



Wootton Wawen Ward District & Arden Division County Cllr. Ian Shenton

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

Mob: 07971 343074 E Mail: ianshenton@warwickshire.gov.uk

County Councillors report as of 22nd April 2024 (updated 1st April report)

I am available most days of the week and my day regularly starts at 8am and runs to 10pm some days. Contacting me by email is always best as I am often in meetings with residents, business owners, farmers, and officers. I spend many hours reading papers for and attending committees, with reports regularly being in excess of 200 pages. Local government seems to thrive on voluminous report.

My last 12 months in Henley in Arden have been dominated, locally, with 4 issues

- Flooding
- Speeding
- 20mph Scheme
- Potholes

Over the last year I have received 227 requests for help across my County Council division with approximately 33 being from Henley (14.5%).



The Director of Public Health annual Report 2023 – Breaking the Silence:

Working together to Prevent Domestic Abuse has just been published and focusses on the health impacts of domestic abuse and whilst this is a very serious issue, I can recommend this report to everyone as it has been written in a unique style which is informative, interesting, and incredibly easy to read and understand.

Throughout Warwickshire approximately 17,384 women, aged 16+, were estimated to have been impacted by domestic abuse between 2021-22. Nationally, 9% of women, aged 16 and over, were victims of domestic abuse in 2022. Furthermore, data suggests that 8% of women aged 18-74 experience abuse before the age of 16. This can have devastating impacts to the victim survivors physical, mental, emotional, sexual, and reproductive health.

This year's Annual Report builds on previous publications such as the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy (2023-2026). It takes a new approach, telling the story of a character named Mia, and her experience of domestic abuse, through the words of those surrounding her, and services involved. Whilst this story is fictional, the story is reflective of real-life experiences of domestic abuse, and it is intended to highlight the impact on victim-survivors, the communities in which we live, our services and wider society. The report can be found by following this link or pasting into your browser. <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/strategy-governance-health-wellbeing/director-public-health-annual-reports>

Henley in Arden Specific

Parking in Front of the Co Op

The sub-committee raised the following issue with me.

Currently with the traffic warden only visiting Henley on a Weekly Basis and the allowances they currently are giving to cars parked at this bottle – neck, the double yellow lines are not a deterrent. Added to this that maybe 35% are parked legally as disabled car users can park there, but this does nothing to ensure the safety of the pedestrians at these points.

The proposal that has been suggested by the subcommittee is as follows:

- **red lines** going down in the centre of the town, on both sides of the road. In our view a single red line should go from the CO-OP to the Henley Boutique and a double red line on the opposite side of the road. Vehicles are allowed to stop on single red lines at certain times of the day which in our view should only be delivery lorries and council refuse trucks. A sign would have to state what times this can take place. Further discussion needs to take place on these times.
- To ease congestion in the High Street it is suggested that **all** pavement / pedestrian bollards from the CO-OP all the way to MPA Financial Management Ltd should be removed. The pavement could then be reduced



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in width to make deliveries easier, but still acceptable in width for wheelchair pedestrians. This would need to be policed and thus probably one or two cameras would be needed to read the number plates of the illegally parked vehicles, one in front of the CO-OP pointing in the direction of the Henley Boutique and one from the Henley Boutique looking back towards the CO-OP.

- *Additional disabled bays in the Croft car park and along the High Street*

I have spoken with the small works team leader, and he has confirmed the following: -

- Red Routes are reserved for instances of heavily trafficked urban roads where there is a need to control parking to maintain the free flow of vehicles over and above the normal prohibition of waiting and loading, which does not prevent vehicles stopping for the purpose of picking up and setting down passengers, which in itself can contribute to traffic congestion on very busy roads. They are intended to be used strategically to deal with traffic problems assessed on the whole-route basis, not to deal with issues on relatively short lengths of road. Warwickshire does not have any routes which are deemed to meet this requirement.
- WCC own the first 1.9 metres of footpath on Henley High Street outside the shops, the shop owners own the remainder, so we can't put a Loading Bay in, as there wouldn't be any Public Highway left for them to walk on. This would not be approved

Whilst the loading bay is probably a nonstarter because the shops might not agree to the change, it would be a costly and lengthy legal process as well involving traffic regulation orders and a consultation. This is not to say it couldn't happen just that you need to first get the agreement of the various shops and match funding from them.

It is essential that the views of the businesses along the stretch of the High Street where the loading bay might be placed are considered. Adding more disabled bays into the Croft car park would be a matter for the Parish Council and I would need more details on how many more bays you are thinking of on the High Street, as this will further reduce parking for other residents. Again, this is not to say it couldn't be carried out.

There is always a balance to be had regarding pedestrians and traffic, especially along a High Street such as in Henley and I think that we would need to demonstrate that pedestrians of all or any abilities and ages are at risk with the current situation. The shops, businesses and residents might take a counter view to the changes. Policing of the on-street parking is by the County and on a regular basis already. The problem is that as soon as the enforcement officer leaves the area drivers park again, realistically this is unlikely to change and with constraints on budgets, increasing the team of enforcement officers is not likely to happen either as there are bigger issues in other parts of Warwickshire. Fines work initially, as Hockley Heath found out when installing average speed cameras but now there is little to no income from these cameras so the residents must pay for them via the council tax. Would the residents of Henley who are not near to the High Street be prepared to pay more on their council tax to support these changes and will the County be prepared to increase the officer numbers as this would set a precedent that other Parish and Town councils would want to take advantage of. Any additional cost must be balanced with additional revenue as council tax payers are already seeing average rises of 4.7% in council tax with the possibility of bigger increases in future years due to the costs of children and adult social care, SEND and home to school transport all of which accounts for 70% of the council tax that the County receive currently. Adult social care is increasing because we are living longer and have an aging population.

Flood Team Sub Committee – I am awaiting a response from the County Council Flood Team who are setting up a meeting with the Environment Agency, Severn Trent, Canal & River Trust, and the subcommittee to discuss the flooding issues.

20 mph scheme – The big planter at the North End of the town is the subject of concern by the Highways Team and a request has been made to the Clerk to have this moved.

Gully Cleaning - have been asked if I would like to pay for the hire of a gully cleaner from my budget, so that all the gullies in a particular location, where we have a report of a blockage, will be cleared on the same day. This is a trial and will cost £1,000 per day I have the gully cleaner/jetter. I have 10 parishes, so this is potentially a big charge against my budget, but this is worth doing. Please ensure that any blocked gullies are logged as soon as you see them as the Localities Officer will shortly be putting lists together for each location so that we can plan the routes.



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Bird Flu – Protecting poultry industry from bird flu – As we have a Game bird, turkey, geese farm near to Henley on the A4189 I thought I would highlight the new measures to better protect the poultry sector from future avian influenza outbreaks have been set out by the Government. Under the changes announced there will be new requirements for all bird keepers regardless of the size of their flock to officially register their birds. Currently only those who keep fifty or more poultry must do so, limiting the effectiveness of our national disease control measures. The new rules cover owners of backyard flocks, birds of prey and pigeon fanciers. They do not affect caged pet birds (excluding any poultry species) kept entirely inside a domestic dwelling, such as a parrot, canary, or budgie, which never leaves the property other than to visit a vet or another short-term period.

Find out what this means: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5092/new-measures-to-help-protect-poultry-industry-from-bird-flu>

WW Small works - Let me know if you have any small roadworks, white lining, or Rights of Way issues I will investigate these for you and get a quote for any works that need to be conducted. Potholes should be reported through the directly on the WCC website <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4085/warwickshire-county-council-encourages-residents-to-report-road-issues>

To report a Highway fault, use this link <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reportaproblem>

Ref	Date	Parish/Town	Issue	Action 1	Action 2
23	15/08/22	HIA	20 mph speed limit - read documentation on this and see of Station Rd and continuation is covered	22/10/2022 GS says that it could be achieved with placing additional signs before Brook End Drive on the B4189 and near to Proce Harry Rd and Arden Rd. Contact George Westbury and Chris Round after checking the Henely 20 is plenty document	1/11/2022 - NFA as the project team would presumably have this covered. 02/09/2023 yellow lines down Station Rd - update needed as GS indicates that it will be signed off on 07/09/2023 02/04/2024 GS will check and update me for the next meeting 02/04/2024 no roundels on the carriageway...need the speed survey results before any further action but repeaters are in place and gateway signs. 29/01/2024 Lines still not painted 01/04/2024 Meeting polanned with DW/GS for 2/4/2024 requesting that this work is carried out as soon as possible as this request is now 6 months old and should have been considered as part of the 20mph scheme
65	12/12/22	HIA	Road markings on disabled bay by DOLCE CAFÉ have faded and non blue badge holders are parking there...remedials are to be undertaken on the Disabled Bays and lining around that area High Street, and outside the Coop up to the Puffin Crossing.	12/12/2022 Dylan notified 08/02/2023 All markings between Co op and Costa Coffee plus School lane will be renewed where needed - order placed with die crew (Candy) - job is under Stratford remedials	30/04/2023 GS chasing this 19/06/2023 Done some but not all - done by ice cream shop - by end of July/August per GS 18/07/2023 all lining except by ice cream shop which will be picked up when 20mph scheme 13/11/2023 DW - when the surface dressing is doneth the street the lining will be done
150	08/08/23	HIA	Railings in front of the Co Op	17/08/2023 This would limit the possibility of residents and children crossing the road except by the lights plus it will deter motorists from parking - GS/DW - what are the implications and could a scheme be drawn up. Effectively the PC want black railings - ockup photos available	18/01/2024 team set up to look at this and I have a respjse from GS on the orcalticalities of what is being suggested. 21/03/2024 ideas received from sub committee and passed to GS and DW for consultation 27/03/2024 GS has confirmed the extent of the public pathway and the ownership is plit between the shops and WCC. Note sent to sub committee 01/04/2024 Note put in PC report from me
179	18/10/23	HIA	Ev Chargers request by Bryn	18/10/2023 Note sent to Bryn	
185	20/10/23	HIA	Flood Team set up	13/11/2023 whole of HIA to be jetted 05/12/2023 - camaera survey ...repairs to gullies that could be lifted 29/01/024 DW says it might be soonish 29/01/2024 - DW will walk Back Lane and by the golf club with me to talk about resolutions to issues	30/01/2024 - AL of Streetscene has been emailed about frequency of sweeping roads from Liveridge Hill to High Street. 31/01/2024 Note from Angela Lloyd. The sweeping on Liveridge Hill is every 8 weeks. It should have been swept last week. If there is an issue with this ae please let me know In addition the Flood tEam have been reminded that they promised to set up a meeting with the various stakeholders to discuss the flooding issues in Henley 11/04/2024 SD sent note regarding sluice gate at Blackford Mill - this doesn't exist
207	14/12/23	HIA	State of road and surface dressing	14/12/2023 DW no defects that reach our intervention levels, there is minor surface wear in areas, but nothing dangerous requiring immediate attention. I have suggested High Street for a future surface dressing scheme as the majority is wearing in areas, please note there are no guarantees with this but it will be looked at by our delivery team.	01/04/2024 unlikely to be this year
282	29/02/24	HIA	Bollards opposite the Co op on the southbound sie , corner of Beaudert Lane have been knocked dow, pavioirs raised, urgent	01/03/2024 DW notified at our regular meeting	08/03/2024 repaired 01/04/2024 One bollard left to be reinstalled but area made good for now
286	04/03/24	HIA	Dangerous traffic speed near to the ex Bird in Hand Pub , Liveridge Hill		04/03/2024 Note sent to traffic safety team. 01/04/2024 chaser sent to Traffic Safety Team 07/04/2024 Speed line request to Joel who has added this to the list
291	04/03/24	HIA	BCFC- Training Ground opp Blackford Mill A3400 -Plastic sheeting to screen site-complaint made by resident to Parish Council about it being unsightly and an advertising hoarding for the building company not in keeping with the area		05/03/2024 note to Planning enforcement 01/04/2024 Further note sent to Planning enforcement.
295	06/03/24	HIA	Flooding in Castle Close from the Mount		06/03/2024 Parish Clerk sent note to DW and copied me in 02/04/2024 DW not a highway issue
315	10/04/24	HIA	Bear Lane resident wants to make the lane permit parking only.Resident lives on High Street	Note sent to PC for their views	

County News

New Electric Vehicle Parking Policy - Warwickshire County Council's commitment to achieving net zero across the county has taken a step forward as its Cabinet approved a new Electric Vehicle Parking Policy. **Warwickshire County Council's**



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commitment to achieving net zero across the county has taken a step forward as Cabinet approved a new EV (Electric Vehicle) Parking Policy. - This policy allows the council to make on-street EV charging bays 'EV-Only.' They can currently be used by all car types. Limiting availability to charging EVs only will enhance their availability for EV drivers across the county. The updated parking policy comes as electric vehicle ownership in the region continues to steadily increase and directly aligns

Strategic Economic Plan approved at Cabinet

 <p>Ambitious Growth</p> <p>Warwickshire aims to position itself as a dynamic and resilient economy, fostering prosperity, building on current sector strengths and supporting emerging sectors.</p> <p>Connecting to... Inward investment, devolution, growth, transport, infrastructure</p>	 <p>Inclusive Growth</p> <p>Warwickshire will focus on nurturing a skilled workforce, aligned to the needs of industries, collaborating with skills and education provision. To develop an economy that works for all our residents, one that tackles existing inequalities and ensures that everyone benefits from a strong and prosperous business base.</p> <p>Connecting to... Skills, careers, education, levelling up</p>	 <p>Sustainable Growth</p> <p>Warwickshire aims to embrace green technologies, reduce carbon emissions, and promote eco-friendly practices across businesses and communities.</p> <p>Connecting to... Sustainability, community power, health and wellbeing</p>
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This is a Warwickshire-wide strategy that 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.

Work is already underway to establish a delivery plan that will underpin and help achieve the key objectives in the SEP.

Warwickshire's Strategic Economic Plan highlights the work that the county and its partners are doing with three pillars that are key to developing an economy that is

- fit for the future
- that will grow and create jobs for all of the county's communities
- and will be sustainable and contribute to the county's net zero carbon emission targets.

The three pillars of the Strategic Economic Plan each have dedicated areas of focus which includes the actions that will be taken to create impact and the outcomes.

The Ambitious Growth pillar encompasses supporting businesses with high growth potential to start or scale i.e., grow organically at a manageable rate and a future economic strategy will seek to increase the numbers of businesses accessing finance. It highlights how the county council will continue to foster research and development.

The infrastructure of the transport system and digital connectivity and ensuring that land supply meets the needs of growth are key aspects.

Talent – attracting and retaining it with high-quality employment – is integral to Warwickshire's growth. There are plans to work with the Department for Business and Trade to investigate potential for exporting.

The Inclusive Growth pillar will target support for employment and will look to work on the outstanding success of the Warwickshire Supported Employment Service, which has made such strides since its launch in engaging some of the county's residents who have previously struggled to find employment with businesses. It will also bring together local partners such as the Growth Hub and the Chamber of Commerce and national partners including the Department for Work and Pensions.

Raising aspirations in low output areas of the county and developing clear career pathways will be among the targeted support for employment, as the strategy seeks to level up opportunities across Warwickshire. Regeneration of priority areas and empowering communities will be key to achieving this. The strategy will seek to encourage enterprise in such areas as well as in under-represented groups such as women or minority ethnic backgrounds.

The developing jobs market is another core focus of the county's planning with schools and colleges being supported to develop career activity that is relevant for the needs of the future.

Finally, Sustainable Growth, which will underpin businesses' transition to net zero, makes up the third pillar. Supporting low Carbon tech businesses and encouraging new ones while ensuring there are the skills in the job market to make the transition is key to the plans for the strategy. Key partners will be assisted in decarbonising transport across the county. Businesses will be supported to reuse, recycle, and reduce materials. Residents will be encouraged through various means across a range of council services to increase the use of active travel; businesses will be supported in a move to using sustainable freight.

Potholes - Warwickshire is to receive, for the next 11 years, £2.056M additional funding for highway maintenance each year as part of the money being repurposed from HS2. This funding is specifically for maintenance works on highway assets including roads, footways, street lighting, bridges, traffic signals and highway drainage. Whilst none of that funding will be used to directly repair potholes, a substantial proportion is likely to be spent on road surfacing schemes which will prevent pothole from forming



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over the long term. We have yet to determine exactly how the funding will be spent but the team is looking at some of the high-cost maintenance schemes that are typically not affordable from the annual government grants for maintenance and working on prioritising schemes. We repair our potholes using a combination of revenue funding, as well as capital funding. Generally, the revenue funding is used for reactive repair, and the capital funding is used for pro-active repairs to larger areas where potholes will likely form. For 2023/24 our budget for revenue defect repair gangs is £1.970m, these gangs repair potholes but also all manner of other highway defects. In addition, we will spend approximately £1.75m of capital on small patching works.

So far, this financial year we have repaired 7,890 potholes across the network. Warwickshire has a strong reputation for making repairs and we are ranked 4th out of 30 peer authorities in the National Highways and Transportation Survey for overall highways maintenance, condition of highway and how quickly we deal with potholes and damaged roads.

Test your smoke alarms - Warwickshire Fire and Rescue are reminding everyone to make sure that they have working smoke alarms fitted in their homes and to test them regularly. Residents are being urged to make sure they have working smoke alarms fitted in their homes and to test them regularly. As part of the latest Fire Kills campaign, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) is reminding people of the importance of smoke alarms in saving lives in the event of fire. Smoke alarms can give someone the few extra seconds they need to escape in a fire. Testing takes only a couple of seconds, but it can save lives. While most homes across the country now have alarms fitted, most people are not aware that the average alarm has a lifespan of just ten years before it needs replacing. With that in mind, WFRS is asking residents to ensure that their smoke alarms are up to date and up to the job.

Here are their top safety tips:

1. Make sure there is at least one smoke alarm on every level of the home
2. Test smoke alarms at least once a month
3. Check that smoke alarms are less than 10 years old
4. If you have a smoke detector which runs on a battery that needs replacing, make sure to change it once a year
5. Fit smoke alarms in the right place - on landings and hallways and near bedrooms. Consider fitting them in rooms which have electrical appliances – e.g., a heater or charger – or other fire risks
6. Check on neighbours or loved ones who may need help to ensure they're fully protected

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service also fits smoke alarms as part of free safe and well visits. People can [apply on their website](#) or call 01926 466282 to see if they are eligible for a safe and well.

A439 Warwick Road in Stratford update - Warwickshire County Council is pleased to announce significant progress on the Warwick Road A439 improvement scheme. **Over the next few weeks**, contractors on this scheme are set to be far more visible as the Council will be gearing up for significant progress as additional work crews arrive to commence construction on the new crossing point and footpath/cycle way. As part of these improvements, a special wall will be constructed to retain ground levels effectively.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5067/a439-warwick-road-in-stratford-upon-avon-update>



Police and Crime Commissioner Elections 2024

On 2 May 2024, the election of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Warwickshire will be held.

On this day, you will be asked to vote for one candidate to become PCC, so make sure you are registered to vote.

Flooding of homes – potential grants available - A reminder - You will be aware that Warwickshire is one of eight local authorities in the country which received notification from government of potential financial support for residents, business owners and farmers that have been affected by flooding. Can I please ask that if you are aware of any residents in your Parish that have been affected by the flooding that you encourage them to contact our Flood Risk Management Team so that they can be confirmed, and potential funding can be released. They can do this really simply through the Council's website at: [Flood Risk Management – Warwickshire County Council](#) Alternatively email the team with the details and we will get someone to drop a leaflet off to them.

Longer summer opening makes recycling easier at your friendly local recycling centre

Warwickshire County Council is reminding residents that recycling will become even easier with extended summer opening times in operation from 3 April.



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Summer opening times for Burton **Farm, Cherry Orchard, Hunters Lane, Judkins, Lower House Farm and Princes Drive.**

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday - 9:30 am to 3:15 pm
- Wednesday - 9:30 am to 6:15 pm
- Saturday and Sunday - 8:30 am to 5:45 pm

Police News

These are the reported crimes closest to us

WOOTTON WAWEN • Attempt Burglary. Pennyford Lane. Door lock snapped but entry not gained to premises. 1.35am Tuesday 16th April. 0017 16/04/2024

CLAVERDON • Burglary. Langley Road. Premised entered and car key stolen, subsequently a Grey BMW 5 series estate was also stolen. 1am Wednesday 17th April. 0010 17/04/2024

As 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 absolute best to help.

**SOMETHING'S
NOT RIGHT...**

Child Exploitation

is happening in Warwickshire

Don't ignore it



somethingsnotright.co.uk

Child Exploitation in Warwickshire

Do you know the signs to look out for and what to do if you think something's not right? There are many different types of child exploitation.

Visit <https://somethingsnotright.co.uk> for advice. Child Exploitation is happening. Don't ignore it. #SomethingsNotRight

A439 Warwick Road improvement scheme

Work has been progressing well on the ongoing A439 Warwick Road improvement scheme in Stratford-upon-Avon with construction of retaining walls at the Ingon Lane junction along with progress on access for pedestrians and cyclists among the highlights.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5127/a439-warwick-road-in-stratford-upon-avon-update-early-april-2024>



Smoking-related fire reduction

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) is asking residents to consider the fire risk associated with smoking and the steps to take to keep safe.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5122/fire-service-issues-advice-to-reduce-the-risk-of-smoking-related-fires>

Child Benefit Changes

The threshold people start paying the High Income Child Benefit Charge has increased to £60,000. If you haven't claimed for your child, the new threshold will apply to any claims made from 6 April. Find out more about the change and how to claim online: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-high-income-child-benefit-charge>



National Offer Day – 16 April 2024

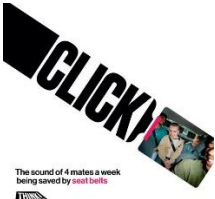
Warwickshire parents and carers who have applied for a school place for their child in either Reception or Year 2 of a Junior School starting in September 2024 will get their offer of a school place on 16 April.



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Seatbelt safety

Young drivers in Warwickshire are being reminded of the importance of wearing a seatbelt for every journey – no matter how long or short that journey is.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5145/click-for-the-sound-of-seatbelt-safety>

Centenary Business Centre success

A growing pharmaceutical company which has moved to a new home believes the support of a Warwickshire County Council business centre is one of the key reasons for its success.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5151/centenary-business-centre-integral-to-bhr-s-growth>



Bike Month 2024

As we move into the warmer months with more hours of daylight, the County Council is encouraging residents to dust off their bikes and explore the many benefits of an active travel lifestyle.

Find out more about Bike Month: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5156/time-to-get-those-bikes-out-of-storage-for-bike-month-2024>



Be Water Aware

As the weather, albeit slowly, begins to heat up Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is urging all residents to Be Water Aware.

Find out more about staying safe around water: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5154/be-water-aware-campaign-launches-in-warwickshire>



Animal attraction hygiene

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) is reminding families of the simple steps they can take to make sure they enjoy visits to farms and petting zoos safely throughout spring and summer.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5157/the-importance-of-hand-hygiene-when-visiting-animal-attractions>



The Teenage Market North Warwickshire – Apply for a Stall

The Teenage Market gives young people a free platform to showcase their creative talents.

It's easy to sign up to have a stall at The Teenage Market, all they need to do is follow this link: <https://bit.ly/4cYIESG>



The Teenage Market North Warwickshire – Apply to perform

Do you know a young person that can sing, dance, or are part of a band? If so, The Teenage Market would be perfect for them to showcase their talent, and put on a show.

They can apply here: <https://bit.ly/3Q5caGB>