

Redditch Borough Council

29th January 2018

Motions on Notice

1. Transition support for young people leaving care in Redditch

Proposed by Councillor Tom Baker-Price, seconded by Councillor Jane Potter.

This council notes with deep concern, the children's societies 'Wolf at door' report (2015) and the representations made by Kelly Pickard the children's commissioner on the subject of council tax for care leavers.

We would like to reaffirm the commitment this council has to partnership working with Worcestershire County Council to ensure young people who have left care are appropriately housed and supported in their transition.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 clearly places corporate parenting responsibilities on district councils for the first time, requiring them to have regard to children in care and care leavers when carrying out their functions.

This council is the council tax billing and housing authority for the Borough of Redditch and as such recognises this group is particularly vulnerable to falling into debt when moving into independent accommodation for the first time.

To elevate this problem officers are mandated to bring forward proposals to this council utilising powers granted to this council under section 13A of the local government financing act 1992 to ensure the following:

1. Reduce their net liability for council tax under the national scheme and after council tax support to zero, until the care leaver's 21st birthday.
2. Introduce a transitional discretionary discount scheme to enable a reduction of liability for council tax up to and including zero from their 21st birthday until the care leaver's 25th birthday.

These proposals are to be presented to council within six months from the motion's adoption.

2. War Memorial and Commemorations 2018

Proposed by Councillor Juliet Brunner, seconded by Councillor David Thain

In Public Commemoration of those servicemen and servicewomen of Redditch who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, and to mark the 100th anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended the First World War Commemoration Parade and Ceremonial, in Redditch of WW1 Centenary 11th November 2018.

Redditch Borough Council wishes to acknowledge, and enable its citizens to acknowledge, the ultimate sacrifice of its servicemen, servicewomen and their families on the anniversary of the centenary of the ending of WW1.

Redditch Borough Council commits to the following

- To work with the British Legion, 37th Signals and Mercian Regiments and others to organise a parade befitting and appropriate to the occasion.
- To cleanse and refurbish the St Stephens and Plymouth Road War Memorials.
- To make an application for a road closure of Unicorn Hill and Plymouth Road before, during and after the Services on 11 November 2018.
- To ask officers to cost up the proposals for a ceramic Poppy display in the shape of the numerical figure of 100 to be planted at Plymouth Road Memorial: one for each of those Redditch servicemen and women who have sacrificed their lives in all Wars and Conflicts.
- That the Town Hall be suitably and solemnly made available, following the service, and refreshments offered to Veterans, Servicemen and Women and their Families.