

County Councillor report Butlers Marston Parish Council Meeting 18th May 2023

Charger Safety

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is issuing a warning to the residents about the dangers of charging electronic devices on beds, following a recent house fire that started in a young girl's bedroom due to an overheated charger.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4137/warwickshire-residents-warned-of-the-dangers-of-charging-devices-on-beds-after-house-fire>



Hate Crime in Warwickshire

Everyone should feel safe and respected in Warwickshire, regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, gender, or any other characteristic. The law protects everyone against prejudice or hostility that is directed towards them based on their disability, identity, nationality race or religion. Don't be afraid; speak up and #ReportHateCrime here: <https://reportthatenow.com>

Transforming SEND support in Warwickshire

An innovative resource has launched to support neurodivergent children and young people in Warwickshire.

There have been issues with parents who have a child with SEND who cannot access mainstream schools. Fortunately, WCC does have a school for children with these needs in Bedworth.



Warwickshire's Food Strategy set to boost affordability and sustainability.

At its meeting on Tuesday 18 April 2023, Warwickshire County Council Cabinet approved its ambitious approach to transforming the county's food system and improving the health and wellbeing of its residents.

Taking action on food poverty and making good quality, healthy and affordable food available for all is at the heart of this new strategy. The aim of this plan includes Reducing food poverty and resulting ill-health; Promoting local and sustainable food; and Decreasing food waste and greenhouse gases related to our food system.

Warwickshire County Council has allocated £120k to support the development and implementation of this work.

The Warwickshire Food Strategy 2023-2026 is available to view online

at <https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/s30257/The%20draft%20Warwickshire%20Food%20Strategy%202023-2026%20Cabinet%20Report.pdf>

Cost of Living

Eligible families receiving certain benefits will receive their first Cost of Living Payment for 2023 between 25 April and 17 May.

Eligible families receiving tax credits will receive their first Cost of Living Payment for 2023 between 2-9 May.

You don't need to apply – if you are eligible, you will be paid automatically the same way you usually receive your benefit or tax credits.

For more info: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment>

I need Help now

If you are feeling overwhelmed by the rising costs of living and need advice on what you can do now to get the support you need, visit the "I need support now" page on the Warwickshire Cost of Living website.

You'll find advice on how to pay for your food, energy and water, how to get money advice, how to manage aspects of family life, how to access emergency food and what to do if your mental health has been affected.

Find help here: <https://www.costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk/home/i-need-urgent-help>

Energy Bills Support Scheme

Residents using prepayment meters are encouraged to claim their £400 Energy Bills Support Scheme voucher to help with paying energy costs this winter. Posters (in English + 5 languages)

For those who do not receive the discount automatically, you will need to apply for energy bill support. You may be eligible to apply if your main home is:

A residential park home, on a boat on a permanent residential mooring on a permanent Gypsy and Traveller site, part of a heat network without an electricity meter. In social or private rented accommodation which has a business energy connection or a communal electricity supply, off the mains electricity or gas grid. In a care home or assisted living facility and you pay for some or all of your care or in a separate domestic home within a non-domestic property (such as a farmhouse or a flat above a shop)

If you are eligible, find out how to apply here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-energy-bill-support-if-not-automatic>

County Councillors Grant Fund

Round 1 of the Councillors' Grant Fund opened for applications on Tuesday 9th May the **deadline of Sunday 18 June at 5pm.**

Applications should be submitted using the online application form found on our webpage <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cllrgrants>. For help with completing your application form, applicants are encouraged to speak to their local Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (WCAVA) Funding and Group Development Officers. Details can be found on their webpage www.wcava.org.uk

Chris Mills
Kineton and Red Horse

District Councillor report Butlers Marston Parish Council Meeting 18th May 2023

District Council Election 5th May 2023

The overall result for the District Council Election as follows:

Conservatives – 12 seats

Liberal Democrats – 25 seats

Independent – 1 seat

Green – 3 seats

Stratford-on-Avon District Council receives funding boost to support rural businesses

Rural businesses in Stratford-on-Avon are set to benefit from an increased share of a fund following a successful bid for funds by Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

The District Council submitted an addendum to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to get an allocation of the Rural England Prosperity Fund which supports businesses and creates jobs in rural areas.

It has now been confirmed by The Government that the District is to receive £1,015,179 of capital funding for the next two years.

Mental wellbeing grant funds

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is looking at how some of the recipients of its annual funding to the voluntary and community sector have been using grants to bring about the changes in their local communities that the Council seeks to bring. At the start of last April, with the mental health of young people still a potential major problem following the isolation of the lockdowns, Stratford-on-Avon District Council awarded grants to two local organisations to support the mental wellbeing of young people in the District. Stratford District Council is committed to putting our residents centre stage, whatever their age and regardless of the issues and challenges that they face. Creating resilience in young people is very important and we know that the impact of lockdown will continue to be felt for some time to come by many, particularly some of the most vulnerable.

Heads of Service

David Platts, Head of Housing and Customer Services and Phil Grafton Head of Law and Governance will be leaving SDC.

Marcia Eccleston will replace Phil Grafton as Head of Law and Governance

Annette Homer will replace David Platts as Head of Housing and Customer Services.

Warning issued

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Licensing team has been made aware of a handmade spiking device that has been placed on the taxi ranks in Stratford-upon-Avon.

The device has caused damage to tyres on Licensed Hackney Carriage vehicles and is a severe danger to the safety of pedestrians as well as vehicles.

Warwickshire Police are aware and are asking if any device is seen or found to report it by dialling 101.

If anyone is seen placing items like this on the ground attempting to cause damage to other vehicles, then please call 999.

Council Plan for the future

Stratford District Council are ambitious for the future of the District as an excellent place to live, work, learn, visit and invest.

The plan sets out the vision for Stratford-on-Avon District as a place in 2030 and for local government in 2030.

The core of the plan is a set of ambitions and actions for the Council over the next four years under five key objectives:

Working on regional, national and international stages. Responding to the climate emergency. Enhancing the quality of the District of Stratford-on-Avon.

Nurturing a thriving, innovative and inclusive economy. Putting residents and communities centre stage.

Chris Mills
District Councillor