District and County Councillor Report May 2023 from Kathy and Tom Wells

Malvern Hills District and Parish Council election results

Counting took place at the Bank House Hotel, Bransford, on Friday, 5 May.

Following the Local Government Boundary review there were 31 seats up for election to represent 18 district wards.

The political balance now stands as:

Independents: 11 Greens: 7 Conservatives: 7 Liberal Democrats: 3 Malvern Hills Independents: 3

In the ward of Powick and the Hanleys, Tom Wells and Kathy Wells were returned as the 2 District Councillors



New District Discount Book

Residents and visitors now have access to a new discount book containing hundreds of vouchers to spend on high streets across the district.

The District Discount Book is a new initiative created by Upton News and supported by MHDC.

It aims to generate footfall and new sales for local businesses within the district.

Booklets are on sale in local shops, community venues and online, for just £1.

Over 200 local businesses have signed up to feature their vouchers and discounts.

Visit <u>www.districtdiscounts.co.uk</u> for more information.

New Tourism Grant

A new grant has been launched to help tourism businesses in the district grow and increase visitor numbers.

The Malvern Hills Tourism Grant Scheme is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The aim of the scheme is to help develop the local tourism industry within specific areas, as well as increasing visitor numbers and improving the visitor experience within the Malvern Hills District.

The scheme plans to support the Malvern Hills District tourism industry to grow over a twoyear period, with the opportunity to:

> Encourage businesses to adopt greener practices Help with upkeep of local attractions Improve visitor experience Improve accessibility at attractions Encourage festival and event development in town centres

Eligible businesses can apply for a 50% match-funded grant. Grants include:

Cultural/Heritage Attractions - up to £5,000 Attractions – up to £2,500 Sustainable Tourism – up to £2,500 Festivals and Events - up to £1,000

Visit <u>www.malvernhills.gov.uk/grants-and-funding</u> for more information.

Supporting Ukraine



MHDC's Ukrainian Liaison Officer has recently been on an incredible journey in collaboration with Helping Hands, and the generous benefactors supporting.

As a result of their kind donations three generators were able to be purchased.

The generators were transported from London to Malvern and shipped to Ukraine.

These generators will go a long way to supporting both schools and the military in desperate times, for example during air raid sirens or power outages.

For more information on how we are supporting Ukraine.