

The agenda for next SC meeting on 15th December is awaited and, to try and address soaring inflation, is likely to include further serious cuts in services. There are difficult times ahead . . .

The possible transfer of energy generated from the waste incinerators at the Harlescott ERF is now being carefully examined. Particularly the possible piping of heated water into community facilities.

The provision of *benefit related* free school meals is to continue until the end of next spring term.

There are now growing concerns about the possible impact of winter weather on all road surfaces.

The Port Hill/Quarry footbridge is due to reopen after some weeks of major servicing and repairs.

Funding has been obtained and a multi-agency team formed to support the challenging drug/alcohol issues of our county's "rough sleepers". The Ark charity have relocated their secure hostel in Shrewsbury into larger better-appointed premises lower down Castle Foregate.

The 2021 census shows a 6% increase in the population of Shropshire. Of our 323600 inhabitants 25% are over 65 years old. The provision of good social services for the elderly is now critical.

Locally: The siting of the muted six practices "GP hub" on the Oteley Road is now being further considered. Public consultation over these controversial proposals will be held early next year.

The vexing unreliability of Arriva 27 bus service is being closely monitored by Shropshire Council.

Parish Council's grant funded revamp of seating, notice board and bike racks on the Parade should encourage the landlords to reconsider long overdue repairs and redecoration of the shop frontages.

Finally, my good wishes to all residents for Christmas and New Year. tc

20.11.22