely.



To assist with the works, the Council House car park on Avenue Road will be closed on Monday to Thursdays between 7 February and 29 April.

The footpaths by the lower pond in the park will also be closed between 7 February and 29 April. Visitors are being asked to follow the signs.

The works follow recent desilting and repair of the upper pond, which has reinstated water flow into the lower pond however, more significant works

are required to the lower pond to improve water quality and biodiversity.

Desilting will enable the pond to start capturing carbon again and provide the right environment for plants to grow.

In addition to desilting, the project also includes:

- Specialist fish removal prior to draining.
- Installation of gabion baskets to create planting shelves.
- Wetland planting to create habitat for aquatic invertebrates and insects.
- Tree works to reduce overshadowing and leaf litter accumulation.
- Installation of wildlife features including kingfisher perch and habitat log piles.
- Non-native shrub thinning or removal and re-planting with native.
- Shrubs and woodland bulb planting.

Works on the lower pond will run until April 2022.

Visit www.malvern hills.gov.uk/priorypark to keep up to date with the improvements to Priory Park.

Youth Chair Fund

Young people can now apply for up to £500 to fund projects that will benefit communities within the Malvern Hills district.

Our Youth Chair Fund will fund upcoming projects designed by the district's young people aged between 11 to 17, the deadline to apply is 4 March 2022.



The fund will help support a wide range of ventures such as short-term projects, celebrations, trips, and equipment.

Local projects that have already gained from the fund include Tenbury High Ormiston Academy's Time to Talk cabin, which provides a safe space for students to talk about and seek support with their mental health and wellbeing.

Perfect Circle Youth Theatre group also created a short film

based on their ideas and projects, teaching them how to film and edit, and Upton Young Farmers received funding to support a new member's day to encourage new people to join.

This is a great opportunity for young people, please pass on to your local community groups and mailing lists.

Visit www.malvern hills.gov.uk/youth for more information.

Malvern Hills businesses could benefit from £2,000 upskilling grants

Local businesses could receive up to £2,000 towards the cost of taking on a new apprentice or trainee thanks to a new Upskilling Grant.

Malvern Hills District Council has introduced the grant as part of the Upskilling Project, which is part-funded by the UK Government through the UK Community Renewal Fund.

The £283,000 project involves a range of activities designed to boost skills, help businesses grow and support people into work.

Businesses in any sector can apply for up to two upskilling grants, as long as the trainees started after 1 April 2021 and before 31 March 2022.

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.

Grants are paid on a first come first served basis and will only last for as long as the funding does. Businesses are urged to apply early, so they don't miss out.

Grants are paid after the apprentice or trainee has completed three months of their course.

Businesses can find out more about the grant, and how to apply, by visiting www.malvern hills.gov.uk/skills

Malvern Hills offers £500 incentive to new apprentices and trainees

Payments of £500 are on offer to anyone starting an apprenticeship or training course as part of a new incentive scheme.

The 'golden hello' has been introduced by Malvern Hills District Council to encourage the take up of apprenticeships and trainee programmes, which help many people take their first steps in the world of work or embark on new careers.

This incentive forms part of the Malvern Hills and Wychavon Upskilling Project, which has been given £283,000 from the UK Government's UK Community Renewal Fund.

New apprentices or trainees of any age are eligible to receive the one-off £500 payment if they meet the criteria.

To qualify, they must live or work in the Malvern Hills area, earn less than £15,000 a year, complete the first three months of their courses and claim the payment themselves.

Support payments of up to £1,000 are also available to help apprentices and trainees cover the cost of travel, equipment, clothing and other associated expenses.

Applications for this scheme must be made by 31 March 2022. Other funding schemes to help with training costs will still be available after this date.

People can apply for the payment, and find more details, including full terms and conditions, online at www.malvern hills.gov.uk/skills

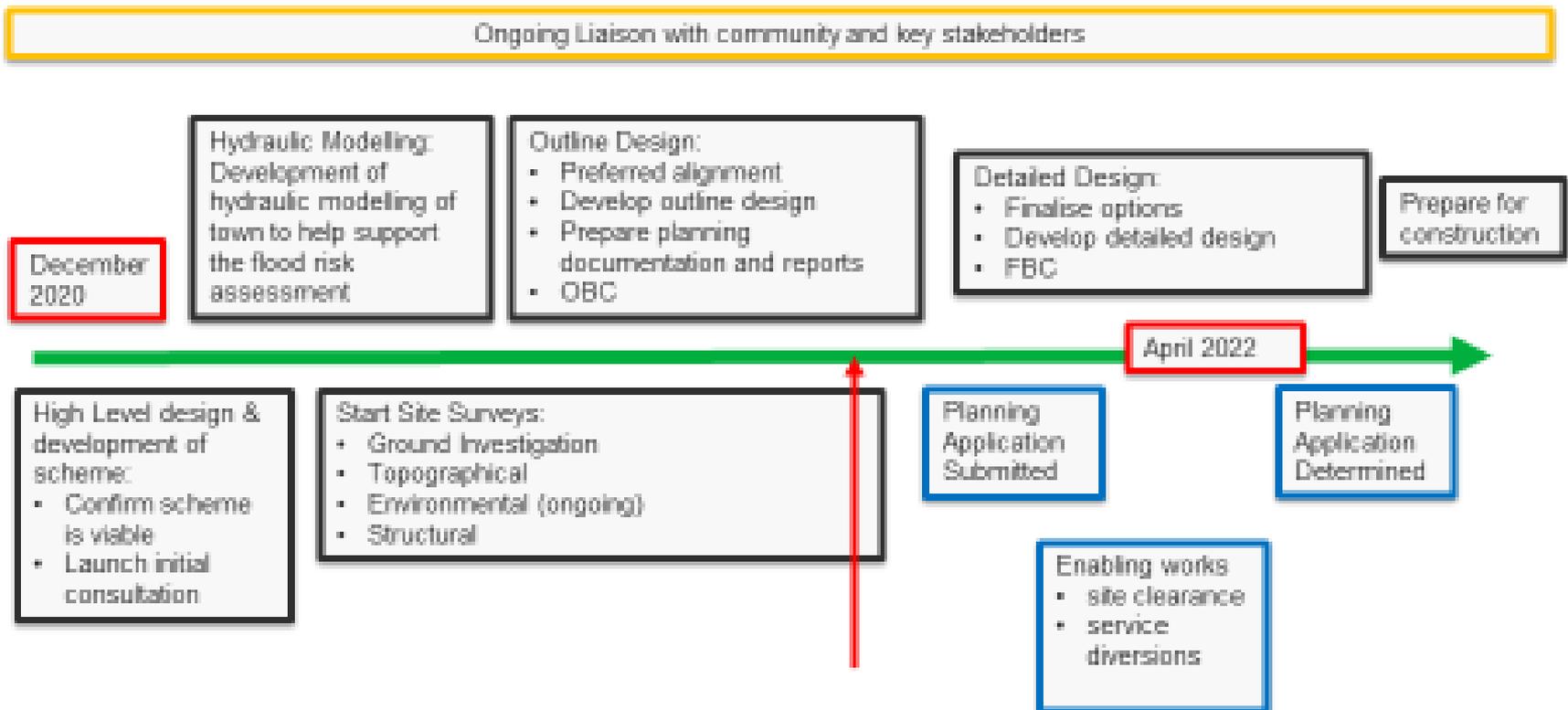


Tenbury FRMS

Town Council Meeting - Update

07/02/22

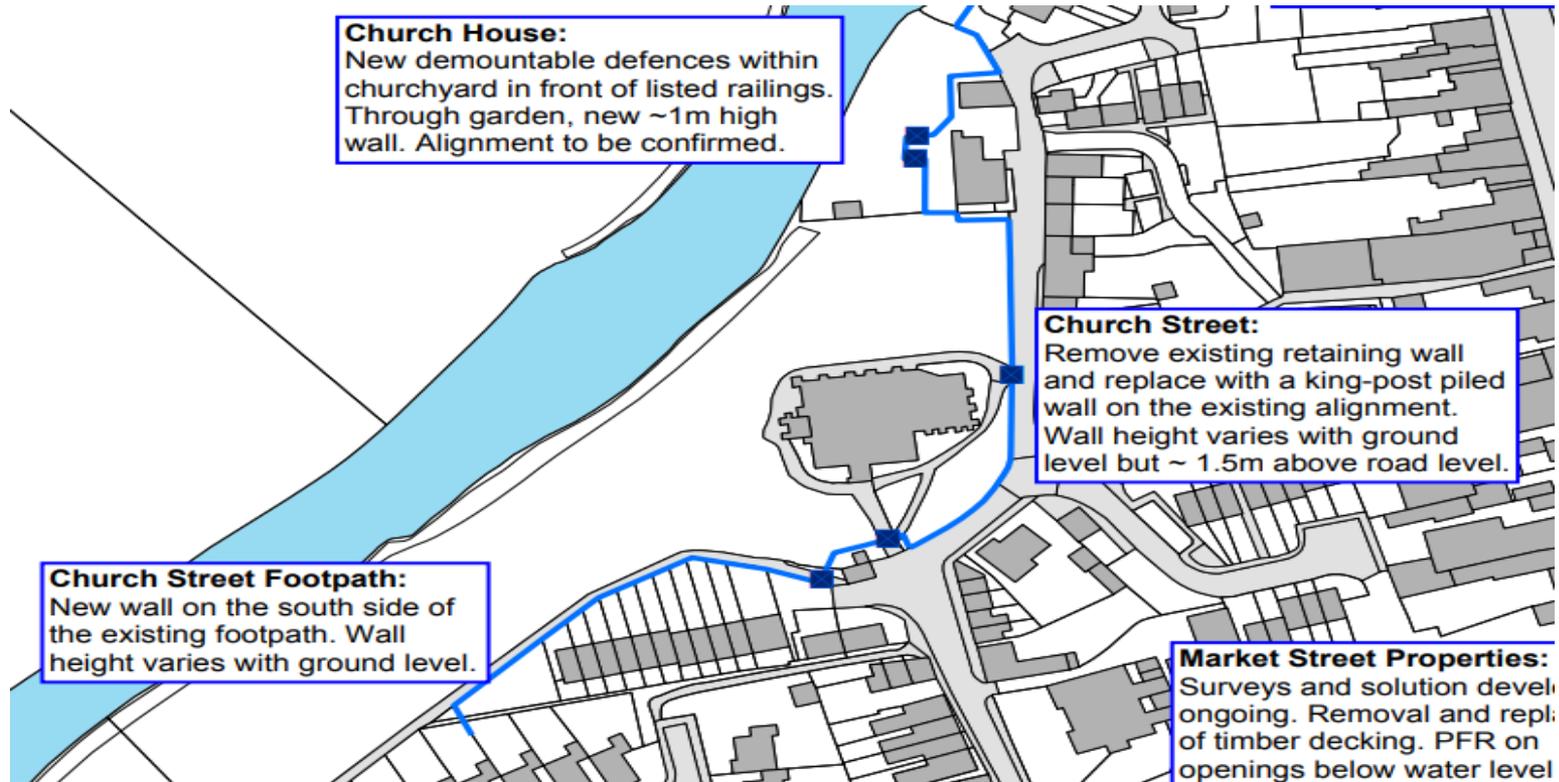
High Level timeline for project



Works complete since last update

- Site surveys (topo, GI, GPR, environmental, structural)
- Design development
- Modelling (with scheme)
- EIA Scoping responses received
- BNG discussions progressing
- Heritage updates
- Low carbon innovation investigations

Church Street and Church House



2. Footpath adjacent to cemetery, wall transitions to a hedge beyond this photo.



3. Entrance to St Mary's Church including the Old Fire Engine Shed and boundary wall



4. Church House gardens, existing concrete retaining wall by River Teme.

Teme Bridge and Temeside House

Teme Bridge road:

Two swing-gates, stored on either side of Teme Street.

Temeside House:

Masonry clad, ~1.3m high shallow foundation wall.

River Teme Access Ramp:

Swing-gate positioned part way down the access ramp in-between the access arches.

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7. Riverside cottage left, and Teme Bridge (Google maps, 2021)

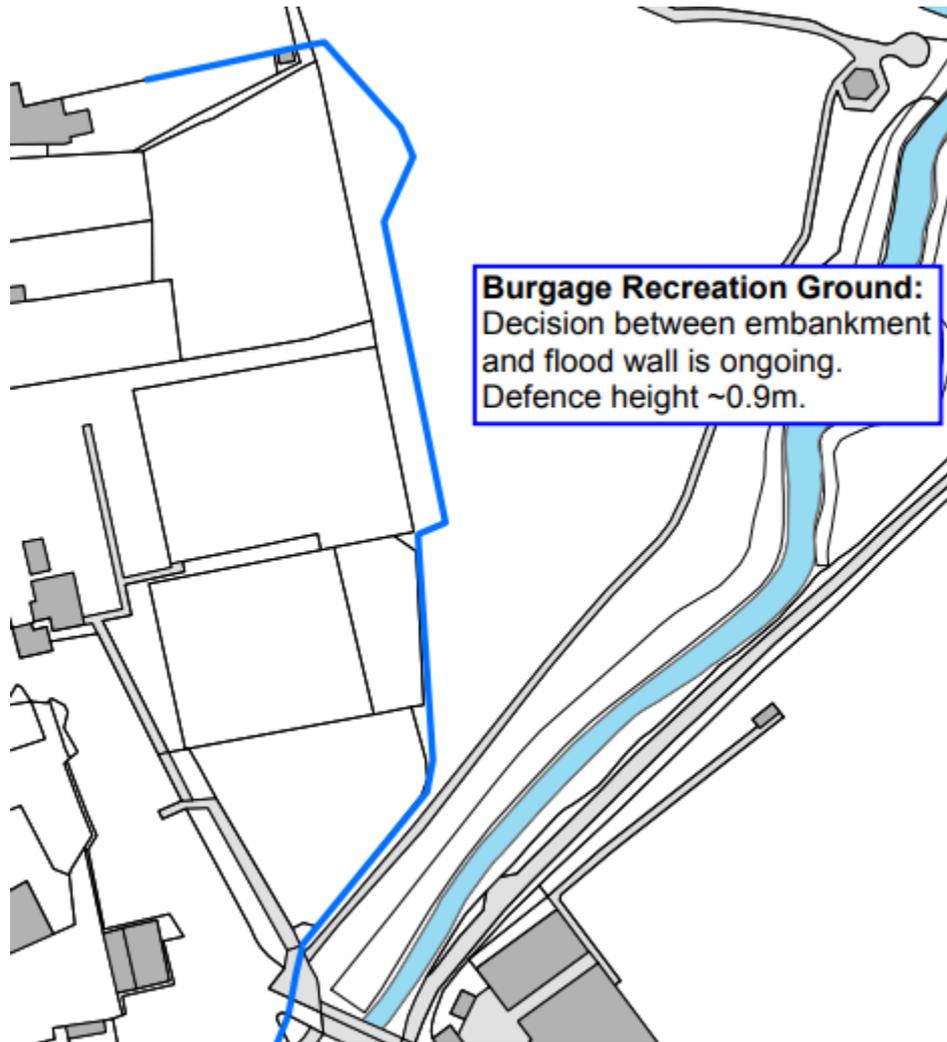


8. Access ramp to the River Teme with footbridge over.



9. Footpath, looking towards Teme Bridge, railings along the riverside.

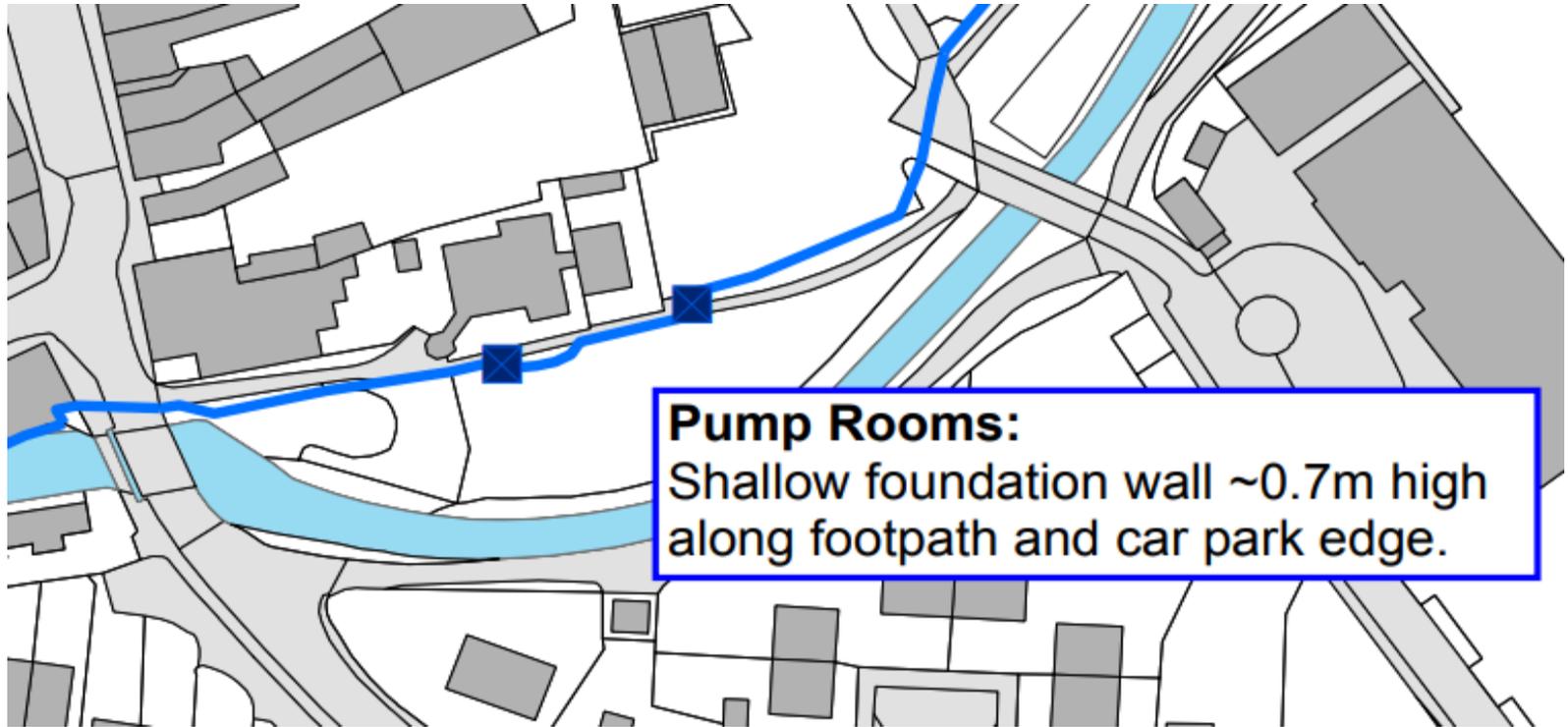
The Burgage



10. Burgage recreation ground, play park and sports facilities on the left.



The Pump Rooms and Kyre Brook



11. Green space in front of the Pump Rooms, Kyre Brook behind hedge.



12. The Crow Inn and beer gardens seen from the B4204 bridge over the Kyre Brook (Google maps, 2021)



Pembroke Avenue & Belle Orchard



Next Steps

- Completion of additional Surveys for Kyre Brook and Teme L/B
- GPR surveys in churchyard are complete and are being reviewed
- Continue to progress discussions with SRT for BNG on Kyre Bk
- Further engagement and agreement with landowners
- Compile feedback from Engagement event to inform planning
- Completion and pricing of outline designs
- Drafting of planning application

Consultation / Engagement

- Material to be shared with partners and public when design freeze in place (nature of this to be decided by COVID restrictions)
- Landowner consultation and agreements underway and ongoing
- Ongoing discussions with ST and WCC
- Monthly scheme updates
- Website
- Please call/email with concerns
- Regular Partner/Town Council/MHDC/FLAG/Heritage updates

Programme – Key Dates

- Outline design freeze – early 22
- Landowner/partner consultation – February/March 22
- Service diversions – Summer 22
- Planning permission submission – April 2022 - Early May 2022
- FBC submission – July 22
- Possible planning determination – August 22

