

In common with principle local authorities across the country, Shropshire are now grappling with current unprecedented inflationary pressures. Our Council are facing a budgetary shortfall of £50m.

A statutory Boundary Commission review of Shropshire's electoral divisions has commenced. The Commission are pressing for each of Shropshire's divisions (currently 74) to now be based on approx. 3500 electors, with each division returning one councillor. Bayston Hill has 4300 registered electors. The last Boundary Commission review, in 2009, resulted in the present crude & unpopular merger of the previously separate Bayston Hill, Column and Sutton divisions into one three-member division. I still much hope that our village might be able to reclaim its former independent status! An inhouse working group are trying to formulate an appropriate Shropshire Council wide response.

A small number of grant funded EV charging points are to be installed in Shrewsbury town area.

The discovery of an ancient stone carving is intriguing archaeologists working on the Nesscliffe hills.

*Locally:* Tarmac's multi-million-pound renewal of all their quarry processing plant is approaching completion. In time, all prominent buildings currently visible from A49 will be replaced with a new plant complex sited deep within the quarry itself. A green screening bund is then to be created right around the present perimeter. The new plant site can be seen when looking down into the quarry workings from the high footpath/public right of way from Bayston Hill to Sutton Hall.

Our energetic local NHW coordinator is looking for further volunteers to join his small group now regularly manning "speed watch" points around the village. This scheme is supported by the Police.

The Memorial Hall Chairman and Committee were pleased with the 40+ attendance at their resumed Saturday night film shows. The new screen, sound and projector equipment works well.

Felling of the sadly diseased landmark oak tree on the Lyth Hill/Lythwood Rd crossroads has been recommended, reluctantly, by an SC forestry specialist. Your views on perhaps retaining the trunk in situ, for a possible chain-saw sculpture matching the one on Pulley Lane, would be welcomed?

18/01/23

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