

Parish and Partners Foreword

Dear All,

Welcome to a packed edition of the Parish and Partners newsletter, this continues to be an exceptional busy time for the Council, again thank you for your ongoing support.

Firstly, I wanted to remind you of the next meeting of the Parish Forum, this session will be held online at **6pm on Thursday 26 June**. As you will be aware we undertook a consultation exercise on the issues that you would like discussed at these meetings. For our next meeting, the following issues will be covered:

- An update Local Government Reorganisation, including the informal consultation on Community Governance Reviews
- An overview of the Council's Enforcement function
- A discussion in relation to flooding with Andrew Richardson - Flood Risk Advisor from the Environment Agency

In relation to the Informal Consultation - Community Governance Review, hopefully you will all be aware of the email sent by the Council on 1 June which is seeking views on whether your areas would benefit from a review of structures. There is still plenty of chance to respond as the consultation runs until 11 July. As mentioned in the message if you have any queries or questions and you would like some assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact Macer Nash by either phone, email or through MSTEams.

Obviously, the prospect of Local Government Reorganisation for Warwickshire remains a significant issue for the Council. As discussed last time the Council following an invitation from central government is required to make a formal submission for our area by 28 November 2025. When the Council makes this submission, it must address the six criteria which the Government will assess all submissions, these being:

1. A proposal should seek to achieve for the whole of the area concerned the establishment of a single tier of local government.
2. Unitary local government must be the right size to achieve efficiencies, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks.
3. Unitary structures must prioritise the delivery of high quality and sustainable public services to citizens
4. Proposals should show how councils in the area have sought to work together in coming to a view that meets local needs and is informed by local views.
5. New unitary structures must support devolution arrangements.
6. New unitary structures should enable stronger community engagement and deliver genuine opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment.

Since our last edition, the Council has received feedback from central Government on the 'interim plan' which was submitted in mid-March. As previously discussed the 'interim plan' included two options for Local Government Reorganisation, a single unitary Warwickshire option, and a two unitary (North and South) option for Warwickshire. This feedback will be published soon and will be helpful in finalising our submission.



As mentioned above, the Council is still developing its final proposals for Local Government Reorganisation. To help inform this position the Council will be undertaking extensive engagement with the public and all other stakeholders including Town and Parish Councils. Before the engagement process commences however, it is appropriate that the Council expresses its 'preference' for Local Government Reorganisation to be used as the basis for the consultation. This will mean that the Cabinet and Full Council at the meetings being held on 7 and 14 July respectively, will be considering the Council's position. Papers for this meeting are scheduled to be published on 27 June 2025.

Finally, thank you again for all your support.

David



Leader and Cabinet for Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet for the new municipal year was agreed at the Annual Council meeting on Wednesday 14 May.

- Leader - Strategic Leadership and Climate Change Portfolio - Cllr Susan Juned
- Deputy Leader and Planning and Economic Development Portfolio - Cllr George Cowcher
- Law and Governance Portfolio - Cllr Natalie Gist
- Environment and Neighbourhood Services Portfolio - Cllr Lorraine Grocott
- Resources Portfolio - Cllr David Curtis
- Housing and Customer Services - Cllr Liz Coles
- Projects and Communications - Cllr Louis Adam



Cllr Susan Juned, Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council says: *"It's been two years since our administration was first installed, and we continue to make strides in delivering on our Council Plan. We remain committed to supporting local residents, collaborating with communities, and addressing both everyday challenges and larger issues. While there are still many challenges ahead, it's crucial that we listen to and respond to the priorities of our residents across the District."*

"Over the past year, we've expanded recycling initiatives, including the introduction of coffee pod and soft plastics recycling, which has helped us achieve the third-highest recycling rate in England at 61%. We've also developed a project plan for new community facilities in Upper Lighthorne and introduced a dedicated Rural Crime Officer. Additionally, we've adopted a number of masterplans, and the South Warwickshire Local Plan, which we are developing in partnership with Warwick District Council, continues to progress."

"Balancing the books in local government remains a significant challenge, but we are proud of our financially sound position. This achievement is especially notable given rising costs, increased demand for services, and shrinking central funding. Our budget this year reflects the need to tackle pressing issues such as the cost of living, affordable housing, community grants, improved leisure facilities, economic development, and climate change action."

"The uncertainty surrounding local government re-organisation poses a challenge, but we are committed to ensuring that residents continue to receive high-quality services in the coming years. Resilience to financial cuts and challenges is key. Our ambition is for this District Council to be recognised as a leader in supporting residents, local businesses, protecting the environment, addressing climate change, and driving sustainable innovation in services for the future."



Stratford-on-Avon
District Council
**Cabinet Structure
and Contact Details**
May 2025



Cllr Susan Juned
Leader
Strategic Leadership
Telephone: 07971 343 061
Email: susan.juned@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Climate Change
Corporate Policy
Human Resources
Partnerships
Performance, Consultation and Insight



Cllr George Cowcher
Deputy Leader
Planning and Economic
Development Portfolio
Telephone: 07752 562 129
Email: george.cowcher@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Building Control including Street Naming
CIL/S106
Development Management and Enforcement
Economic Development and Tourism
Land Charges
Physical Infrastructure (Transport, Energy, etc)
Planning Policy
South Warwickshire Local Plan
Strategic Housing



Cllr Kate Rolfe
Chair of the Council
Telephone: 01789 550 624
Email: kate.rolfe@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Cllr Mike Rice
Vice-Chair of the Council
Telephone: 01789 260 701
Email: mike.rice@stratford-dc.gov.uk



**Councillor
Natalie Gist**
Law and Governance
Portfolio
Telephone: 07745 210 095
Email: natalie.gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Asset Management
Community Safety and CCTV
Corporate Governance
Democratic Services
Information Governance
Joint Legal Service
Property and Estates



**Councillor
Lorraine Grocott**
Environmental and
Neighbourhood Services
Portfolio
Telephone: 07752 562 123
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Construction and Premises
Contracted Services
(Refuse & Recycling, Street Cleansing,
Grounds Maintenance)
Emergency Planning and Business Continuity
Environmental Health and Licensing
Green Spaces - Development
Markets and Events
Parking Services
Personal Assistant Team
Sports and Leisure



**Councillor
Liz Coles**
Housing and
Customer Services
Portfolio
Telephone: 07752 562 124
Email: liz.coles@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Community Leadership, Forums,
Voluntary Community Services
Customer Services
(including Visitor Information Centre)
Health and Wellbeing
Housing and Homelessness
Print and Design Team
Revenues and Benefits
Safeguarding



**Councillor
Louis Adam**
Projects and
Communications
Portfolio
Telephone: 07971 342940
Email: louis.adam@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Corporate Communications
and Public Relations
Project and Transformation Team



**Councillor
David Curtis**
Resources
Portfolio
Telephone: 07971 343 084
Email: david.curtis@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Audit and Risk
Budget and Finance
ICT
Internal Audit

Switchboard: 01789 267575

Press Office: 07969 168538

Email: info@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Website: www.stratford.gov.uk

Twitter: [@stratforddc](https://twitter.com/stratforddc)

SDC002911002CM



New Chair for Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Also at the Annual Council meeting, Councillor Jenny Fradgley handed over the chain of office to Councillor Kate Rolfe.



Cllr Rolfe will be supporting a CIC, a community interest company during her term of office and has chosen [Stratford's Eco Workshop CIC](#), who provide purposeful work activities for adults with learning disability and autism.

Cllr Rolfe said of her appointment: *"It is truly a huge honour to be elected to the role of Chair of the District Council. I am proud and excited to represent the District Council and look forward to visiting and accepting as many invitations as possible and promoting our wonderful District. It is a responsibility I hold with gratitude and determination."*

You can follow Cllr Rolfe's appointment as Chair of the District Council via the Instagram account – [sdc.chair](#)



Town and Parish Council Liaison Officer

As you may recall in the March edition of Parish and Partners the Chief Executive mentioned that the Council had appointed an officer to assist in partnership working between the District Council and the Town and Parish Councils within the District.

My name is Sue Greenall and I was pleased to accept the role which I commenced on 28 April.

I have been working for Stratford-on-Avon District Council for over 26 years, originally at our area offices in Southam, Shipston and Alcester and more recently within our Customer Services and Revenues teams. Additionally I have also served as a Parish Clerk for over 10 years and will be drawing on my experiences to assist you all in the following ways:

- As your direct point of contact to connect you to key service contacts with Stratford District Council in order to help to solve any issues.
- Arrange training and development requirements relevant to our services.
- The creation and on-going enhancement of a Parish & Town Council webpage, initially providing quick-links and guidance on accessing digital services. However this will evolve over time depending on your needs.
- I'll also be connecting with other partner agencies such as WALC and VASA to promote the work that they do within our communities.

I would be interested to hear where Town and Parish Councils feel the District Council could assist them more. Please feel free to contact me either by email: sue.greenall@stratford-dc.gov.uk or call me on 07756 504782.



Warwickshire County Council election results (Stratford-on-Avon)

65 candidates contested 13 divisions on Warwickshire County Council in the Stratford-on-Avon District area on Thursday 1 May 2025.

Overall turnout figure for Stratford District area was 38.55%. Number of votes cast: 42,234

[Full results for the whole of Warwickshire County can be found here](#)



Stratford-on-Avon District Council Signs Armed Forces Covenant Pledge

You may already be aware Stratford-on-Avon District Council has formally signed the Armed Forces Covenant Pledge on 6 November 2024. This significant commitment demonstrates our support for the Armed Forces community, including serving personnel, veterans, and their families.



What is the Armed Forces Covenant?

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy, and society they serve with their lives². By signing this pledge, Stratford-on-Avon District Council commits to:

- Promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation.
- Supporting the employment of veterans, reservists, and military families.
- Recognising and supporting remembrance events, including Armed Forces Day.

What does this mean for our community?

By signing the Covenant, we aim to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant and the Covenant Duty, ensuring that no member of the Armed Forces community faces disadvantages arising from their service. This includes providing support in areas such as housing, employment, and education¹.

How can you help?

We would like to hear from our Parish Council partners about any armed forces groups or events within your communities. Your input is invaluable in helping us support and recognise the contributions of our Armed Forces community. Please let us know if you have any relevant groups or events by contacting our new Town and Parish Liaison Officer, Sue Greenall - email: sue.greenall@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Together, we can ensure that our Armed Forces community receives the recognition and support they deserve.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.



NUNEATON ARMED FORCES VETERANS CENTRE



veteranscontactpoint

ADDERSTONE ARMED FORCES VETERANS CENTRE



veteranscontactpoint

Alexander Court Day Centre
Princess Rd
Addestone
CV9 1LB
Thursday 10:00-14:00

GORDON ARMED FORCES VETERANS CENTRE



veteranscontactpoint

Dordon Village Hall
Brown Lane
Dordon
B78 1TR
Tuesdays 10:00-14:00

WARWICK ARMED FORCES VETERANS CENTRE



veteranscontactpoint

Pageant House
Jury Street
Warwick
CV34 4EW



Top it to a friend or if you're looking for help and advice on any of the below:

Wellness Support

Housing

Finance Benefits & Debt

Health & Wellbeing

Work & Volunteering

Community Projects

Or just a general chat with other Veterans, then we'll try and meet your needs & support you.

To effectively run as a charity the Veterans Contact Point relies heavily on your generosity to carry out our important work of helping those in need. If you would like to make a donation to the VCP then you can donate in either of the following ways:
Cash
Cheque made payable to The Veterans Contact Point
BACS payment (please contact for details)



Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR



www.veteranscontactpoint.org.uk



Public @VCPNuneaton



Service on Facebook

02476 343793

www.veteranscontactpoint.org.uk

Where we are and how to contact us



Veterans Contact Point

Pageant House
Jury Street
Warwick CV34 4EW

Open Monday to Friday
10:00 Hrs - 16:00 Hrs

Telephone 02476 343793

Contactus@veteranscontactpoint.co.uk
WWW.veteranscontactpoint.co.uk

Twitter:@VCPNuneaton

Registered Charity: 1155953



veteranscontactpoint

VCP



Registered Armed Forces Charity

02476 343793

Contactus@veteranscontactpoint.co.uk
WWW.veteranscontactpoint.co.uk





The Veterans Contact Point Supports All Service Men & Women, Veterans and families **This is what we do;**



Who are we?

The Veterans Contact Point (VCP) is your local military charity which supports local veterans and their families in Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull

Registered as military charity (Charity no: 1155953) in February 2014

This could be for you, your neighbour, friend relative or just someone you know.

Run by volunteers, including those who have served themselves, and who are committed to helping you.

Ensure that every penny donated or raised is used in direct support of local Veterans and their families in the community

We provide information, advice and referrals to a wide range of specialist organisations and service charities that are ready to help you.

We also help veterans who have been in contact with the law.

The VCP will be there from the start and stay in support of you until the end.....

THE ARMED FORCES
COVENANT FUND TRUST

THRIVE TOGETHER
Supporting Veterans and their Families

Telephone: 02476 343793

contactus@veteranscontactpoint.co.uk



Email: contactus@veteranscontactpoint.org.uk



www.veteranscontactpoint.co.uk

Telephone 02476 343793

@VCPNuneaton



Recycle more as recycling service expands!

Since April, residents in the District have been able to recycle more from their doorsteps.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has introduced an additional recycling service for the collection of plastic bags and wrapping, collected fortnightly within the normal fully commingled recycling service.

Recycled plastic bags and wrapping can be used to make new plastic products such as plastic packaging, 'bags for life', boxes, bins, and agricultural and construction materials.

Recycling plastic bags and wrapping is easy!

Just make sure that:

1. Your plastic bags and wrapping should be empty and free from food residue and other contaminations.
2. Place your plastic bags and wrapping into your recycling bin, loose, with your other recyclables.
3. Place your recycling bin at the kerbside on your collection day.

Items should not be put within one another or fill bags with recycling.

Find out more on our recycling webpages here.

Residents can also search what items can be recycled by using our [Stratford-on-Avon District Council app](#).

Or on our website: [A-Z of recycling and disposals | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

What can now be recycled:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All plastic bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> biscuits | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> toilet and kitchen roll |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> carrier bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cakes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> magazine and newspaper wrapping |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> salad/fruit/vegetable bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ice cream and chewing gum wrappers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plastic film and sleeves |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> frozen food bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foil lined packaging | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> removeable film lids |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bread bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> crisp/snack packets | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plastic sleeves for bottles and jars |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cereal bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> coffee bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bubble wrap and cling film |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> flower bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheese, fish, and meat wrapping | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> maximum 1m sections |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confectionary wrappers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outer layer bags and wrapping | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fruit and vegetable net bags |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> chocolate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> multipacks | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sweets | | |

What not to include:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pouches, sachets and packets - microwaveable food, baby/pet food, cosmetics, detergent and cleaning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blister packs, pills, and tablets packaging | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disposable gloves or masks |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Balloons | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compostable or biodegradable bags and wrapping | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foam or polystyrene of any kind |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crisp tubes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plastic straws or cutlery |
| | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Textiles and clothing - put these in a bag at the side of your bin |

Did you know?

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has the third highest household recycling rate in England.

Figures published by Defra, show Stratford-on-Avon District Council had the third highest household recycling rate in England last year (2023/24), with a 61.0%; a jump of two places in the league table after seeing a 1% increase from the previous year.

Julie Lewis, Head of Environmental and Neighbourhood Services, said: *"This is a huge success and it's a testament to our residents and their commitment to recycling. It is an amazing achievement, and we would like to thank our residents and our continued successful partnership with waste collection contractor, Biffa Waste Services Ltd, alongside the hard work of our council officers for this milestone."*

"We aim to make our collection service easy to use with the continued challenge to keep reducing and reusing and increasing the materials that can be recycled directly from your front door."



Stratford-on-Avon District Council to host health screening events across the District

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has joined together with the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust (GFCT) to offer a series of health screening events for both men and women across the District.

The events will enable men and women to have a number of health tests from a simple blood test, allowing them to, where necessary, seek further advice or action via their GP.

The tests on offer cost £14 each, subsidised by the District Council and are:

- For men over 40 - PSA (Prostate Screening)
- For men and women aged 18 and over - diabetes and cholesterol

Booking is essential and places are filling up quickly.

The events are taking place on:

- Saturday 12 July at Southam Leisure Centre, Welsh Road West, Southam, CV47 0JW
- Saturday 2 August at The Greig Leisure Centre, Kinwarton Road, Alcester, B49 6AD
- Saturday 13 September at Stratford Leisure Centre, Bridgeway, Stratford, CV37 6YX
- Saturday 11 October at Shipston Scout Hut, New Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4EW

If the event is fully booked in your local area, please look at booking another event in the District.

The events will run from 10am until 2pm at each of the locations and people are able to book at a discounted rate of £14 for each test.

Spaces are limited and need to be booked in advanced at: <https://sdc.mypsatests.org.uk/>

The first event took place on Saturday 31 May at Stratford Leisure Centre, where 158 were tested. The second event took place on Saturday 14 June at Studley Leisure Centre where 70 were tested.

Cllr Liz Coles, Housing and Customer Services Portfolio said: *"Increasing awareness of prostate cancer and other health conditions through screening is crucial to helping people across Stratford-on-Avon District remain vigilant about their health. Early detection significantly improves access to timely support and treatment."*

"I strongly encourage all those who are eligible to take advantage of these screening events. This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to supporting residents in living full, healthy lives and achieving their potential, in line with the priorities in our Council Plan"

For more information please visit <https://sdc.mypsatests.org.uk> or call 01926 419959 or email info@myhealthtests.org.uk

If you are unable to make a booking online please call 01926 419959.



New events booking process for Stratford District Council

There's a **NEW Events Booking Process** on the District Council's website.

Got an event in your local area that you need to organise? The District Council now has a one-stop-shop process, where all enquiries for events taking place in the District Council's parks and public spaces, including road closure applications, will now go through this process.

Please note, all events, including road closures need to be applied for at least three months prior to the event to allow appropriate consultation.

For more information please visit: [Holding Your Event in a Park or Public Space | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#) or for further advice please contact the Events Team on events@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Community Noticeboard Grant

The Community Noticeboard Grant was launched earlier this year to encourage social inclusion and community engagement throughout our rural District.

After receiving a number of applications from all over the District, we have been able to fund the majority of these and are in the process of getting the funds out to applicants so they can get their noticeboards up and used by their communities.

Gaydon Village Store was one of the successful applicants. They have already got their noticeboard installed with local news and information now being posted. Michele Gill, Treasurer for the shop says: *"As a community and volunteer-run shop, we're very grateful for the grant to replace our broken notice board. The new one looks great and will mean that we can continue to support the community by displaying details of local businesses and events."*

Keep updated on our website and further publications for progress with the rest of the successful applicants.



Want to receive regular news and updates from your District Council directly to your email inbox?

Then sign up now to The Online View - Stratford District Newsletter: <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/communications/email-newsletter.cfm>



PLANNING NEWS

Community Infrastructure Levy Updates

Investing developer monies into the District

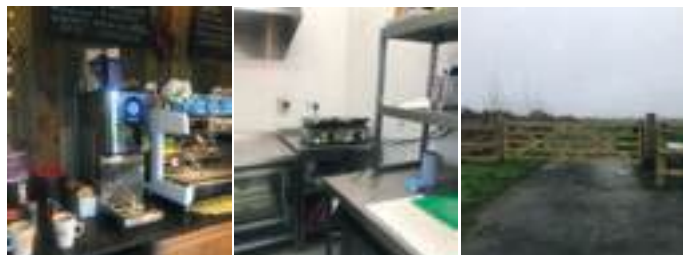
The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge levied by the District Council on new development in the area. CIL monies can be used to help fund the infrastructure needed to support development.

Details of CIL spend can be viewed in the District Council's annual Infrastructure Funding Statement - [Infrastructure Funding Statement](#).

Here are a few of the projects funded by CIL that have been completed recently.



Grace's Playground - Ilmington



Marston Sica - Meon Vale Community Centre

Marston Sica

Project	Details	Status
Meon Vale Community Centre	Building works to increase café space and serving counter	Action 1. Concluded CIL funds enabled the works to be undertaken
Meon Vale Community Centre	Equipment for community centre: Kitchen items, sanitary ware	Mandatory requirements enabled the kitchen to function
Meon Vale Community Centre	Catering equipment, refurbishment to side room and new freezer	Action 2. Wider support services achieved through CIL fund assistance.
Marston Meadow Green Space	Entrance Gate	Provided security to the open green space through CIL funds
Long Marston Village Hall	Full Survey	Central community building required remedial work, a full survey identified key works required.



Fenny Compton - New Pavilion and play area



Luddington Village Hall extension and improvements

PLANNING NEWS

Community Infrastructure Levy Updates *continued*



Lighthorne Pavilion Car park improvement



More User-Friendly CIL Spend Reporting for Parish and Town Councils!

It is now time for Parish/Town councils to report on the CIL spending for 2024/25.

As promised in the March edition of the Parish and Partner briefing, we have made the reporting more user friendly for Parishes/Town councils to provide this information.

Please use the following link to provide your CIL spend information for 2024/25. <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/CIL-income-and-expenditure/>

We would appreciate your feedback on this new form.

The link to this form will also be emailed to you, it will need to be completed by 31st July 2025.

We thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Parish/Town Council CIL money can be used to support the development of the area by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.

If you have any questions relating to the spending of CIL please contact us on planning.policy@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Natural Flood Management on the Alne and Arrow River Catchments



Culverted ditch overflow connecting 0.5Ha of species rich grassland with scrapes and a pond with the watercourse.

New channel created in place of culvert to allow for in-channel storage and better connect it to the surrounding land, now managed as a species rich grassland.



Leaky barrier made of material harvested during woodland management.

Large leaky barrier spanning across floodplain to further increase temporary storage.



Stratford Community Diagnostic Centre: Building progress and timeline

Stratford's Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) is part of a national programme to transform diagnostic services by offering a wide range of elective tests outside of hospital settings.

It is a key development to deliver faster and more accessible diagnostic services for patients. Funding for the project has been through £6m national funding and a £1m Community Infrastructure Levy grant from Stratford District Council.

Councillor Susan Juned, Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council, said: *"Having a locally available Diagnostic Centre will be helpful in providing early diagnosis and healthy outcomes for our residents. We need to provide proper health infrastructure as part of the development, so I am glad that the funding was able to relieve pressure on the NHS and provide a useful needed service."*

Diagnostic services will be available from June 2025, following a phased timeline:

- Monday 9 June – Mammography
- Monday 16 June – Ultrasound
- Monday 23 June – Respiratory
- Monday 23 June – Cardiology
- Monday 14 July – CT



Suki Rai, Interim Associate Chief Operating Officer, said: *"Stratford's new Community Diagnostic Centre is already transforming patient care by bringing key diagnostic services closer to home. Offering MRI, CT, ultrasound, X-ray, and mammography under one roof, the centre is helping to reduce hospital pressures and cut waiting times. It gives our patients quicker access in a calmer, more convenient setting. This new model not only supports earlier diagnosis and treatment, but reflects a real shift towards delivering healthcare where it's most needed, easing the pressure at our acute hospital sites."*



COMMUNITY SAFETY NEWS



**WARWICKSHIRE
POLICE**

Introducing the Hollie Guard app - a free personal safety app

Stratford District Council's Community Safety team are promoting the use of this free, personal safety app designed to protect victims from violence and incidents, record evidence and alert emergency services.

The app was developed by the charity the Hollie Gazzard Trust, which was set up after the murder of Hollie Gazzard at her salon in Gloucester in 2014 by her then boyfriend – Asher Maslin, who had actively stalked Hollie during an abusive relationship.

How it can help

Hollie Guard turns your smartphone into an advanced personal safety device at the touch of a button. If in danger simply shake your phone to generate an alert, your location, audio and video evidence of the incident will automatically be sent to your emergency contact via text and email. Shake it again and it sends out a high pitched alarm and the flash starts to strobe, in order to attract maximum attention.

From the moment Hollie Guard is activated, your location is tracked and can be viewed in real time by your emergency contact. Evidence is not stored on the smartphone but on secure servers so that it can be used as future as evidence.

The Hollie Guard app:

- acts as a personal alarm
- allows you to send an alert to your emergency contacts
- share your location and start to record video and audio evidence.





Hollie Guard

Whether you're working alone or simply commuting around town, Hollie Guard has you covered.

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play


A simple tap or shake automatically activates Hollie Guard, alerting your nominated emergency contacts with your location and video/audio evidence.

-  Add your own emergency contacts and group similar contacts together.
-  Activate an alert in the form of a tap or shake to notify your emergency contacts.
-  Multiple features, functionalities & alarm profiles to suit any situation or activity.

Upgrade to Hollie Guard Extra

Hollie Guard Extra provides an enhanced level of monitoring and additional peace of mind that someone is there, no matter the time.

-  Upgrade within the app or via an access code. Annual subscriptions for Hollie Guard Extra can be purchased through our website.
-  All alerts will be sent to a specialised 24 hour monitoring centre.



hollieguard.com | info@hollieguard.com | hollie_guard | hollieguard



App Features

-  **Journey Feature:** This allows you to track a journey, ensuring you are safe wherever you travel.
-  **Meeting Feature:** This feature is useful for meeting new people, allowing you to set an alert timer.
-  **Man Down:** when enabled, this feature detects if you've had a sudden fall or stopped moving for a period of time.
-  **Duress Pin:** If you are forced to deactivate an alert, you can use the 999 duress pin to escalate the alert.
-  **Reports:** Allows you to record an incident with photo evidence which is instantly time-stamped, date-stamped & geo-tagged.
-  **Hollie Guard Extra** provides police-approved 24/7 monitoring. Upgrade within the app, upon registration or through our website.

In partnership with: 

Accreditation: 

Endorsed by: 

About Us

Hollie Guard was developed by the Hollie Gazzard Trust to help people stay safe. The app was created in honour of Hollie. It is the definitive safety app fully endorsed by many police forces across the country.

Powered by PanicGuard | panicguard.com
www.holliegazzard.org | Charity No. 1156804

Visit www.hollieguard.co.uk for information about obtaining commercial licences to Hollie Guard Extra for your organisation.

hollieguard.com | info@hollieguard.com | hollie_guard | hollieguard



Meals on wheels in Warwickshire

WRCC, a local charity that supports rural parishes across Warwickshire, runs the Community Food Fleet as a not-for-profit 'Meals on Wheels' service covering the whole of Warwickshire. Similar services have been closing in recent years and are now supported by fewer than one in five councils in England due to cost cutting.

Our 'Meals on a Mission' approach means we provide our delivery service 365 days a year across the whole of Warwickshire – so you or family members need never be without a hot meal, whether every day or just needed occasionally. For many people the service is about 'more than meals.' It can help keep you (or your relatives) living independently while providing reassurance that someone is checking in on a regular basis. Several of our drivers used to work for the 'Meals on Wheels' service so are a familiar face and they're used to helping people complete meal choice forms, plate food, or get your cutlery to help make mealtimes easier.

Our friendly drivers are enhanced DBS checked and trained to carry out basic well-being and safety checks when they deliver meals, giving you peace of mind. Many of our customers have limited mobility and our drivers are used to using key-safe access to customer homes. There's a wide choice of tasty and nutritious meals to choose from, with soups, main meals and desserts on offer seven days a week, 365 days a year. We also include low fat, low salt, gluten free, vegetarian and vegan options, as well as texture modified meals if softer foods are required.

To find out more or to make a booking please email cff@wrccrural.org.uk or call 01926 800915



The poster features a blue background with a white car icon at the top. Below it, the text 'Community Food Fleet' is written in a stylized font, followed by 'Meals-on-Wheels In Warwickshire'. A central photograph shows a woman in a white uniform (a driver) handing a meal to an elderly woman. To the right of the photo, a yellow box says 'Place your order today'. Below this, contact information is listed: 'cff@wrccrural.org.uk', '01926 800915', and 'communityfoodfleet.org.uk'. A list of benefits includes: 'Safe and well check', 'Peace of mind', 'Caring staff', 'Drivers DBS checked', 'Flexible meal plan', 'Special diets', and 'Varied menu'. At the bottom left, a circular badge states 'Hot lunchtime meals delivered 365 days a year'. Three images of food (soup, a main meal, and a dessert) are shown at the bottom. The WRCC logo is in the bottom right corner.



SAVE TIME DO IT ONLINE

Did you know you can now claim
Housing Benefit online. Go to
www.stratford.gov.uk

If you want to make a payment
for Council Tax or Business Rates
use our dedicated payment line
0345 600 6956



Compton Verney Shortlisted

Compton Verney, Britain's leading art space in a park in the heart of Warwickshire, has been shortlisted for the Art Fund Museum of the Year 2025, the UK's most prestigious museum prize.

They're one of just five museums across the country recognised for outstanding creativity, impact, and ambition.

This honour comes in recognition of their 20th anniversary – a year that's seen them celebrate Compton Verney as a joyful, welcoming space where art, nature, and creativity collide.

The shortlisting celebrates a number of highlights from the past year, including:

- A bold **Sculpture in the Park** takeover featuring iconic artists like Sarah Lucas, Louise Bourgeois, Helen Chadwick and more
- A wonderful commission by Brazilian artist Erika Verzutti
- The UK's biggest ever exhibition of work by the incredible **Chila Kumari Singh Burman**
- Deep community connections – from our monthly dementia café to early years play projects and exhibitions led by students
- Welcoming over 117,000 visitors – that's a 30% jump from before the pandemic



Photo by Fisher Studios. Louise Bourgeois's art is ©The Easton Foundation DACS, London

The judges will be visiting Compton Verney in May, and the winner will be revealed on 26 June at a special event in Liverpool.

The 2025 judging panel, chaired by Art Fund director Jenny Waldman, includes: Rana Begum (Artist), Dr David Dibosa (Director of Research and Interpretation, Tate), Jane Richardson (Chief Executive, Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales) and Phil Wang (Comedian, Writer, Actor).

Geraldine Collinge, CEO, Compton Verney said: *"Compton Verney is absolutely delighted to be shortlisted for Art Fund Museum of the Year for our 20th anniversary year. 2024 was an extraordinary year for Compton Verney and we were thrilled to share our wonderful programme with more visitors than ever. I am looking forward to getting to know the other museums over the next few weeks and to celebrating the importance of museums to everybody's lives."*

Speaking on behalf of the judges, Jenny Waldman, Director, Art Fund said: *"Congratulations to Compton Verney on being shortlisted for Art Fund Museum of the Year 2025. This year's finalists are inspiring examples of museums at their best – deeply connected to their local communities, responsive to the world around them, and alive with energy and ideas."*

Each one offers a distinctive experience, showing the endless creativity and care that goes into making museums inspiring and exciting spaces for everyone. Art Fund is proud to celebrate their work and support their ambition through Art Fund Museum of the Year."

We hope people across the UK will be inspired to visit these remarkable places and museums in their local area to discover the powerful role they can play in our lives."

The other nominees are:

- Beamish (County Durham)
- Chapter (Cardiff)
- Golden Thread Gallery (Belfast)
- Perth Museum (Perth).



Healthwatch Warwickshire would like to hear your experiences of receiving care in Warwickshire

Do health and care providers need to consider delivering things differently to help and support people across the different parts of Warwickshire in the ways they need?

Should care be delivered closer to the places people call home to help keep them well and where possible, out of hospital?

Do health, care, and community & voluntary organisations work well together?

Have your say today by completing the short survey here:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TK5N8H/>

For more information visit: [HealthwatchWarwickshire](#)



healthwatch
Warwickshire

**Share your thoughts and experiences of
community services in Warwickshire!**

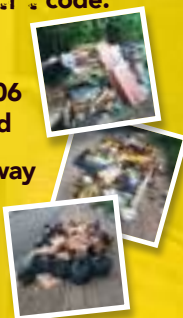


**Health and care providers across Warwickshire are
now working together to develop a plan for
providing support and care closer to where people
live, aiming to ensure that local needs are at the
heart of their decisions and plans.**

LET'S SCRAP FLY TIPPING!

We ALL have a DUTY OF CARE, to ensure our household or business waste is disposed of legally and not fly tipped. Avoid an UNLIMITED FINE or PRISON SENTENCE by following the S.C.R.A.P. code:

- S**uspect ALL waste carriers
- C**heck with the Environment Agency on 03708 506 506 that the person(s) taking your waste away is licensed
- R**efuse unexpected offers to have your waste taken away
- A**sk what will happen to your waste when removed
- P**aperwork should be obtained – get a full receipt



Did you know?

Under section 34(2A) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Household Waste Duty of Care, you can be issued a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £1,000 if you do not dispose of your waste correctly.

This includes:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers>

- If fly tipped waste is traced back to **YOU**
- If **YOU** failed to make appropriate checks to ensure that the transfer of **YOUR** waste was to an authorised person(s)
- If **YOU** forget to check if the waste carrier is registered to remove **YOUR** waste
- If **YOU** forget to get a Waste Transfer Note or receipt for the waste which gives a description of the waste, where it was collected from and where it is being disposed

If **YOU** fail on any of the above, then **YOU** may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice or face prosecution.

For more information on preventing fly tipping or to report fly tipping

www.stratford.gov.uk/environment/fly-tipping.cfm

For information about Household Waste Recycling Centres

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc



SDC/1931/NOV24



Are you organising a community litter pick?

The following equipment is available to borrow from Stratford-on-Avon District Council

- Litter pick sticks
- Hi-viz vests
- Protective gloves
- Bag hoops
- Waste bags
- Graffiti removal kits

The equipment will need to be collected from, and returned to, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX

In most cases, the Council will arrange for the free collection of the waste.



For more information, please contact the Council's Streetscene Duty Officer
streetscenedutyofficer@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Are you 65 or over? We need your views!

Stratford-on-Avon District Council are keen to understand the aspirations, challenges and preferences of older people in our community. By sharing your experiences and thoughts you will contribute to shaping policies, services and opportunities that reflect what matters most to you.

Please scan the QR code or visit <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/GrowingOlderInStratfordSurvey> to access the survey which should take 10-15 minutes to complete.

The deadline for completion is Monday 30th June.



Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting updates

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) has held three meetings since the last update in March.

7 March

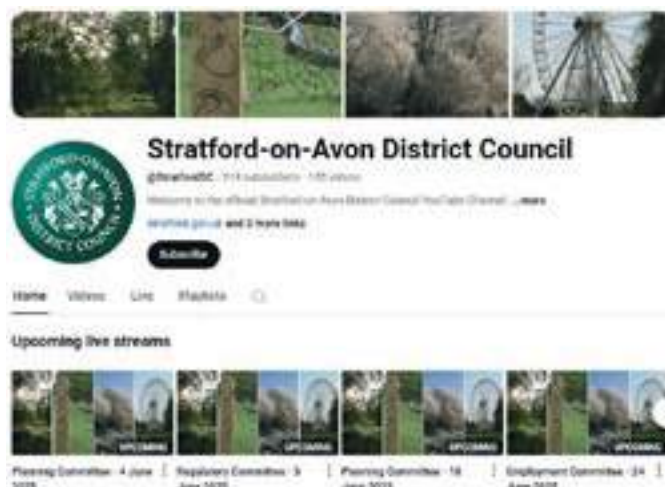
Officers from Warwickshire County Council attended and gave an update regarding digital connectivity across the District, including the rollout of rural broadband and improving 5G connectivity.

At the same meeting, the Committee agreed its Annual Work Programme, after inviting all councillors and parish councils to contribute suggestions. Members of the public have since also been consulted, and suggestions from residents will influence the future work programming.

The Outline Business Cases for the Canal Quarter District Heat Network and the Honeybourne to Stratford-upon-Avon Railway Line, Quarter 3 Performance Monitoring, and a report from Sherbourne Recycling Limited were also considered.

14 March

At an extraordinary meeting, the OSC considered the Council's Interim Plan for local government reorganisation proposals. The Chief Executive gave members a detailed presentation, and members scrutinised each aspect of the Plan carefully. It was decided that the Committee would receive a brief update on work towards the submission of a final proposal to the Government (which would be by 28 November 2025), and that an in-depth session regarding the implications of reorganisation on the District would be held in the summer. The Council approved the Interim Plan on 17 March 2025.



4 April

The meeting saw a return to regularly scheduled programming, with consideration of the results of a survey on public participation and the following Cabinet items:

- Round Three of the Community Climate Change and Nature Recovery Fund;
- Community Infrastructure Levy – Update to Infrastructure List;
- Single Equality Scheme Targets - 2025/26;
- Performance Management Framework 2025/26: Proposed Key Performance Indicators and Council Plan Actions for Year Two; and
- Allocation of UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF) 2025/26 for Communities and Place Projects.

All minutes, agendas and meeting dates can be viewed on the [Council's website](#), and all livestreams and recordings are available on the [Council's YouTube channel](#).

Stratford District Council meetings

All minutes, agendas and meeting dates can be viewed on the [Council's website](#), and all livestreams and recordings are available on the [Council's YouTube channel](#).

Date	Time	Meeting
Tuesday 1 July	4.00pm	Public Participation Meeting Climate Change Panel
Wednesday 2 July	10.00am	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Monday 7 July	10.00am	The Cabinet
Monday 14 July	2.00pm	Council
Wednesday 16 July	6.00pm	Planning
Wednesday 30 July	6.00pm	Planning
Wednesday 13 August	6.00pm	Planning
Wednesday 27 August	10.00am	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Wednesday 27 August	6.00pm	Planning
Monday 1 September	10.00am	The Cabinet
Tuesday 2 September	4.00pm	Public Participation Meeting Climate Change Panel
Wednesday 10 September	6.00pm	Planning
Wednesday 24 September	6.00pm	Planning

Need HELP... with the survey for your Plan?

A personalised consultation service is available, totally independent from the Parish, Town or Neighbourhood Plan process in your area.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Consultation & Insight Unit offers you:

- > Pick and Mix flexible approach
- > Survey design from draft questionnaire to final report
- > Low cost one-stop shop for all your market research needs
- > Data processing via an unconnected, unbiased third party
- > Anonymity assured
- > Work carried out to Market Research Society guidelines

Satisfied clients include Parish Councils from both within and outside Stratford-on-Avon District.



Feedback received includes:

"Just wanted to say a big thank you for doing a cracking job on our village survey"

"Again thanks to you and your staff for a professional job - and lots of patience!"

Get professional assistance for your consultation

Contact Simon Purfield on



01789 260118



simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk



www.stratford.gov.uk



Council Tax Help

**Are you,
or someone in your household,
living with:**

- a degenerative brain disorder such as Alzheimer's
- a learning disability
- other kinds of dementia
- a severe stroke
- severe or chronic mental illness

**and are entitled to one
of the following benefits:**

- Employment Support Allowance
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- increased Disability Pension
- Personal Independence Payments (PIP)
- Income Support that includes a disability premium
- the care component of high or middle rate Disability Living Allowance
- Constant Attendance Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit

**then you may be entitled to
a Council Tax discount**

**and save money
off your Council Tax bill**

For more information please contact Revenues on

01789 260990

revenues@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Train your drivers with WRCC Back & 4th



At Warwickshire Rural Community Council we are pleased to start taking bookings again for MiDAS Driver Assessments both Standard and Accessible.

MiDAS is a nationally recognized training scheme for minibus drivers that aims to improve driving standards and promote safer operations.



Services we offer



Onsite Driver Assessments

At WRCC you can visit our Wellesbourne office and use one of our own vehicle. If you have your own minibus then we can travel you to and assess on-site.



Accessible Wheelchair Training

If you have wheelchairs that need to be transported then we can provide training on how to safely secure the wheelchair and ensure that the user is comfortable the whole time.



Flexible Assessment Dates

At WRCC we work with you to find the best and most suitable date to train your drivers. Based in Rugby and Wellesbourne means we can cover all of Warwickshire and beyond

MiDAS is a nationwide recognised scheme that gives piece of mind to organisations who own vehicles to know that the people driving their vehicles can do so safely and correctly to ensure all of the passengers onboard have a pleasant experience and to not feel in danger while on a moving vehicle.

Choosing the Warwickshire Rural Community Council as your MiDAS provider means you will be contributing to the wider mission of WRCC of providing support and enriching the life's of people living in rural areas who may feel secluded from the rest of the county.

Prices are available upon request and this will vary based on the number of attendees taking the training

