

## Herefordshire County Councillors Report

### Councillor Phill Bettington

#### Fracking.

Several requests to have more detail on the subject of shale gas removal, as it affects local areas – Eastnor – Fownhope – Much Marcle as regards the Councils role in this matter  
Debbie Klein sent this report.

- 1, Any prospecting would be minerals exploration and, as such would fall to my planning remit as a County matter
- 2, There are permitted development rights for prospecting but are limited, there are several restrictive conditions but of particular relevance is a max of 12 metres, note this is not a prohibitive depth, just the depth limit before full planning is required. Likewise, there is a 12 metre height limit for any above ground structures such as drilling rigs, which permission is necessary.
- 3, It is therefore virtually certain that any such proposal will require full planning permission, very likely be an application for a temporary permission over a fixed period
- 4, To date I am not aware of any approaches to Herefordshire Council by any companies about any site in Herefordshire
- 5, Whilst nothing can be ruled out the geological maps strongly suggest there are many more likely to be elsewhere in Britain, which is likely to be investigated first.

#### Malvern Hills AONB.

The AONB between October and December this year are undertaking data surveys on the following subjects=

Condition of Local Geological Sites

Condition of Scheduled Ancient Monuments

Condition of Listed Buildings

Condition of Rights of Way

Condition of the AONB Landscape

Thought it might be of interest as we fall in part to this AONB area, data collected will produce a state report in 2014 AONB report. The survey work is carried out in conjunction with relevant Local Authority Partners, Property Owners and Land Owners.

At a children`s safeguarding meeting it was mentioned about the roles that School Governors play in part, to make sure that all staff are aware of these issues and signs of children`s welfare as regards being abused etc, safeguarding is an important role and will help to maintain an healthier lifestyle for the children.