

Parish and Partners Foreword

Firstly, I want to thank you all for your continued efforts to help our communities during this incredibly challenging period. This support has made a significant impact on protecting our most vulnerable within communities.

The position in relation to COVID seems to be changing all the time, at time of writing we are seeing a significant increase in the number of cases which have been reported locally. We are working closely with our colleagues in public health on taking the actions that we need to protect our communities whilst also supporting our local economy. **The messaging however remains very clear that we have to follow the basics of HANDS - FACE - SPACE**, whilst also following the restrictions that are in place within our area.

We have continued to hold all of the Council meetings remotely and whilst this does present its own challenges we have managed to ensure that the decision making ability is maintained. At the meeting of Council which was held on 19 October the revised Statement of Community Involvement was approved and the Site Allocations Plan was endorsed for public consultation. The consultation on the Site Allocation Plan will start on 22 October and will run for 6 weeks, I encourage as many responses as possible to this vital document.

The Council is also ensuring as many staff as possible are working from home, these arrangements we have advised staff are likely to remain in place until at least March next year. We have maintained our services as much as possible. We have also seen extra call upon our services as the level of unemployment has increased across our district. In March 2020 the number of individuals claiming Job Seekers

Allowance or Universal Credit was 1,050, this increased to 2,230 in April and by August this figure is now at 3,200. Unfortunately we are expecting this figure to increase as further job losses are expected as the furlough scheme unwinds.

As I have previously reported the COVID-19 pandemic has presented the Council with significant financial challenges, a recent report to the Cabinet indicated that these could be as much as £3.7m in the current financial year. These challenges relate to increased costs the Council is facing in areas such as homelessness but more significantly through reduced income in areas such as car parking, planning and licencing. The Council has formed a cross party 'Council Recovery Advisory Group' to carefully review all of the Council's budgets and it is expected that early in the new year revised spending plans which the Council will again consult upon.

As reported in the last edition the Council is awaiting the publication of white paper from central government in relation to expanding devolution across the Country. It had been expected that this white paper would also concentrate upon reviewing the local government structures across the Country to support this devolution. However, it now appears that the emphasis of the white paper will move away from reorganisation and concentrate on the economic recovery of the country. That said we are continuing to work very closely with Warwick District Council to ensure that we can make efficiencies across the two Councils. We have already shared a number of senior management posts across the two authorities and we are also seeking to jointly tender for the next generation of the waste and recycling contracts.

In addition to these areas, the Councils have also agreed to collaborate on the next version of the Core Strategy. This would mean the development of a South Warwickshire Local Plan, such a move would significantly reduce the cost of producing such as plan but also recognises the common economic geography across Warwick and Stratford. Initial work has started in this area however, following the publication of two white papers on significant changes relating to planning which were issued over the summer it is not yet clear what the future spatial plan for our area will look like!

I hope that I have got some more positive news when the next edition of Parish and Partners is published, however, in the meantime, please stay safe.

Very Best Wishes



David



For all the latest information, updates and advice from the District Council on Covid-19 please visit our [dedicated webpages](#).



New Cabinet and New Chairman for Stratford-on-Avon District

Stratford District Council's Annual Meeting took place in September, postponed from May due to COVID-19.

Cllr Tony Dixon (Tanworth-in-Arden) was elected Chairman with Cllr Edward Fitter (Quinton) elected Vice-Chairman. Councillor Dixon has chosen The Shakespeare Hospice as his Chairman's charity for the year.

New Cabinet

Cllr Matt Jennings (Henley-in-Arden) has been appointed to the new position of Tourism and Economic Development Portfolio holder on The Cabinet. This is a new post and is designed to help lead the Council's response to the economic impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Cllr Christopher Kettle (Bishop's Itchington) has recently been appointed Community Portfolio Holder. He has been a District Councillor since 2014 when he was elected as Member for Harbury Ward, then in 2015 he was elected to the new Bishop's Itchington Ward. He was elected Chairman of the Council in 2018 until 2020. As Chairman he has been actively involved in building the relationship between the District Council and the City of Fuzhou in Jiangxi Province China.

Cllr Bill Fleming (Bidford West and Salford) has been appointed as Parish Champion.



Stratford-on-Avon District Council Cabinet Structure and Contact Details October 2020



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Corporate Policy & Strategy
Environmental Sustainability
Partnership Development



Cllr Daren Pemberton
Deputy Leader
Place Portfolio
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Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
Infrastructure
Planning Policy and Core Strategy



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Cllr Christopher Kettle
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- Community Safety and CCTV
- Human Resources and Health & Safety
- Inward Investment (Jointly with Portfolio Holder for Tourism and Economic Development)
- Planning and Development Control
- Rural Affairs and Strategy

Cllr Mark Cargill
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- Corporate Performance
- Democratic Services and Member Development
- Digital and IT
- Information Governance
- Transformation

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- Grounds Maintenance and Streetscene
- Leisure Services and Green Spaces
- Markets
- Property Maintenance and Construction
- Public Conveniences
- Waste and Recycling

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- Finance
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- Health and Wellbeing
- Housing and Homelessness
- Housing Strategy, Policy and Enabling
- Revenues and Benefits
- Safeguarding
- Social Inclusion

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- Environmental Health
- Land Charges
- Licensing
- Planning Enforcement

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- Tourism

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Warwickshire unitary authorities report

The five district and borough councils in Warwickshire believe that the future of local government in the county should be shaped by the views of residents, businesses, community groups, town, and parish councils.

An independent assessment of options for the biggest re-organisation of local government across the county in almost 50 years has been completed by Deloitte. Their expert report will be used as the basis for these important initial public consultations.

The report was commissioned by the five District and Borough Councils in the county ahead of a Government White Paper on reform which is expected in the coming months. The Councils have agreed to seek the public's views before formulating proposals for change once the White Paper has been published.

Deloitte found that creating two councils – north and south – would be the best way to provide better value for money, higher quality services focused on their communities. Two Unitary Councils would also foster stronger local leadership, giving clearer lines of responsibility and accountability.

The new authorities would replace the current two-tier system in the county, where the county council is responsible for certain services such as highways, transport and social care, and the five borough and district councils are responsible for others such as planning, waste collection and leisure.

Views will be sought on options for the county, including the recommended option of creating a new Unitary Council which covers the Boroughs of North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth and Rugby, while establishing a second South Warwickshire Council covering Warwick and Stratford Districts.



Left to right: Sebastian Lowe (Rugby Borough Council), Tony Jefferson (Stratford-on-Avon District Council), Julie Jackson (Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council), Andrew Day (Warwick District Council), David Humphreys (Deputy Leader North Warwickshire).

Although the report, commissioned by the five councils, found having a single authority for the whole of Warwickshire would save marginally more money overall, different levels of Council Tax could remove those savings, would 'diminish local leadership' and would harm the quality of service provision locally.

While the two new unitary authorities would be separate, the report also recommended collaborative working for services such as children's care and waste disposal, as well as becoming full members of the West Midlands Combined Authority for higher-level strategic economic development and transport.

Crucially, the report found the county's clear north-south divide in terms of the economy, health needs and demographics means having two unitary authorities would represent better value for money than having one authority controlling the whole of the county, saving more than £25 million a year in taxpayers money, compared to the current system.

In a joint statement, the five Leaders said: *"This is about giving our residents great value, great quality local government services, fit for the next fifty years and best able to meet whatever challenges may lie ahead for our communities.*

"All local authorities are under financial pressure already, and COVID-19 has only made the situation tougher.

"Saving our taxpayers money while delivering high quality, modern local government services is of the utmost importance. We are keen to carefully consider all the options to achieve this goal and look forward to having a meaningful discussion with those who live and work in the county about the future. If that means reorganising our two-tier system, then we will support that.

"Although having one authority for the whole of the county may initially save the most money, the report makes it crystal clear the needs of Warwick and Stratford's residents are very different to those in the north of the county and, therefore, creating two unitary authorities could well be the best option for all.

"The county is quite unusual in the sense that the north is clearly distinct from the south in all sorts of ways.

"We need to make sure we are focussing the right services on the right people.

"This report is clear that having two separate authorities will deliver the best outcome to our residents while saving money, but we now want to test that with residents and businesses as this conversation continues.

"Publishing this report widely means that there can be informed discussion amongst residents and councils at all levels. This will help secure the best solution for the county and its residents."

The full report can be viewed on the district council website

www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/local-government-reorganisation.cfm



Site Allocations Plan for Stratford-on-Avon District - Consultation

This week, Stratford-on-Avon District Council will start a seven-week public consultation on the Preferred Options version of its Site Allocations Plan.

The Council is responsible for preparing Plans that will shape the future of the District by identifying sites for future development. These Plans also contain policies that the Council will use to judge planning applications. The Site Allocations Plan is an additional Plan that will sit alongside the existing Core Strategy and will enable residents, businesses and communities to know where new development may occur in the future.

The Plan includes a range of proposals across the District relating to:

- Reserve Housing Sites
- Self and Custom Build Housing sites
- Built-up Area Boundaries
- Employment Enabling Sites
- A46 Safeguarding
- Plus a number of other site specific proposals including sites for employment and regeneration

Cllr Daren Pemberton, Deputy Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Place Portfolio Holder says:

"This consultation is the latest stage in the preparation of the Site Allocations Plan which will be an important element of the District's Development Plan once adopted.

"It is really important that residents make their views known about the issues important to them on specific sites. We also want to hear your views about how any of the proposals could be improved.

"This Council listens to public consultations, they are key to our decision making. In addition Government Planning Inspectors always look for evidence of public consultation when considering local plans and which sites to allow to come forward for development. So now is the time to make your voice heard!"

He went on to say: *"This plan, once adopted, will be another tool in our armoury to ensure development is appropriate for our needs and happens where our residents need it not just where developers want it.*

"Our current overall Core Strategy plan is robust and we now have a 7.08 year housing land supply (Government requires a minimum of 5years). This put us in a good place to resist speculative developments in unsuitable locations."

How to View the Consultation

The best way to view the consultation documents is online at www.stratford.gov.uk/sappo. This webpage also includes a number of short videos explaining in greater detail the proposals within the consultation. Maps are also available for each settlement so that you can easily identify which site proposal potentially affects your property. A summary leaflet is also available.

Subject to changing restrictions resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic, it is also available to view at the District Council offices (Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX between 10am and 2pm Monday to Friday) and at main public libraries across the District. Copies of the document can also be purchased from the District Council.

Whilst it is not possible to hold face-to-face public consultation events due to the pandemic, the District Council will be hosting a number of live online question and answer sessions throughout the consultation period to enable residents to ask any questions. Visit www.stratford.gov.uk/sappo to find out more and join one of the sessions.

How to Comment

Information on how to comment is included within the Plan itself, in the summary leaflet and on the website at www.stratford.gov.uk/sappo. By responding to this consultation you will have the opportunity to have your say on the content of the Plan before it is finalised.

What happens next?

Preparing the Plan is not a one-off event and there are a number of stages to its preparation. Preferred Options is essentially the draft stage. There will be further consultation on the final draft (Proposed Submission version) next year before the Plan is submitted to the Government for examination to check that it is fit for purpose.

**The consultation runs from Thursday 29 October to Friday 18 December 2020.
Comments must be received by the District Council by 5pm on Friday 18 December 2020.**



Test and Trace: COVID-19 - Working together to support our communities

Warwickshire Public Health and partners from Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils held a webinar on in July to talk to local communities regarding on-going prevention activities and what this means for communities and local support groups.

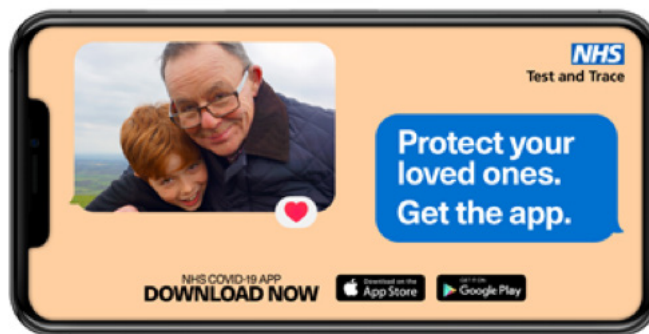
The webinar consisted of a panel including Local Councillors, Public Health, Environmental Health and Citizens Advice representatives and gave an overview of the Test and Trace system as well as providing wider information to the attendees and enabling them to continue to help communities to beat the virus.

Questions which were explored included:

- What are the numbers of COVID-19 cases like in Warwickshire now?
- Isn't the pandemic almost over, why do we need test and trace?
- What is Test and Trace and what does it mean for me or my local community?
- How and when do I get tested?
- What are my employment rights if I'm asked to isolate due to being a close contact with a COVID-19 case?
- I'm going back to work and can't continue to support people like I have been, what can I do to help?

The webinar was recorded and will be uploaded onto the Public Health webpages soon. If you would like to receive a link to the webinar, please contact connectingcommunities@warwickshire.gov.uk or amandawilsonpatterson@warwickshire.gov.uk

Local authorities across Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire have come together to develop a local plan to manage COVID-19 for more information please visit: <https://staysafecsw.info/>



NHS Test and Trace

For the latest NHS information and advice about COVID-19 please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

let's do the right thing for Warwickshire and Stratford District

Warwickshire County Council has embarked on a campaign - 'Let's do the Right Thing for Warwickshire' - as it seeks to ensure that the public is very clear around the guidance for keeping individuals and communities safe from COVID-19.

As restrictions have been lifting, feedback has shown that some people are not always clear about the message that the pandemic is not over. Warwickshire County Council, along with its partners in the District and Borough Councils, has launched the 'Let's do the right thing for Warwickshire' campaign to ensure that residents are clear about the steps they need to take to keep the county safe.

The main aim of the campaign is to raise awareness around the simple things people can do to stop the spread of the virus and to bring communities together, to help them understand the importance of the role they play. Key to the campaign is the message that everybody needs to play their part and do the right thing for themselves, their friends and family, neighbours and their communities.

The key messages remain around regular washing and sanitising of hands, keeping a safe social distance of at least 2m wherever possible and taking mitigating actions such as wearing a face covering where that cannot be done. The message of staying home if you are experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 and arranging a test is also strongly reinforced.



Be alert to Test and Trace potential scam

The District Council is urging residents across the district to remain vigilant after being alerted to new reports of fraudsters posing as people from the NHS Test and Trace programme, launched to help control the COVID-19 virus.

It appears that the system is being targeted by scammers, who are pretending to be contact tracers in a bid to trick people into parting with their personal information.

People will be alerted by the NHS Test and Trace service if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus.

Contact tracers will:

- call from 0300 013 5000
- send text messages from 'NHS'
- ask people to sign into the NHS test and trace contact-tracing website
- ask for full name and date of birth to confirm identity, and postcode to offer support while self-isolating
- ask about the coronavirus symptoms
- ask people to provide the name, telephone number and/or email address of anyone they have had close contact with in the two days prior to symptoms starting (as with your own details these will be held in strict confidence and will be kept and used only in line with data protection laws)
- ask if anyone they have been in contact with is under 18 or lives outside of England

They will not ask:

- for bank details, or payments
- for details of any other accounts, such as social media
- set up a password or PIN number over the phone
- to call a premium rate number, such as those starting 09 or 087

Cllr Jo Barker, People Portfolio says: *"Unfortunately, even during this difficult time, fraudsters will find ways to take advantage of people. No one is immune from scams, so we're encouraging everyone to be vigilant and take steps to protect themselves by knowing what you will and won't be asked if you are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service."*

Find out more about the NHS Test and Trace service by visiting - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youve-been-in-contact-with-a-person-who-has-coronavirus/>

If you have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, please report it to Action Fraud at www.action.fraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.



Stratford-on-Avon District's recovery after lockdown

When lockdown was enforced across the country this spring and summer, businesses in Stratford District were heavily affected.

Through no fault of their own, many were simply unable to trade, or had to put major projects on indefinite hold.

But thanks to Stratford District Council awarding Discretionary Business Rate Grants, which were created by the Government to support small businesses that suffered significant falls in income due to the pandemic, many businesses have been able to get back on their feet.

Businesses in Stratford District were also supported more generally by the Government's Reopening High Streets Safety Fund, which is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

Stratford District Council consistently encouraged struggling businesses to apply, and the approval process was often completed very quickly. This resulted in the grants reaching the businesses' bank accounts as soon as possible, which many have been incredibly grateful for.

Now the district is out of lockdown, businesses have seen a boost in trade, and are hoping the support shown by customers continues over the next few months.

Here are just a few of the businesses the council was able to help through their grants:

Foakeswagons, Warmington

Rachel Foakes had run her used-car business Foakeswagons, in Warmington, for three years before the pandemic hit.

She sold a variety of used cars, mainly 'first time' cars such as Ford Fiestas and Honda Jazzes.

COVID-19 put the future of the business in serious doubt – and Rachel was unsure how the business would be able to survive.

When she heard about the grants Stratford District Council were offering to businesses like hers, she applied right away.

Thanks to the council quickly awarding her the money, her business is now in a much better position, and Rachel is confident she will be able to carry on into the future.



The Merrie Lion, Fenny Compton

The Merrie Lion, a prominent village pub and B&B in Fenny Compton, was another business hit hard by the pandemic.

Landlady Daphne Leck was up against it when the lockdown was enforced – her pub was often busy with customers, and rooms would often fill for nearby events such as the British Grand Prix and National Metro & Mini Show.

When she reopened when restrictions were lifted, she actually found introducing table service as per Government guidelines resulted in drink sales going up rather than down.

And thanks to Stratford District Council awarding her a grant, Daphne now has a buffer for any future upheaval.

As long as she has a good winter, Daphne is confident she can keep The Merrie Lion going.



Stratford-on-Avon District's recovery after lockdown - continued from previous page

Samaritans, Stratford

The Stratford-upon-Avon and District branch of Samaritans were faced with a double-whammy of a higher volume of calls and a lack of rental income during the height of the pandemic.

One branch volunteer was even stopped by a police officer in Stratford who questioned what they were doing, but once they explained they were a Samaritan, the officer let them carry on.

Despite these challenges, the team was still able to deliver a full service to vulnerable right the way through lockdown.

And a grant awarded to them by Stratford District Council meant the branch was able to restart recruitment and training programmes that had been put on hold.

Phil Cazaly, the branch's director, thanked the council for awarding the grant so quickly.



Guides 'n' Blanks, Studley

A specialist fishing shop received a big boost over lockdown as angling's popularity surged among people looking to connect with the outdoors.

Guides 'n' Blanks in Studley saw its sales skyrocket during lockdown, with sales doubling in June compared to a typical month.

Owner Gregg Holloway was delighted with the sales boost but admitted it might not have been possible without Stratford District Council awarding the business a grant to help balance the books.

Thanks to the grant keeping Guides 'n' Blanks going, the business is now in much better shape than it might otherwise have been.

Gregg is hopeful many of his new customers will continue to fish and come back to his shop when they need a new custom rod or any repairs.



Stratford Town FC, Stratford

The new season is soon to begin/has just begun for Stratford Town FC, and without a grant from the council to cover some of the money lost from voiding last season, they might not have been around to play at all.

Support from sponsors and a further grant from the Football Foundation meant Stratford Town was able to prepare for the new season without worrying about income.



Mark Bickley, director and head groundsman at the club, had to visit the pitch during lockdown to make sure wildlife like badgers and foxes didn't damage the surface.

Thanks to his vigilance, and the club putting in social distancing and extra hygiene measures at their ground at Knights Lane, the team is looking forward to the season ahead.

Mark is hoping that the winter will be kind to the club and will not result in matches being called off, but for now he is happy Stratford Town is playing football again.



Council adopts Climate Change Supplementary Planning Guidance

At the District Council's 'virtual' Council meeting in July, members adopted a new part to its Development Requirements Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) focusing on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation.

The SPD provides additional guidance on the interpretation and implementation of a number of policies within the District Council's existing Core Strategy.

The newly adopted Part V of the SPD focuses on adaptation and mitigation measures relating to climate change and is a material consideration that will be used by the District Council to help reach decisions on whether to approve or refuse planning applications.

Councillor Daren Pemberton, Deputy Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Portfolio Holder for Place says: *"While COVID-19 has been our main focus since March, climate change has not gone away and neither has our desire to address the emergency at a local level. The Planning system plays a pivotal role in our transition to net zero emissions and adapting our built environment to the effects of climate change.*

"The adoption of the SPD is an important first step in tackling the climate emergency locally by giving clear guidance to developers within our existing core strategy. We recognise that a step change will only be achieved through our forthcoming Core Strategy review which will have the climate at its heart."

The newly adopted Part V of the SPD can be viewed on the District Council's website at: www.stratford.gov.uk/devreq-spd. It is also available to inspect at the District Council's offices at Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX.

A six-week period of public consultation on the draft Part V of the SPD was held between 9 January and 21 February 2020 and the Consultation Statement on the Council's webpage summarises the comments received and the Council's responses.

Adoption of District Council's first Infrastructure Funding Statement

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has adopted its first Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS).

The IFS provides a summary of receipts and spending of developer contributions under S106 Agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

It also includes a list of infrastructure projects that the District Council will consider spending CIL funds on and a protocol setting out the process for allocating CIL receipts.

IFS are a new government requirement and covers the period from 2018/19. It will be updated on an annual basis ensuring information on developer contributions and potential infrastructure projects remains up to date. The 2019/20 IFS is due to be published by December 2020.

Councillor Daren Pemberton, Deputy Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Portfolio Holder for Place says: *"Infrastructure provision is crucial in addressing the needs arising from new development in the district and to support our communities.*

"The Council's IFS brings together in one place information on infrastructure that is being delivered locally through the planning system."

The IFS can be viewed on the District Council's website at <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/planning-building/infrastructure-planning.cfm>. It is also available to inspect at the District Council's offices at Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX.



Allocation of District Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies to flood management scheme

The District Council's Cabinet has allocated £80,000 of its CIL developer contributions to the Shipston-on-Stour Natural Flood Management Scheme.

By installing natural flood management measures across the Stour catchment, the project aims to reduce flooding to 85 properties and multiple businesses within Shipston-on-Stour, along with reducing flooding to numerous other towns and villages impacted by flashy fluvial flooding.

Natural flood management works by slowing and storing water across a landscape and can lead to environmental and biodiversity improvements for many years to come.

The total cost of the project is £405,000 and a number of other funding sources had been secured by the Environment Agency resulting in a funding gap of £80,000. At The Cabinet meeting on 27 July, the Council allocated CIL monies to cover this funding gap to enable the project to go ahead.

The project will be delivered by the Environment Agency and is expected to be in place by 2022. Following completion it will be maintained by local flood groups and landowners.

Don't be a Tosser



Why are you dumping rubbish here?

- I don't care about the environment
- I don't care about the community
- I think other people should clean up for me

Dispose of your rubbish responsibly

Anti-litter campaign

In July, the District Council launched a new anti-litter campaign, after seeing a huge increase in rubbish being left in local parks and public open spaces.

'Don't be a tosser' posters, questioning why people are dumping their rubbish were put up at public open spaces in Stratford-upon-Avon including, the Recreation Ground, Bancroft Gardens, Fisherman's car park, Cottage Lane, Shottery Field, Orrian Close and in key shops, encouraging people to dispose of their rubbish responsibly.

The aim of the campaign is to remind people that they need to clean up after themselves and bin their litter or take it home. This is even more important during the ongoing pandemic in helping to reduce the spread of the disease. The strapline is not intended to cause offence, but is hard-hitting to tackle the issue and draw attention.

Cllr Ian Shenton, Operations Portfolio at Stratford-on-Avon District Council says: *"Since lockdown restrictions have eased, there has been an unwelcome rise in litter. Our contractors are continuing to work hard to keep the areas clear of litter, but the increased levels have been very significant. Littering is illegal, anti-social, has a negative impact on our environment, is harmful for our wildlife and costs thousands of pounds each year to clear."*

"We need to get the message out there that being a 'tossler' is socially unacceptable. People should take responsibility for their own litter and not expect others to clean up their mess."

The anti-littering campaign by Stratford-on-Avon District Council together with Warwickshire Waste Partnership comes after more people have been outside since the easing of lockdown and has been inspired by campaigns from New Zealand and Keep Britain Tidy.

The most common items left by members of the public in parks and public spaces include picnic debris, gas canisters, balloons, glass, disposable barbecues, cans, plastic bottles and bags of dog foul.

If Parish Councils would like posters for their areas please contact the Streetscene Team on streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Award winning CCTV and security services now available from Stratford District Council

The District Council has made significant investment on upgrading the Council's CCTV scheme and infrastructure to help reduce crime and disorder and protect the public.

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The CCTV control room's upgraded technology has also provided the capacity for expansion with the opportunity to provide CCTV and security services for other organisations. The systems now potentially can be used for alarm monitoring and response, but can also incorporate different types of CCTV into the central control room, for example crime prevention & detection of public spaces, retail and business facilities or buildings, property management, flood monitoring, traffic monitoring or events.

The scheme upgrade of over 100 cameras includes new replacement cameras across the district in Alcester, Bidford, Henley, Shipston, Southam, Stratford, Studley and Wellesbourne. Fibre lines transmitting images have also been upgraded, connecting cameras to the 24/7 CCTV control centre in Stratford.

The District Council's CCTV scheme has also been recognised for good management, practice and standards and has recently been awarded British Standard BS7958 accreditation and also certification to the Surveillance Camera Commissioner's Code of Practice.

If you would like more information about how the system could benefit your business or organisation's safety or security needs please email: cctv.consultation@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Supported Villages - A District Council Rural Crime Initiative

The Supported Villages programme is a Rural Crime Project which aims to help communities with proactive crime prevention action and advice.

The initiative is Parish Council led and is being driven by Stratford District Council's Rural Crime Advisors and your local Warwickshire Police Safer Neighbourhood Team. The project is being funded by the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Philip Seccombe.

The initiative utilises industry recognised security products which include Smartwater, Cremark and BikeRegister, all of which are proven to significantly reduce your chances of having valuables stolen.

The aim of this initiative is to encourage a significant percentage of the residents of a village to sign up to the project by security marking their valuables thereby providing a real deterrent to any 'would be thieves' intent on targeting a rural community. Village, street and household signage will provide additional deterrents to criminals who will quickly identify that a village has taken a robust stand against acquisitive rural crime.

The project also provides an opportunity for Neighbourhood Watch schemes to engage with new and existing residents and demonstrate the real importance of having a network of vigilant local residents in combating Rural Crime in an area.

In achieving 'Supported Village' status, residents are demonstrating that their community is not a soft touch to those criminals who are intent on committing crime in our rural communities.

At the conclusion of each village initiative Parish Councils will be provided with a community crime prevention toolbox which will ensure that anyone in the community can have their items marked in the future. This provides for a sustainable scheme, which can be maintained by the community.

Please contact the District Council's Rural Crime Advisors Bob Church and Baz Bains who are available for a MS Teams or Zoom video call to discuss the project in more detail.

Contacts

Bob Church on 07976358617
email robert.church@stratford-dc.gov.uk
or Baz Bains on 07976238329
email baz.bains@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Useful information

There is also a dedicated rural website: www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk and here is the current Warwickshire Police Rural and Wildlife Crime Strategy: <https://www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Rural-Crime-Strategy-Digital.pdf>

3 Tier event - Climate Change

The event organised by Warwickshire County Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwickshire Association of Local Councils took place at the end of September and aimed to build better relationships with each other as well as understanding each other's roles in helping to tackle climate change.

The event included speakers and presentations from WALC, WCC Waste and Environment Officers, SDC Officers and a representative from a local town/parish council.

For more information please contact Amanda Wilson-Patterson on 07780 995817 or email amandawilsonpatterson@warwickshire.gov.uk



Broadband Connectivity across our District

Rural connectivity has always been an issue across the District, and the District Council has been working with partners to try and get the best Broadband possible especially for our remote regions.

Working behind the scenes, the District Council has now been approached by BT Openreach to work with them in developing a plan to rollout the Community Fibre Broadband Programme in Stratford-on-Avon District.

This new Community Fibre voucher scheme is available potentially to all business and residents in the district who may be eligible for additional funding towards the cost of installing gigabit-capable broadband to their premises when part of a group project.

These vouchers can be put towards the costs of a Community Fibre Partnership. Each Village, Parish or Ward would 'gather' support from residents or businesses who are interested who could then apply for vouchers to contribute towards the cost.

Rural premises with broadband speeds of less than 30Mbps can use vouchers worth up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs), and up to £1,500 per residential premise to support the cost of installing new gigabit-capable connections.

The way the scheme operates is that a Village/Parish/Ward uses the BT online application to register an interest for that area. Some communities may be too small to make this work on their own. Under those circumstances it is possible that two or more very rural areas, that are relatively geographically close, are allowed to 'brigade' together, combining their resources.

Once notified, Openreach would then undertake a business case to ascertain the cost of connection. Openreach will then fund 50% of that total cost, then set a target number (minimum) of subscribers who would need to sign up for a voucher and in turn to agree to a BT Broadband contract for a minimum of 12 months.

Openreach and, for example, a Parish Council would then become a 'legal entity'. Openreach will source the vouchers from DCMS so there is no upfront funding from residents or businesses, but the commitment is there for the minimum 12 month contract for BT Broadband. You can change providers after one year. Once this target group has been reached Openreach will schedule the work for completion.

For more information please contact David Platts at Stratford District Council: david.platts@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Our fastest, most reliable Full Fibre broadband is available to order in Henley-in-Arden

The last few months have shown how important it is to stay connected. Whether it's working from home, keeping the kids entertained, streaming your favourite boxsets or running your business – the internet has been a critical lifeline.

Right now we're rolling out Full Fibre across the UK – and we've just finished upgrading Henley-in-Arden.

Full Fibre, or Fibre to the Premises, is where a fibre cable runs all the way from the exchange to your home. It can deliver ultrafast speeds of up to 1Gbps. That means you'll be able to say goodbye to buffering, stop worrying about your broadband connection dropping out, and keep everyone at home connected – all at the same time.

 Check if your home can get Full Fibre at www.openreach.co.uk/HenleyinArden

Openreach is Britain's digital network business. We connect homes, mobile phone masts, schools, shops, banks, hospitals, libraries, broadcasters, governments and businesses – large and small – to the world. Openreach Limited. Registered office: Kelvin House, 123 Judd Street, London WC1H 9NP. Registered in England and Wales no. 10690039. Produced by Openreach. Designed by Westhill.co.uk
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Flood Action

There are 5.2 million homes and businesses in England at risk of flooding. Don't assume it's not you.

Whether you live on a hill, in a flat or in an area that's never flooded before, flooding can still affect you, putting your home, your possessions and your family at risk. In England there are over 5 million properties at risk of flooding, but most people assume it'll never happen to them. According to recent polling, only a third of people in areas at risk of flooding believe that their home could be at risk.

And with climate change already causing more frequent, intense flooding and sea level rise, we all need to know what to do, should the worst happen.

Knowing what to do in a flood could save your life.

According to the Environment Agency, the average cost of flooding to a home is around £30,000. Flooding also brings a significant risk to life. The mental health impacts of flooding can last for 2 years or more after flooding has happened. Depression, anxiety and PTSD can affect up to a third of people who have been flooded.

But, crucially, taking steps to prepare for flooding, and knowing what to do in a flood can significantly reduce the damages to a home and possessions (by around 40%), reduce risk to life, and reduce the likelihood of suffering from mental health impacts in the future.

Know how to Prepare. Act. Survive.

The good news is that there are some simple things you can do to prepare for flooding. Knowing what to do in a flood could help keep you and your family safe, and save you thousands of pounds in damages and disruption.

For more information and to find out if you are at risk visit the 'what to do in a flood' page - <https://bit.ly/FloodMids> on GOV.UK to get prepared.

Caroline Douglass, Director of Incident Management at the Environment Agency, said, "Flooding can cause serious disruption to people's lives. We can't prevent it, but we can help homeowners to be more flood resilient. Those who are aware of the risk and have done something about it are able to reduce damage to their homes and possessions considerably."



DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IN A FLOOD?

FLOOD ALERT PREPARE	FLOOD WARNING ACT	SEVERE FLOOD WARNING SURVIVE
Pack medicines & insurance docs	Move things upstairs or to safety	Follow emergency services' advice
Insurance	Turn off gas, water & electricity	Immediate danger? Call 999
Visit the flood warning information service	Move family, pets & car to safety	Stay safe



LET'S S.C.R.A.P. 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 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 provider taking your waste away is licensed
- R**efuse unexpected offers to have waste taken away
- A**sk what will happen to your waste
- P**aperwork should be obtained – get a full receipt



**Around two thirds of fly tips are household waste.
These are all examples of fly tipping which YOU could be fined or prosecuted for.**

DUTY OF CARE

Did you know?

Under section 34(2A) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Domestic Duty of Care, you can be issued a fixed penalty notice of up to £400 if you don't dispose of your waste correctly.



This includes:

- If fly tipped waste is traced back to **YOU**
- If **YOU** failed to make appropriate checks to ensure the transfer of **YOUR** waste was to an authorised person
- If **YOU** forget to check if the waste carrier is registered to remove **YOUR** household 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's going

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 the Household Waste Recycling Centres
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc



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



Stratford Shopmobility

"Renewing Independence"



Shopmobility is a free service that helps anyone with mobility problems get around Stratford-upon-Avon town centre independently, with freedom and confidence.



WHO CAN USE SHOPMOBILITY?

You do not have to be Registered Disabled to use Shopmobility. Anyone who has difficulty getting about on foot can borrow a wheelchair, scooter or wheel walker if they have limited mobility, have a temporary illness or had an accident.

OPENING HOURS

Monday 10am - 3pm
Tuesday - Saturday 9am - 4.30pm
Sunday (April to September) 10am - 4pm
Sunday (October to March) Closed
Bank Holiday Mondays (April to September) 10am - 3pm
Times are subject to change.

The service may also open on additional Sundays for special events in the town.

Please check the website for details.

HOW TO BOOK

Advanced booking with the Shopmobility Office is advisable for wheelchairs and scooters. Daily use is free of charge. Longer term hire, with charges, is available on all equipment.

CONTACT DETAILS

Level Two, Bridgeway Multi-Storey Car Park, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6YX
Telephone **01789 414534**
Email shop.mobility@stratford-dc.gov.uk
Website www.stratford.gov.uk



Do you need help with a pest problem in your home or business?

Stratford-on-Avon District Council offers a reliable pest control service with highly qualified, friendly and professional officers.

Our Pest Control service offers:

- One-off treatments for domestic and commercial properties for a wide range of pests.
- Speedy response times
- Competitive prices
- Advice visits
- Environmentally friendly
- Ongoing contracts for businesses and farms – These can be tailored to your needs.



During the cooler months, rats and mice will be looking for somewhere nice and warm to nest. To prevent these pests from entering your property it is a good idea to assess your property, sealing up any cracks or holes.

Try to keep clutter to a minimum and garden cut back to prevent shelter for pests.

Store food correctly and dispose of it in an appropriate bin with a secure lid.

To book a treatment please contact Environmental Health on **01789 267575** email envhealth@stratford-dc.gov.uk or visit www.stratford.gov.uk/environment/pest-control.cfm



www.stratford.gov.uk



info@stratford-dc.gov.uk



www.facebook.com/StratfordDC



twitter.com/StratfordDC



www.linkedin.com/company/stratford-on-avon-district-council

Stratford-on-Avon District Council meetings

District Council meetings can be accessed and viewed using the link from the front page of the agendas - <https://democracy.stratford.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

Date	Time	Meeting
Wednesday 4 November	6.00pm	Planning
Monday 9 November	3.30pm	The Cabinet
Wednesday 18 November	6.00pm	Planning
Monday 2 December	6.00pm	Planning
Monday 7 December	3.30pm	The Cabinet
Monday 14 December	2.00pm	Council
Wednesday 16 December	6.00pm	Planning

Webcast of Meetings

The Council, Cabinet and Planning Committee meetings are recorded and loaded onto the District Council's YouTube channel the following day for viewing - <https://www.youtube.com/user/StratfordDC>

You will still be able to access this from our website - <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/council-meeting-webcasts.cfm>



SAVE TIME

2 NEW SERVICES FOR ALL RESIDENTS

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**



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

