Report for Tenbury Division Parish Councils October 2026

Worcestershire County Council Matters

Advertising & Sponsorship Policy

In February, work began on a policy to allow companies and organisations to advertise and sponsor Worcestershire County Council property. This policy has now been completed and adopted by WCC and provides revenue opportunities. I have asked for the development of Tenbury Wells library to be supported through this policy.

Businesses and organisations who wish to explore advertising or sponsorship opportunities within our division can contact me to take forward to Worcestershire County Council.

Tenbury Division Matters

Rochford Landslip

Highways have confirmed that Geotech studies have now been completed both on the highway and surrounding land. The information obtained is being prepared as a Findings Report which is due to be completed imminently. The Findings Report will then be used by the Design Team to draw up plans to repair the road. However, there is presently no timescale for when the plans will be ready or how long it will take to repair the road. I am in contact with officers and the Cabinet Member for Highways and will provide on-going updates as I receive them.

Additionally, I was informed by Cabinet on 24th September that initial funding for repair of the landslip has been secured from government. The funding is a share of a £5 million grant received to support repair of the landslips in Rochford and Malvern.

Speeding Traffic

Speeding traffic continues to affect our area, and this is being exacerbated by the road closure at Rochford, which has resulted in various roads being used as alternative routes. I have been liaising with Parish Councils and Highways both in reviewing signage and obtaining Speed Surveys to inform decision making on how to address the issue.

So far this year, traffic calming measures have been installed in a number of locations across the division, including Abberley, Great Witley and Pensax. Improvements are due to be installed in Tenbury Wells later this month. These measures include improved signage, Vehicle Activated Signs, and additional road markings.

Further Speed Surveys have either been carried out or are due to be carried out in further locations, including in Stockton, Clifton upon Teme, Newnham Bridge and

Eastham. Once the results of the surveys are known, I will then liaise with Highways and Town & Parish Councils to explore options for reducing traffic speeds through our area.

Tenbury Wells Library & Community Hub

Earlier this year, I asked Cabinet to consider developing Tenbury Wells library as a Community Hub. The library is already used by Citizens Advice, Age UK and TSB Banking Hub to provide services for residents, and I outlined a vision for Worcestershire County Council to expand this as a pilot for making it a fully functioning community hub.

I am pleased to say that officers and Cabinet Members have agreed to explore options for achieving this. I met with the Director of Public Health, and the Cabinet Members for Community, Environment and Public Health and initial plans are now progressing.

There is progress on developing a room within the library that could be used by residents to have online appointments with various services and organisations. This development will also now include looking to make use of the new advertising and sponsorship policy to support investment into the library. Work is also being done to allow residents who struggle to report Worcestershire County Council issues online to be able to do so face-to-face at the library (e.g. potholes, over hanging trees, blocked drains etc.).

Further work is also to be carried out on inviting other organisations to hold drop-ins within the library, and also to connect up with other community services within Tenbury Wells to create a fully developed Community Hub for the town.

Justin Bowen **1st October 2026**

Worcestershire County Councillor for Tenbury Division