STRATEGIES FOR A RESPONSE TO THE -OF-LIVING CRISIS

Overview

The rising cost of gas and electricity, together with the increased cost of essential items such as food, have come together to create a perfect storm as we approach winter. It is anticipated that residents and businesses will be faced with difficult choices as the crisis potentially deepens.

Action

I have contacted the clerks of the local parish councils to find out what they are considering as a response to these challenges. I believe that it may be possible to join in with some initiatives and to exchange best practice. I will keep members informed of any responses.

Cllr Jenner-Hurford has put together a survey to ascertain the local demand for warm spaces. This will be shared on social media and printed copies will be made available. The results will be collated and fed back to members at the end of November.

When the survey is posted, it will be accompanied by a request to please look out for neighbours during this time, as we all did during the main lockdown pandemic period.

Strategies

The following strategies are suggested:

- A list of venues/events be provided to residents via social media and the website and put up in the Market House fortnightly to enable residents to access somewhere warm.
- Logs from Herne Hill and our open spaces be made available to those with a need via the Food Bank.
- Support for the foodbank is continued.
- Members to keep an ear open for any signs in the community that a need for help that could be supported by the town council has arisen.

CLL Leanne Taylor, Cllr Ben Jenner-Hurford, Cllr Val Keitch and Cllr Ian McKillop