

County Councillor Report

Lighthorne Parish Council Meeting

14th October 2025

New Single-Provider model for SEND mediation services

Warwickshire County Council is transforming the way families access support during the SEND appeals processes with the launch of a new, single-provider mediation service from September 2025. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6977/council-announces-new-single-provider-model-for-send-mediation-services->

Adoption in Warwickshire

Are you interested in adopting a child? Adoption Central England's friendly and experienced staff are there to guide you through your adoption journey – whatever that may look like. To find out more, visit

<https://www.aceadoption.com/> or call 0300 369 0556.

Fostering for Warwickshire

Could it be you we're looking for? Fostering changes children's lives, not just now, but for a lifetime. To find out more about the process of becoming a foster carer, watch the video <https://youtu.be/dOTfs6Qek34> Get in touch, visit: <https://fostering.warwickshire.gov.uk> or call 0800 408 1556

Support available to help people into work

Thousands of sick or disabled people across Warwickshire will be helped into good, secure jobs following a major expansion of tailored employment support through the DWP's Connect to Work programme. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7001/support-available-to-help-people-into-work>

Leave winter illnesses out in the cold

With the onset of winter and the colder months sweeping across the country, Warwickshire County Council is reminding everyone to book in for winter health immunisations for adults and children. According to the UK Health Security Agency last year in England, flu caused around 8,000 deaths, while vaccination prevented an estimated 96,000 to 120,200 hospitalisations. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7037/leave-winter-illnesses-out-in-the-cold-by-taking-up-a-vaccination-to-protect-yourself-and-family>

Holiday activities and food programme

Holiday activities and food (HAF) programme code form now open for applications! Families receiving benefits-related free school meals who are new to HAF can apply for a code to access the programme via the website: <https://warwickshire.gov.uk/HAF> Every session includes a free meal.

Spine-tingling Halloween fun returns to Warwick for October half-term

For those looking for some spooky fun this half-term, Heritage and Culture Warwickshire have lots planned to keep all the family entertained.

St John's Haunted House – 29 – 31 October

Step into a magical world of mystery and enchantment at St John's Haunted House, where families will follow the captivating tale of Rapunzel and the Witch. Explore the transformed rooms of the house, embark on a spooky trail through the woods past Rapunzel's tower, and beware the wicked witch lurking nearby. Children can get hands-on with slime-making, potion brewing, and messy play, while adults enjoy refreshments from the onsite coffee van.

Family-friendly highlights include:

A haunted house walkthrough on the ground floor of St John's House

Children's trail featuring Rapunzel and the Witch

Slime-making and witch-themed crafts (ticketed children only)

Messy potions play area and Halloween playdough for under 5s

Hot drinks and snacks available from the coffee van

Dressing up encouraged for all ages!

Event details:

- Suitable for children with accompanying adults
- Experience lasts 75–90 minutes; site closes at 5:30pm
- Tickets: £12 children, £6 adults (+ booking fee); under 2s free
- All activities take place indoors or undercover

Market Hall Museum – Potion Quest

The half term fun continues at Market Hall Museum with a free family trail 'Potion Quest' available from Saturday 25 October - Saturday 1 November.

Explore the museum for objects you could use to stir up magic potions and spells? On 31 October, the museum is open until 8pm for the town's Trick or

Treat Twilight Market. Pop in and guess the weight of our giant pumpkin and treat yourself to Halloween gifts and sweet treats in the cafe. Free entry.

Find out more about events from Heritage and Culture Warwickshire here: [Heritage and Culture Warwickshire Website](https://heritageandculturewarwickshire.org.uk/)

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

This October, Warwickshire County Council and its partners are supporting Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The month-long campaign gives anyone who needs it, encouragement to come forward. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7043/support-available-for-all-this-domestic-violence-awareness-month>

Community Risk Register

Familiarise yourself with the Community Risk Register for Warwickshire and the **Top risks to our county**

Learn the most significant risks that could occur in Warwickshire. The information sets out what Warwickshire responders and other partners are doing about the risks. It also outlines the likely consequences of these risks along with advice on what the public can do to prepare for and respond to these risks.

The following are the key risks that have the potential to cause a significant disruption to Warwickshire.

[Industrial Accidents and Major Fires](#)

[Cyber Attacks](#)

[Emerging Infectious Diseases](#)

[Extreme Cold Weather](#)

[Heatwave and Drought](#)

[Loss of Gas or Electricity](#)

[Malicious Attacks](#)

[Pandemics](#)

[Flooding](#)

[Animal Disease](#)

[Cyber Attacks](#)

To learn how to be Better Prepared for the key risks near you, visit <https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/>.

Councillor grant fund second round

Applications for the second round of the Cllr grant fund are open now until 2 November 2025. Apply now for funding for small scale projects within your community and voluntary groups. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7021/warwickshire-county-council-s-councillor-grant-fund-returns-for-second-round>

Kind Communities Food Strategy

A grant fund will now be available from Monday 13 October 2025 under Warwickshire County Council's Food Strategy- Kind Communities-Kind Food-enabling community organisations to bid for funding for local projects that focus on improving the local availability of affordable healthy food, healthy food education and reducing food waste. Organisations can apply for up to £1,000 for their project and the fund has £22,500 available. The application process is being managed by Warwickshire CAVA - please see the link to their website and the grant will also go live on Warwickshire County Council's webpages on Monday. The launch will be accompanied by a news release from WCC. <https://www.wcava.org.uk/programmes/warwickshire-kind-communities-kind-food-grant-fund-2025/>

Statement from Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board

In the wake of the atrocious events at a synagogue in Manchester, the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board stand together against hate crimes against any group or individual in our society. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7059/statement-from-safer-warwickshire-partnership-board>

Chris Mills

County Councillor

Lighthorne