

Lighthorne Parish Council 13th July 2021

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)

Warwickshire County Council Parish Champion

Chris Mills