

UPTON NEWS

Sir Michael Spicer
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I am delighted to hear of the successful re-launch of the Upton farmers market. It was splendid that so many hundreds of people supported the various stall of local produce, despite the poor weather. This is an encouraging start again following its winding up last year. I do hope residents in and around Upton will continue to support this project.

A new Community Hospital for Malvern is at last looking like a real prospect.

Following a meeting I held with the Chairman and Chief Executive of the South Worcestershire Primary Care Trust in August, it was agreed that they would produce, as soon as possible, three alternative business plans for the development of the hospital. All these proposals relate to the Seaford Court site. The first of these would involve the building of the hospital without adjacent developments; the second would involve developments exclusively related to healthcare and the third would provide for some limited non-healthcare development.

I was keen to ensure that in each case there would be adequate car parking and scope for expansion. I was heartened that detailed plans for the Malvern Hospital are now being worked on. It is what I have been pressing for, for months. Once these plans are published, hopefully in October, it will be possible for genuine public debate to take place as to the best way forward and progress on tendering for the contract to be made by the end of the year. It is essential that this rigorous timetable is maintained.

I was sorry to hear that Bill Dovey and his wife Margaret have recently retired after some 11 years trading in the town. Bill has been the hard working Chairman of the Upton Tourism and Trade Association. May I take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and dedication, particularly given the challenging times faced by many local businesses during the refurbishment of the viaduct. I wish them both well in their retirement.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any local or national issue of concern. I can best be contacted by writing to me at the above address or by attending one of my monthly interview sessions at the Memorial Hall in Upton. Details can be found in the local press, by calling 01684 573469 or logging on to my website www.sirmichaelspicer.net

Sir Michael Spicer MP
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