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4 November 2022

Weekly Update from the Leader and Chief Executive

Dear Friends,

The countdown to the festive season starts this weekend with our Big Light Switch-On in Leamington. The long-held tradition of displaying Christmas lights across our towns provides a welcome visitor attraction, boosts local businesses and helps us all to get into the festive spirit. Now more than ever we also have to be thoughtful, trimming the display hours to save electricity, but not the fun.

We're not waiting for the winter chills to get help to those who need it most. Our community development team has been out in force personally delivering Cost of Living information leaflets to those without online access to this key information. For those of us with internet access, useful contacts and helpful advice can be found on the dedicated cost of living support page on our website.

The latest version of the Omicron variant continues to spread quickly with a growing list of symptoms. For most of us who've been vaccinated Covid infections are usually mild, but some groups are still at higher risk and need shielding, which is why it's important that we don't delay in getting our flu and Covid-19 booster jabs when invited to do so.

- **COP 27**– We're delighted with the local interest in Climate Change summit we're hosting tomorrow, covering a packed programme which is bound to generate lively debate, and hopefully new ideas for local action.
- **Bonfire Night –** If you'd wondering where to attend your nearest event, please review the list of the district's registered bonfire and firework displays, including details of the large events being held in Warwick and Kenilworth for the benefit of supporting local charities.
- **New Cycle Trails -** If you've visited Newbold Comyn recently, you'll have noticed the progress that is being made to create new safe, free, family-friendly cycle trails. These wonderful new facilities have been made possible thanks to a £423,500 grant from Sport England and British Cycling.
- **Tachbrook Country Park –** The Planning Committee will next week consider the detailed plans for the long awaited 121-acre country park. If approved, our ambition to develop a wonderful public open space to serve our growing communities can be put into action at last.

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And finally … for those going along to the Big Light Switch-On we're pleased to announce that free parking is available in all of Leamington's off-street carparks this Sunday, including the Royal Priors. There's a great day of entertainment planned for all enjoy!

Andrew Day Leader **Chris Elliott** Chief Executive

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