

Ward Report Ledbury South;-

This month has seen a plethora of Hereford meetings either postponed or cancelled.

I laid the wreath on behalf of Herefordshire Council's Chairman at our Ledbury Remembrance Sunday Service.,

I attended a Malvern Hills Board Meeting.

I attended a Malvern Hills AONB Joint Advisory Committee, at which we received a presentation from the Carbon Reduction Project Officer on Tackling climate change – I give a flavour of the presentation ;-

“Work to offset carbon emissions included implementing a biodiversity strategy such as tree planting and meadow creation, as well as working with partners on projects such as habitat restoration and carbon capture. Global warming was a local and global issue which was causing heatwaves, droughts, floods increasing the risk of extinction for some species and effects on people's wellbeing. Mitigation was about making the impact of climate change less severe by reducing greenhouse gases, while adaptation was taking action to prevent or minimise the damage of climate change. He suggested the AONB Partnership was able to work to introduce resilient practices such as only contributing to projects with climate positive aims and ensuring active travel was possible in the area. The Management Plan could take a role in increasing awareness of the issue and offering guidance.

Five of Malvern's waste collection lorries had been converted to use Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil, which was coming from waste sources. This was cheaper than buying new electric vehicles.”

A very interesting presentation.

I attended the Ledbury Food Bank's Trustee Meeting.

A few statistics: -

In 2021 there were 1762 visits to the Food Bank , 3865 food parcels were distributed and there were 63 new visitors.

By the end of October 2022 there were 2052 visits to the Food Bank and 5240 food parcels were delivered and there were 86 new visitors.

At the beginning of 2021 approximately 70 households were supported every month this figure has increased to 100 in the last two months.

Donations of food have been generous and there are over 65 volunteers giving their time to help those who come to the Food Bank in need. So the Food Bank can expand its offering it has been given free use of the office premises adjoining the main unit until March next year, and a very generous donor has agreed to pay the rent for this for the next three years. The new unit will be used for storage of additional stock and items bought for distribution to visitors and for the storage and distribution of school uniforms. In addition, there is a room that will be used for meetings and as a consultation room so that visitors can be seen more privately.

The Food Bank AGM is on 30th November.

I attended Members Briefings of Stronger Towns Fund and Talk Community

I stood in for Councillor Gandy at the Adult Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. The principal items for discussion were the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Impact of the Intensive Poultry Industry on Human Health and Wellbeing.

Helen I'Anson