

## Parish Council Report – November 2022

Well, they do say a week is a long time in politics..... nuff said, I think.

From a Council perspective there seems to be some normality returning.

This week saw the first Business Leader's Meeting since 2019 and was attended by over 150 businesses. Shropshire's businesses are certainly resilient and although there are difficulties in terms of energy costs and supply chains there is certainly optimism. The one real worry which is also directly affecting the council is that of recruitment. There wasn't one business at the event that had not experienced difficulties in filling posts at all levels.

And on this note on Tuesday 15th November Shropshire Council will be hosting the Shropshire Leadership Conference at Theatre Severn. The guest speaker is Sir Clive Woodward. This conference is aimed at the Human Resources market and features a whole variety of guest speakers. This is the third conference, and they go from strength to strength but again, the first time it has taken place since 2019.

It's also that time of year when we have to make major decisions in terms of our budgets for the next financial year. There is no doubt that the noises coming out of Westminster re cuts to public funding are extremely worrying. As you are aware from my previous updates the Council's finances are already stretched to breaking point and we are already having to make very difficult decisions. Any further cuts to our funding could be fatal. Our budget for next year will aim to protect essential statutory services like care, housing and waste collection while critically reviewing those services which we have a choice to, rather than obliged to provide.

In other news

- You may have seen the recent announcement of the roll out of 6 School Street schemes, more will follow and there will be further information regarding 20mph speed limits in the near future.
- We have been successful in securing £2.5M for supporting the rough sleeping across the county which will help us over the winter months and will also provide enhanced substance misuse work.
- Our submission for the Divisional Boundary Review has been submitted. Amazingly it was a joint submission signed by all political groups. We have also had it confirmed that the Commission will undertake a formal review into single member divisions. Doesn't affect Tern as you only have one member!! The Commission will come up with suggested boundaries, I am sure this stage will be debated! The final draft for the parliamentary review is released on Wed 8<sup>th</sup> November. There are no expected changes for the Tern Division although it is likely that the Shrewsbury Constituency will lose the Severn Valley and Burnell Divisions to the South Shropshire Constituency.

## Local News

New recycling and waste collection calendars have been posted to households in the former Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough, look out in case you have a change to your collection day.

From 7 November changes will be made to some recycling and waste collection days in these areas to make the collection service more efficient and reduce the distances that the collection lorries need to travel on their rounds.

New collection calendars have been delivered – by Royal Mail – to advise people of any changes to their collection day or service.

Any households that – due to a collection day change – would have to wait over 18 days before getting a collection (i.e., the existing two-week cycle, plus four days) will get an interim collection, based on their old collection day.

For more information about Shropshire Council's recycling and waste services and the changes, [click here](#) or visit <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/>

My best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

Kind regards,



Lezley Picton

Shropshire Councillor for the Tern Division.