

Wootton Wawen Ward District & Arden Division
County Cllr. Ian Shenton

Proud to represent Bearley, Claverdon, Earlswood, Henley in Arden, Langley, Mappleborough Green, Preston Bagot, Tanworth in Arden, Ullenhall, Wolverton, Wootton Wawen

Mob: 07971 343074 E Mail: ianshenton@warwickshire.gov.uk

County Councillors report as of 16th May 2024

At the County Council Annual meeting held on Tuesday 14th May we appointed the Chair and Vice Chair along with Cabinet and Committee members. The procedure is the same as a Parish AGM, in principle, just more appointments . Nothing really changed as existing members of Cabinet and Committees were reappointed. The only other piece of business at that meeting was to approve capital expenditure for three schools.

1. The addition of £16.467m to the capital programme to deliver the scheme at Lighthorne Heath Primary School to be funded from developer contributions, the School Condition Allowance, and the Department for Education (DfE) Basic Need Grant.
2. The addition of £15.573m to the capital programme to deliver the scheme at Shottery St Andrews CofE Primary School to be funded from developer contributions, the School Condition Allowance, an education capital receipt, and the DfE Basic Need Grant; Page 9 County Council 14.05.24
3. The addition of £5.347m to the capital programme to deliver the scheme at Myton Gardens Primary School. This will be funded by developer contributions and the DfE Basic Need Grant.

The Chair announced that the Council's Business Intelligence Team was Highly Commended in the BI Solution of the Year category at the British Data Awards on 8 May. Councillor Yousef Dahmash, Portfolio Holder for Customer and Transformation explained that the commendation recognised the team's work in developing a Serious Violence Needs Assessment to identify areas of need in Warwickshire based on a wide range of available partnership data. Community Safety Partners in Warwickshire were actively using the tool to focus limited resources in a more effective way and the tool was also considered best practice locally, with other reports based on the report targeting other work streams such as suicide prevention.

Tanworth in Arden Specific

Gully Cleaning and potholes – Please ensure that all gullies that need cleaning and potholes that need repairing are recorded on the County website using the link mentioned below. In the case of potholes, if you record these through the Parish Clerk you will automatically receive a message when the repair has bee carried out. This is a more efficient way of handling issues going forward as we have installed new software which is more dynamic in what it can do. Potholes should be reported through the directly on the WCC website https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4085/warwickshire-county-council-encourages-residents-to-report-road-issues .

WW Small works - Let me know if you have any small roadworks, white lining, or Rights of Way issues I will investigate these for you and get a quote for any works that need to be conducted. . To report a Highway fault, use this link https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reportaproblem . I haven't included the log of outstanding items this month as very little has changed since last month.

Longer summer opening makes recycling easier at your friendly local recycling centre
Warwickshire County Council is reminding residents that recycling will become even easier with extended summer opening times in operation from 3 April.

Summer opening times for **Burton Farm, Cherry Orchard, Hunters Lane, Judkins, Lower House Farm and Princes Drive.**

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday - 9:30 am to 3:15 pm
- Wednesday - 9:30 am to 6:15 pm
- Saturday and Sunday - 8:30 am to 5:45 pm

County News

Reminiscence Loan Boxes available

Do you remember buying blue bags of sugar at Woolworths? Or watching the Atherstone Carnival football game?

Heritage and Culture Warwickshire (HCW) has a new range of reminiscence loans boxes containing items from the Warwickshire Museum and County Record Office collections. The Reminiscence boxes are designed to stimulate memory through objects, pictures, and activities.

Themes include The Mop Fair, Treasures of Warwickshire, and Woolworths, and include real historical artefacts and high-quality replicas that have been chosen to engage the senses through careful handling and promote conversation about people's lives. All boxes also come with a supporting booklet of activities and information about the objects.



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Six new boxes across three themes are being added to the existing boxes available to be borrowed through the Warwickshire Library Service, which are designed to be used at home with a loved one or with small groups. In addition, HCW is now offering five boxes for larger groups available on a 2-week paid loan.

These boxes follow the same themes as the library boxes but contain more objects, more copies of sharing images, and a copy of a related dementia-friendly "Pictures to Share" book.

Cllr Heather Timms, portfolio holder for Environment, Climate and Culture, said "With Dementia Action Week taking place from 13th – 19th May it is important to take action to improve the lives of people affected by Dementia. The HCW team hopes that these boxes will help people share memories, connect with others about their lives, and let more people enjoy our collections in a tactile and personal way.'

Development has begun on a major new industrial park in Coventry and Warwickshire -
The development of a major new industrial park in Coventry has begun.
Help from a £9.7 million loan from Warwickshire County Council's enterprising Property Investment Fund (PIF), managed by global real estate advisor, CBRE, has supported the development of two new major industrial parks.
Warwickshire Connect Ltd, a subsidiary of The Wigley Group, has begun construction to transform a 1.88-acre brownfield site on Endemere Road, Coventry.
The project will deliver a purpose-built commercial hub after receiving full planning permission in 2023. Warwickshire Connect Endemere will provide 20 units for sale ranging in size from 1,000 to 3,000 sq. ft to help meet growing demand for commercial space and benefit local small and medium sized businesses (SMEs).
Construction is expected to take 12 months, with the first units available for occupation by the summer of 2025.

Warwickshire joins national campaign to celebrate the power of walking during Walk to School Week 2024. - Warwickshire's children and young people are in for some magical journeys, as pupils across Warwickshire join thousands nationwide as they take part in Living Streets' Walk to School Week, happening from 20 to 24 May 2024. This year's theme – The Magic of Walking – will ignite children's imaginations while highlighting the many benefits of walking to school, from a healthier and happier lifestyle to a cleaner environment. Walk to School Week is part of Living Streets' National Walking Month initiative, encouraging families to embrace active travel throughout May.
Schools across Warwickshire are invited to participate in the week-long challenge, where pupils will transform their commutes into magical adventures. Along their routes, they'll encounter fantastical creatures, all teaching them valuable lessons about the importance of walking. **Benefits Beyond the Classroom -** Walk to School Week isn't just about fun! It's about showcasing the positive impact walking has on individuals, communities, and the planet. From improved physical and mental well-being to reduced traffic congestion and pollution, the benefits are undeniable.
The Magic of Walking Together -Last year, Walk to School Week saw over 300,000 pupils participate nationwide, and this year promises to be even bigger. Warwickshire has the chance to be part of something truly special.
Join the Movement!- For more information on Walk to School Week, visit: www.livingstreets.org.uk/wtsw
The council hopes to make Warwickshire a hub for active travel and embrace the magic of walking together!
For more information about how Warwickshire County Council is facing the challenges of the climate change emergency, visit: https://www.sustainablewarwickshire.co.uk/
Get the latest news about how Warwickshire County Council and partners are facing the challenge of the climate emergency and how you can get involved: http://eepurl.com/hrk-zf

New Electric Vehicle Parking Policy - Warwickshire County Council's commitment to achieving net zero across the county has taken a step forward as its Cabinet approved a new Electric Vehicle Parking Policy. **Warwickshire County Council's commitment to achieving net zero across the county has taken a step forward as Cabinet approved a new EV (Electric Vehicle) Parking Policy. -** This policy allows the council to make on-street EV charging bays 'EV-Only.' They can currently be used by all car types. Limiting availability to charging EVs only will enhance their availability for EV drivers across the county. The updated parking policy comes as electric vehicle ownership in the region continues to steadily increase and directly aligns with the council's transport and environmental aims of prioritising sustainable travel and reducing harmful emissions.

Plans to improve life opportunities through education in Warwickshire - Warwickshire County Council Cabinet has today – Thursday 9 May – endorsed a series of recommendations aimed at tackling disparities in educational attainment rates across the county.
These important recommendations come from a working group established in July 2022 to investigate the issue and include:

- Lobbying for legislative change to allow automatic enrolment for free school meals: This would help schools to identify disadvantaged pupils and access additional funding to support them.
- Establishing a sub-committee of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee: This sub-committee will monitor the implementation of new and existing education strategies.
- Enhancing the promotion of opportunities for pupils: This includes more communication about the different pass rates in 11-plus examinations and the additional free tutorial support available to Pupil Premium children.
- Continuing the progress of the Warwickshire Education Partnership Board: This board will ensure a strategic approach as well as facilitate collaboration and sharing of best practices between schools across the county.



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The working group also identified the long-term ambition of improving mental health for children as a potential factor towards achieving higher attainment levels.
The next step is to develop an action plan to implement these recommendations."
The full report of the working group, including a detailed explanation of the recommendations, is available on the Warwickshire County Council
Website: https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/s36725/Educational%20Attainment%20Working%20Group%20Report.pdf

Police News - These are the latest and nearest incidents reported for the last week ending 12th May by Alcester North Police –

1. EARLSWOOD • Suspicious Circumstances. Malthouse Lane. Two males seen to walk up private drive and climb over locked gate. When the security lights came on, they exited and walked off. Described as Asian males dressed all in black. 2.45am Sunday 12th May. 0111 12/05/2024
2. STUDLEY • Suspicious Circumstances. York Close. Several males with face coverings seen around vehicles parked on drive. Caller concerned that they were trying to steal them. The males made off. Nothing believed damaged or stolen at the time. 12.20am Wednesday 8th May. 0006 08/05/2024
3. WOOTTON WAWEN • Abandoned Vehicle. Alcester Road. Grey Land Rover Estate left in the road by male wearing a balaclava. Male got into the passenger seat of a Black S Pace Jaguar which left towards Henley. This vehicle was later confirmed stolen from the Long Marston area. 5.40pm Saturday 11th May. 0311 11/05/2024

New Police Constable - PC 1348 Sean Lovatt, has replaced PC Hope as the beat manager for Alcester North. Over the coming weeks he plans to be out across the region and introducing himself to the community.

As always feel free to contact me at any time to discuss any issues that you feel I can help with, and I will do my absolute best to help.

Other County Council News

Child Exploitation in Warwickshire

Do you know the signs to look out for and what to do if you think something's not right? There are many different types of child exploitation. Visit https://somethingsnotright.co.uk for advice. Child Exploitation is happening. Don't ignore it. #SomethingsNotRight

Smoking-related fire reduction

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) is asking residents to consider the fire risk associated with smoking and the steps to take to keep safe.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5122/fire-service-issues-advice-to-reduce-the-risk-of-smoking-related-fires



Be Water Aware

As the weather, albeit slowly, begins to heat up Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is urging all residents to Be Water Aware.

Find out more about staying safe around water:
https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5154/be-water-aware-campaign-launches-in-warwickshire



Child Benefit Changes

The threshold people start paying the High-Income Child Benefit Charge has increased to £60,000.If you haven't claimed for your child, the new threshold will apply to any claims made from 6 April. Find out more about the change and how to claim online:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-high-income-child-benefit-charge



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Animal attraction hygiene

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) is reminding families of the simple steps they can take to make sure they enjoy visits to farms and petting zoos safely throughout spring and summer.

Read more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5157/the-importance-of-hand-hygiene-when-visiting-animal-attractions



The Teenage Market North Warwickshire – Apply for a Stall

The Teenage Market gives young people a free platform to showcase their creative talents.

It's easy to sign up to have a stall at The Teenage Market, all they need to do is follow this link: https://bit.ly/4cYiESG



The Teenage Market North Warwickshire – Apply to perform

Do you know a young person that can sing, dance, or are part of a band? If so, The Teenage Market would be perfect for them to showcase their talent, and put on a show.

They can apply here: https://bit.ly/3Q5cqGB



Our Home, Our Art Competition

Children and young people in the county are being invited to express their creativity and empathy through artwork, while celebrating the diversity of our communities, as part of an art competition to honour and celebrate Refugee Week 2024.

read more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5200/our-home-our-art-youth-art-competition-for-refugee-week-in-warwickshire



Podcast – Rugby and Stratford Climate Eco hubs

The Climate Eco hubs in Rugby and Stratford are featured in the very latest episode of the Sustainable Warwickshire podcast.

Find out more and listen: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5205/rugby-and-stratford-climate-eco-hubs-featured-in-sustainable-warwickshire-podcast-



New Warwick cycle route works

Construction of a new cycle route on the A429 Coventry Road is due to start on Tuesday 14 May.

Find out more about this route: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5208/work-set-to-begin-on-new-warwick-cycle-route

The King's Awards for Enterprise 2024

A record eight King's Awards for Enterprise have been awarded to Warwickshire businesses this year.

Find out more about the winners: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5198/record-number-of-warwickshire-winners-of-the-king-s-awards-for-enterprise-2024



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Stratford Greenway essential resurfacing work

Details of the resurfacing works that have been arranged for Stratford Greenway to ensure the pathway can continue to be safely accessed by a variety of visitors have now been confirmed.

Read more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5195/detail-confirmed-on-stratford-greenway-essential-resurfacing-work



Sensory smoke alarms

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is reminding deaf residents of the importance of installing sensory smoke alarms this Deaf Awareness Week.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5196/warwickshire-fire-and-rescue-service-reminds-deaf-residents-of-the-importance-of-installing-sensory-smoke-alarms-this-deaf-awareness-week-

Warwickshire County Council

May 2024 Cabinet

Find out what happened at the Warwickshire County Council Cabinet meeting on Thursday 9 May: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5211/warwickshire-county-council-cabinet-9-may-2024



Specialist resourced provision in Warwickshire

The expansion of the Specialist Resourced Provision offer at several schools in the county has been approved by Warwickshire County Council Cabinet.

Find out what this means: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5212/cabinet-approves-the-expansion-of-specialist-resourced-provision-in-the-county

DBV
Improving outcomes for children and young people with SEND

Delivering Better Value Programme for SEND

Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet has officially endorsed four pivotal projects proposed as part of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Delivering Better Value Programme.

Read more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5214/cabinet-endorses-delivering-better-value-programme-for-send



Social Care and Support recruitment event

People will be encouraged to choose a career with Warwickshire County Council at an Adult Social Care and Support recruitment fair and showcase event later this month.

Read more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5210/warwickshire-recruitment-event-for-people-looking-to-advance-their-career-in-social-care-and-support