



County Cllr. Ian Shenton

Proud to represent Claverdon, Earlswood, Henley in Arden, Langley,
Preston Bagot, Ullenhall, Wolverton, Wootton Wawen

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County Councillors Report as at 6th February 2023

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Henley in Arden specific news

EV Chargers

One of the poles with a sign on has been damaged. I have asked for this to be removed. Any stub to be made safe and a new one placed there.

X20 Bus Service

No further incidents of late or missing services reported this month

Warwickshire residents are encouraged to choose cheaper bus travel this year as a new scheme to save money on fares launches.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3688/choosing-bus-travel-around-warwickshire-is-now-cheaper>

South Warwickshire Local Plan

The consultation runs until 6th March 2022.

The consultation is based on a desktop study and nothing has been decided. The maps in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) show how the Parish **could be expanded**, not how it will be expanded. It is important to stress that the SA is only one piece of information and evidence that will help to narrow down potential locations. It is also essential that as many residents as possible respond to the consultation with their views supported by planning reasons if possible, so that the reviewers and the Inspector (at a later date) can see that the Town has been consulted and the views of the Parish Council and the residents have been considered.

This is only stage 2 of at least 8 stages

I have been investigating the complaint that the Parish Council were never consulted last year and the SWLP team have advised me that an email was sent to the clerk@henley-in-arden-pc.gov.uk email address

- Thursday 16th June at 14.14pm The subject line was “**South Warwickshire Local Plan – growth directions workshops**”

Many questions about the SWLP can be answered by looking at the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) on the website at [South Warwickshire Local Plan](#) or by sending an email to swlp@stratford-dc.gov.uk

General information

Budgets

The County budget is being discussed at Full Council tomorrow (Tuesday) and the proposal is for a 3.94% increase which is less than most equivalent local Authorities who will be asking for 4.99%. The reason is that the County Council Finances have been managed well and the budget assumes that the reserves will be reduced to subsidise the budget leaving enough in reserves to meet its minimum and legal level of reserves set by S151 Officer.

Price inflation has hit our capital program with building costs for the expansion of schools and new schools having risen well in excess of the overall inflation figures but whilst we are looking to get better value from the contracts, quality will not be compromised.



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There are no plans to cut any services but ways of improving services by obtaining greater value are continually being explored.

The Fire Service has an ambitious program of Vehicle, equipment and training lined up over the next 5 years.

Adult Social Care will receive 1% of the 3.94% to maintain and improve services.

Child Seat Safety Event 21/02/2023 between 10am-3pm at Stratford Leisure Centre

Child seat safety experts will be on hand to check your child's seat is fitted correctly and safely.

Energy payments for park homes and houses of multiple occupation. Care homes etc.

It would appear that residents will be invited to register on a Government website to receive the £400 payment that the rest of us are already receiving. The latest position is the HMN Government have publicised that no further details will be available until the end of February, The District Council still have no further details so it is hard to see that anything other than a further delay might be announced then.

Cost of Living Support Package for Warwickshire residents:

Cost-of-Living Grant Fund reopens for applications from community groups: The Cost-of-Living grant fund worth £180,000 in total has been set aside to support activities delivered by community, voluntary and social enterprise organisations or Town/Parish Councils. The fund was initially launched in November 2022 and has now reopened for a second application window. Groups are invited to apply for funding of up to £1,000 to support projects or initiatives that focus on one or more of the following criteria:

- Food and other household essentials
- Improving community assets and their sustainability
- Improving access to services
- Improving financial capability
- Improving mental wellbeing
- Tackling social inequalities

Groups can now apply from today with applications closing on Sunday 26th February at 5pm. For details of eligibility and how to apply please visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/colgran.

Consultation on key proposals for Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

One consultation is on the services provided by our Education Services. We are consulting proposed changes to both the core and traded offer currently provided for education settings across the county. We are not going to be cutting any services, this is about an improved offer.

The other consultation is on SEND transport and covers the following:

A simplified application process for parents and carers.

A more consistent and transparent approach to determining transport options for children and young people who are eligible for home to school transport.

Updates to the Home to School and College Transport Policy to make this clearer and easier to understand.

Both consultations run until 26 February 2023 and more details can be found here, including the different ways that everyone can express their views:

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/send-december22-1209516?e=%5bUNIQID%5d>

Our decision making will be much more informed if we have good responses to the consultations. We are doing more work to encourage consultation responses, including doing some more work to engage with children and with some minority ethnic groups too.

We could really do with more responses from the North of the County in particular, given the recent update the Portfolio Holder has seen on consultation results so far.



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Social Media Content

The following are just some of the wide-ranging content that is placed by WCC

Warwickshire Libraries online business resources



Warwickshire Libraries are promoting their latest free online business resource, COBRA – a complete business reference adviser tool.

Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3767/access-to-online-business-resource-cobra-available-for-free-through-warwickshire-libraries>



Sustainable Warwickshire Podcast series (Twitter and Facebook)

Welcome to Sustainable Warwickshire - A Warwickshire County Council podcast about all things climate change and sustainability across the County. Find out more and listen to the first edition:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3768/welcome-to-the-sustainable-warwickshire-podcast-series>



ISO 14001 Accreditation (Twitter and Facebook)

For the 15th year in a row, Warwickshire County Council has been recognised for its environmental management system (EMS) and awarded ISO 14001 accreditation. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3770/council-recognised-for-management-of-environmental-risks>

always feel free to contact me at any time to discuss any issues that you feel I can help with and I will do my very best to help.



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Working Together

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Have your say on the future of South Warwickshire



Who?	Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils are working jointly to create a new Local Plan for South Warwickshire.
What?	A Local Plan sets out the planning policies that the councils will use to assess applications for development as well as identifying (allocating) sites to meet our future development needs for housing and job growth
Where?	Online at www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/issuesandoptions or in libraries and both Council offices.
When?	Until Monday 6 March 2023.
Why?	We want to hear your views on how South Warwickshire develops up to 2050. The new Local Plan will affect the way we live, work, visit and play in the area, and it's important to have your say!

SOME OF THE TOPICS WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS ON

<p>Meeting South Warwickshire's Sustainable Development Needs</p>	<p>Delivering South Warwickshire's Economic Needs</p>	<p>Delivering Homes that meet the needs of all our communities</p>	<p>A Climate Resilient and Net Zero Carbon South Warwickshire</p>
<p>A Well Designed and Beautiful South Warwickshire</p>	<p>A Healthy, Safe and Inclusive South Warwickshire</p>	<p>A Well Connected South Warwickshire</p>	<p>A Biodiverse and Environmentally Resilient South Warwickshire</p>