

Butlers Marston Parish Council

District Councillors report

21st July 2021

Stratford District Council Environmental Health

The food safety team carried out several unannounced evening visits to takeaways in the District. Unfortunately, due to the lack of food safety inspections, the standards in most premises had fallen, and significant food hygiene and health and safety issues were identified. Generally, however, food hygiene standards have fallen across the district. Two of our highest approved food premises have been inspected and the food team are pleased to report that food standards here were being maintained. Both companies had employed a third-party consultant to assist them in complying with their food safety responsibilities.

Stratford District Council works with partners to install air quality monitors at local school

Stratford District Council is installing air quality monitors at a primary school as part of a national campaign to reduce pollution and help the environment.

There was a Clean Air Day on 17th June which is a national campaign focussing this year on improving air quality for children. The campaign aims to improve understanding and awareness of air pollution and easy actions to tackle it.

Children are recognised as most vulnerable to the harmful effects of air pollution because their lungs are still growing and those with respiratory conditions are more at risk of asthma attacks.

This has included installing 26 electric vehicle charging points in public car parks, requiring air quality and climate change impact assessments and mitigation with major planning applications, and working with partners on initiatives to improve central heating for off gas properties.

Work continues on the pioneering 'Housing Plus' centre in Stratford

The refurbished Fred Winter Centre, a state-of-the-art **Housing Plus Centre**, is scheduled to open in September this year.

The Fred Winter Centre is a '**Housing Plus**' community hub supporting local people in Stratford-on-Avon District, with a focus on providing housing plus a range of services which address homelessness and hardship.

The Fred Winter Centre and its services will be available to tenants, people visiting or referred to the centre, and people at risk of homelessness or face hardship within the local community.

The Hub will also provide high quality and affordable accommodation to those who are currently living in temporary placements provided by Stratford District Council. Those who will be offered a property will have access to onsite support to help overcome challenges and barriers in hope of breaking the cycle of repeat homelessness.

COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE HEALTH SYSTEM COMES TOGETHER TO ISSUE OPEN LETTER ON COVID CONCERNS

Health leaders in Coventry and Warwickshire have sent an open letter to residents, calling on them to be careful now that COVID restrictions have been eased.

The latest stage of the Government roadmap will see many of the remaining restrictions lifted and a return to a more normal way of life.

Changes will include an end to social distancing and face masks will no longer be compulsory in public settings.

However, leaders from Public Health and the region's hospitals and health services have joined forces to call on members of the public to continue to take precautions.

They say: "These changes will give us more freedom, but we must remember that we are still living with COVID and that it has not gone away. We must take personal responsibility to still do the right things and protect ourselves and one another from the virus. "The changes mean we all have to learn to live with the virus and do so responsibly.

"The truth is that COVID-19 will be with us for a considerable time to come. But with the lessons we have learned throughout the pandemic, coupled with the testing and vaccines, we can restrict the spread and live with the virus sensibly. "We must be responsible and continue to protect one another and particularly the vulnerable and continue the good work so far. Please stay safe, think about how you act and stay healthy."

Positive case rates across Coventry and Warwickshire have risen by around 350% in the last three weeks across Coventry and Warwickshire, and the new variant has raised the threat of infection.

Health leaders are asking people to continue to wear masks on public transport, in shops and in health buildings, as well as continue hygiene practices around hand-washing and using sanitiser.

The letter also includes a plea to residents to go for their two vaccinations and to continue to self-test regularly.

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County Councillors report.

County Council supports businesses with £140 million injection to boost local economy

Businesses across Warwickshire are set to benefit from a £140m cash injection to boost the county's post pandemic economic recovery.

Warwickshire County Council has agreed the significant new fund to stimulate the local economy, create jobs, support local businesses, and attract investment into the county. Warwickshire's economy has a great track record of growth and excellent fundamentals.

The aim is to distribute £140m over the next five years, offering loans and other financial investments to existing and new businesses to help their long-term recovery and growth.

20 is plenty

A motion was put forward at the Full Council Meeting regarding reducing the speed limit in certain areas to 20 mph, this was given cross party support. A working party is to be set up to discuss the practicalities.

Adult Social Care

Warwickshire currently provides support to older people. Support for older people accounted for £49.4m. Total forecast expenditure for 2020/21 is estimated at £162m. The primary aim is to 'act as a lever to improve the health of local people.

Protecting Warwickshire's most vulnerable residents

Throughout the pandemic the Council has protected and supported our most vulnerable residents and provided meal vouchers to support vulnerable families with an £8.2m investment to protect the elderly and vulnerable residents.

Giving our children the best start in life.

A new Warwickshire school with special needs is to be built along with launching a new careers, skills, and apprenticeships initiative.

Building safer communities

Investing with the police to make communities safer by adding a £1m funding for voluntary and community sector. Whilst enhancing the Fire Service to support local communities.

Supporting people with dementia

The Council supported the Dementia Action Week which took place 17th-23rd May to raise awareness for people living with dementia in their families. In Warwickshire there are approx. 8,000 people who are living with dementia although many more people are affected by dementia, including those who are caring for people with this disease.

Warwickshire County Council signs the UK100 Net Zero Pledge

At the Cabinet meeting on Thursday 17 June, Warwickshire County Council agreed to sign-up to the UK100 Net Zero Pledge on carbon emission reduction.

UK100 is a network of local government leaders focused on tackling the climate emergency through the promotion of rapid action across a spectrum of climate change mitigation and adaptation work.

Warwickshire County Council unveils 10 new environmentally friendly school buses

Warwickshire County Council has unveiled its fleet of ten new environmentally friendly home-to-school transport buses.

The new buses, which cost just under £900K, are all Euro 6 standard for harmful emissions, making them far better for the environment and delivering greater fuel economy than the existing fleet of buses.

These buses will be coming into service over the coming month and will be used for home-to-school transport, adult transport and a range of other transport services provided by Warwickshire County Council.

COVID-19 cases rise across Warwickshire

Over the last few weeks COVID-19 cases have been rising across the county with Warwickshire now at 48 cases per 1,000. Whilst this may seem low compared to the previous peak in March 2021, the figures are going up. This is also the picture nationally and regionally with a rise in the Delta variant playing a key role.

The number of reported cases are increasing across the county and although the rise in cases remain relatively low compared to where we have been, if we don't act now, we can expect to see a surge in cases which will lead to hospitalisations

and in some instances a higher number of deaths. The five areas with the biggest week-on-week rises are:

Tamworth (up from 57.4 to 319.4) Warwick (116.2 to 322.1) North Tyneside (237.1 to 419.4)

Carlisle (59.8 to 240.2) Newcastle upon Tyne (264.5 to 442.2)

Loneliness

Warwickshire County Council would like to know your views on support for people feeling lonely or socially isolated. We would like to know what your organisation already offers that someone might be able to take part in if they were feeling lonely or isolation. We would also be interested to know if you have identified any gaps in support available and what the barriers around these gaps might be. We will be using the information gathered to map existing support and to inform decision making around new support needed.

All responses are anonymous, and any questions can be directed to Rachel Knight rachelknight@warwickshire.gov.uk

The survey is live now and the deadline for responses is 23rd July. Please help shape this exciting piece of work and spare 5 minutes to fill in this survey.
<https://forms.office.com/r/Y9sRhRpBx1>"

Warwickshire County Council Parish Champion

Chris Mills