

County Councillor report Lighthorne Parish Council Meeting 9th July 2024

Family Information Service

Warwickshire's Family Information Service (FIS) provides information, advice and one-to-one support on issues including family relationships, finance, housing, parenting support and more. Learn more at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/directory-record/40/family-information-service>

Domestic abuse and the Euros

During the Euros, cases of domestic abuse increase by 38% when England loses a match and 26% when they win or draw. Domestic Abuse is an offence and perpetrators can expect a substantial punishment. <http://talk2someone.org.uk>

Alcohol Awareness

Warwickshire County Council has been raising awareness of alcohol harm and the effect it has on people and communities. Hospital admissions related to alcohol (per 100,000) were higher than the national average in England. 521 in Warwickshire and 492 in England. Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5355/alcohol-awareness-week-understanding-alcohol-harm>

Disabled people to benefit from two-year extension of free weekday travel before 9am

Warwickshire County Council Cabinet has approved the extension of the all-day travel trial for holders of disabled person's bus passes who are below state retirement age. The trial, which began in August 2023, will now continue until March 31st, 2027.

More information about concessionary travel, including how to apply, can be found here: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/free-bus-travel-older-people-people-disabilities-1>

Swap the town centre drive to enjoy Stratford Park and Ride this summer

Visitors to the beautiful market town of Stratford-upon-Avon are being invited to enjoy the benefits of using Stratford Park and Ride bus service and car park this summer, following a 70% increase in customers using the service throughout the summer holidays last year. The Park and Ride's bus service now runs seven days a week to ensure that everyone - from dog owners and couples to families and tourist

groups - can make the most of this easy and relaxing journey into Stratford-upon-Avon town centre.

The buses operate Monday to Saturday between 7.30am and 6.28pm, and on Sundays between 10am and 6.55pm. The car park is also open daily and has more than 700 parking spaces available including several EV charging points. Visitors can find the car park along Bishopton Lane CV37 0RJ. The bus fares also provide great value for visitors, with adult return bus tickets at £2, and return group bus tickets costing just £3.30 for up to five people. Dogs are also welcome on the buses provided they are well-behaved.

Warwickshire expands innovative trial to enhance support for learners with SEND

Schools in South Warwickshire will soon benefit from a new support and training program designed to help them better meet the needs of learners with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Warwickshire County Council's Inclusion Framework in Schools project aims to empower teachers and school staff in mainstream settings with the knowledge and skills to better support children and young people with SEND.

Warwickshire's strategic economic delivery plan

Warwickshire's Economic Growth Strategy is a critical strategy for the county, it sets out the purpose for Warwickshire to have an economy that is ambitious, inclusive and sustainable which will be achieved by working with a wide range of partners and focus on building a strong viable and resilient economy.

The Strategic Economic Plan sets out three pillars that are key to developing the economy. The delivery plan then details the actions, how success will be achieved and the timescale for implementation within each pillar. This includes:

- Ambitious growth - creating a highly productive, vibrant and prosperous economy that builds on and maximises our economic strengths.
- Inclusive growth - developing an economy that works for all residents, one that tackles existing inequalities and ensures that everyone benefits from a strong and prosperous business base.
- Sustainable growth - growing our economy in a green and sustainable way, respecting the natural environment and helping the move to Net Zero Warwickshire by 2050.

Apply to change schools in September

If you want your child to start a new school this September you can apply now. Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5347/now-is-the-time-to-apply-to-change-schools-in-september>

Child friendly local activities and clubs available to book over the summer holidays

This summer from Monday 22 July to Friday 30 August, the HAF Programme is offering an array of activities and meals, aimed at young people from Reception to Year 11 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals (FSM). For more information and to check available activities please visit HAF website: <https://searchout.warwickshire.gov.uk/holidays-activities-food-haf>

Have your say on Warwickshire's roads and footpaths

Warwickshire County Council is seeking residents' feedback on its highways and transport services as part of the National Highways and Transport Public Satisfaction Survey. The questionnaire will be sent to a minimum random sample of at least 3300 of Warwickshire residents. The survey results will help the council to find out what people **in the area** think about these important services. It gives the public an opportunity to say which services they think the Council should prioritise and improve over coming years.

Plant a Legacy for the Future with Community Orchards and Micro Woods

Green-fingered community groups are being offered extra support as Warwickshire County Council announces the availability of funding for the creation of community orchards and micro woods across the county. Applications for the 2024/25 planting season are now open. Applications for Community Orchards close at the end of July 2024, with planting to be completed by March 2025. Anyone interested in creating a micro wood should contact Warwickshire County Council's Natural Capital team. General enquiries regarding tree planting initiatives can be directed to the Natural Capital team at naturalcapital@warwickshire.gov.uk More information about this funding can be found online: [Tree Planting in Warwickshire – Sustainable Warwickshire](#)

Chris Mills

County Councillor

