

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

Independents and Greens in charge of Malvern Hills District Council



No party or group won enough seats in the local elections in May to take overall control of the council.

But Tom Wells, the Independent councillor for Powick and the Hanleys, was re-elected as leader at the annual council meeting on 23rd May.

Cllr Wells is also the portfolio holder for community services.

Green councillor Natalie McVey, who represents the West ward, is again deputy leader and the portfolio holder for housing and health.

The other portfolio holders are all either Independent or Green councillors. David Harrison is the portfolio holder for planning, infrastructure and flooding, Beverley Neilsen takes economic development and tourism, John Raine will look after environmental services and John Gallagher resources.

MHDC Discuss Malvern Hills College at Council Meeting

At the Council meeting on 23rd May, Councillors were updated on the ongoing litigation with Warwickshire College Group concerning the lifting of the covenant which restricts the use of Malvern Hills College to education purposes only.

Councillors were also updated on the proposed sale of the College to Malvern Hills Arts and Community College Limited.

Tom Wells, Leader of Malvern Hills

District Council, said: "In recognising the immense value of the college to the community, Malvern Hills District Council reaffirmed its commitment to defend the covenant through the court proceedings but also continue to make every attempt to seek a settlement which sees the college sold to Malvern Hills Arts and Community College".





Malvern Hills Reintroduction of Pearl-bordered Fritillary

A species of butterfly that disappeared from the Malvern Hills 30 years ago has been reintroduced by a conservationist.

To make this a reality, Mel Mason, from the West Midlands branch of Butterfly Conservation, took to Spacehive to crowdfund his project and raised over £13,500.

The project was to bring the

Pearl-bordered Fritillary back to countryside on the borders of Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire.

Reintroducing the species of butterfly back on to the Malvern Hills will improve the habitat for wildlife and to increase biodiversity.

Malvern Hills District Council is so pleased to have supported this project by providing over £6,800 towards the cause.

Mel appeared on BBC Midlands Today this week and BBC Hereford and Worcester to talk about the project.

[Watch Mel's interview with the BBC.](#)