

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

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County Councillors report as of 1st April 2024



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 disable cars 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 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.



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• 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 gulley 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 gulley 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.

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



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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	C or D	_	Action 2
23	15/08/2022	НІА	C	20 mph speed limit - read documentation on this and see of Station Rd and continuation is covered	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 siugned off on 07/09/2023 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	12/12/2022	ніа	С	Road markings on disabled bay by DOLCE CAFÉ have faded and non blue badge holders are parking thereremedials are to be undertaken on the Disabled Bays and lining around that area High Street, and outside the Coop up to the Puffin Crossing.	30/04/2023 GS chasing this 19/06/2023 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 donethe street the lining will be done
150	08/08/2023	НІА		Railings in front of the Co Op	18/01/2024 team set up to look at this and I have a respjnse from GS on the orcaticalities 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 confimed 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	18/10/2023	HIA		Ev Chargers request by Bryn	
185	20/10/2023	ніа		Flood Team set up	30/01/2024 - AL of Streetscene has been emailed about frequescy of sweeping roads from Liveridge Hill to high Street. 01/04/2024 - IJS meeting with HOS on Tuesday 02/04/2024 to request an answer to email sent to Streetscene In addition the Flood tEam have been reminded that they promiosied to set up a meeting with the various stakeholders to discuss the flooding issues in Henley
207	14/12/2023	HIA		State of road and surface dressing	01/04/2024 - IJS meeting with DW on Tuesday 2/4/2024 - this wil be raised again
282	29/02/2024	HIA		Bollards opposite the Co op on the southbound sie , corner of Beaudert Lane have been knocked dow, paviours raised, urgent	08/03/2024 repaired 01/04/2024 One bollard left to be reinstalled but area made good for now
286	04/03/2024	HIA		Dangerous traffic speed near to the ex Bird in Hand Pub , Liveridge Hill	04/03/2024 Note sent to traffic safety team. 01/04/20204 chaser sent to Traffic Safety Team
291	04/03/2024			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 hoearding 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	06/03/2024	HIA		Flooding in Castle Close from the Mount	06/03/2024 Parish Clerk sent note to DW and copied me in

County News

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 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.



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

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 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 with the council's transport and environmental aims of prioritising sustainable travel and reducing harmful emissions.

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 old4. 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.

Rights of Way survey - The county Council are keen to get you views on the footpaths and rights of way around us whether you walk them or not. If you do walk them, we want to know what is good, what could be improved and if you don't, why not? Warwickshire County Council is responsible for around 1700 miles of public rights of way. These paths are both in the



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countryside and urban areas. They are important for enjoying and exploring, for travelling to work or school and for health and wellbeing. They are part of what makes Warwickshire a special place to live, work and enjoy. A public right of way is a path that anyone has the legal right to use. There are four types: Footpaths for walking, mobility... **Closes 7 April 2024**

Further details can be found by dropping the following into your browser. https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/

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.

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

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.



Flood Risk Management advice

Warwickshire County Council's Flood Risk Management team has shared advice on how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from flooding incidents in #Warwickshire.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/flooding/advice-flooding



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.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5096/warwickshire-parents-and-carers-with-children-starting-school-in-september-2024-will-qet-their-school-offer-on-16-april



Warwickshire's waterways exhibition

The ground floor at Market Hall Museum has been completely re-displayed and explores the unexpected and extraordinary stories of life on and in Warwickshire's waterways.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5093/heritage-and-culture-warwickshire-launch-a-new-family-friendly-exhibition-in-time-for-the-easter-holidays

Market Hall Museum is open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, free entry.



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Personal safety

Safety for ourselves, our family and our children is paramount in our everyday lives. However, for some, safety is compromised especially when it involves threats of domestic and/or sexual abuse.

Support is available: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5097/keeping-yourself-safe-and-well



Sensory mobile library

Warwickshire County Council's library service has secured funding to provide a new sensory mobile library.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5100/warwickshire-libraries-secure-funding-for-sensory-mobile-library



World Autism Acceptance Week 2024

Partners across Coventry and Warwickshire will be marking #AutismAcceptanceWeek with special online events for families and professionals interested in finding out more about autism.

Read more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5111/free-events-in-coventry-and-warwickshire-focus-on-the-experiences-of-autistic-people-and-employment-support-for-autism-acceptance-week-2024



Keeping children safe at home

Every home can be a safe haven for our little ones! Taking simple steps can prevent accidents and create an environment where children can explore and learn safely. From securing blind cords to storing medicines out of reach, let's work together to keep our homes child friendly.

For more advice: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5058/keeping-children-safe-at-home



Local mental health support posters

Are you feeling down or in mental health crisis? Find out more about the available support.

If you feel there is an immediate risk to life: call 999 or go straight to A&E.

New creative practitioner for libraries

Warwickshire County Council's libraries service is delighted to share a new commission opportunity for a part-time creative practitioner to engage with the Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities in Warwickshire.

 $\label{limits} \begin{tabular}{ll} Find out more: $\underline{$https://www.warwickshire.qov.uk/news/article/5060/warwickshire-libraries-launches-new-creative-practitioner-role-to-engage-with-county-s-qypsy-roma-and-traveller-communities $\underline{$https://www.warwickshire.qov.uk/news/article/5060/warwickshire-libraries-launches-new-creative-practitioner-role-to-engage-with-county-s-qypsy-roma-and-traveller-communities $\underline{$https://www.warwickshire.qov.uk/news/article/5060/warwickshire-libraries-launches-new-creative-practitioner-role-to-engage-with-county-s-qypsy-roma-and-traveller-communities $\underline{$https://www.warwickshire.qov.uk/news/article/5060/warwickshire-libraries-launches-new-creative-practitioner-role-to-engage-with-county-s-qypsy-roma-and-traveller-communities $\underline{$https://www.warwickshire.qov.uk/news/article/5060/warwickshire-libraries-launches-new-creative-practitioner-role-to-engage-with-county-s-qypsy-roma-and-traveller-communities $\underline{$https://www.warwickshire-libraries-launches-new-creative-practitioner-role-to-engage-with-county-s-qypsy-roma-and-traveller-communities $\underline{$https://www.warwickshire-libraries-launches-new-creative-practitioner-role-to-engage-with-county-s-qypsy-roma-and-traveller-communities-graph-gr$



Voice of Warwickshire resident panel

Warwickshire County Council is looking for more people to join its residents' panel, Voice of Warwickshire.

If you are interested in local policymaking, say what matters to you by joining today: https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/voice-of-warwickshire/registration2024/



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- Childcare Money issues
- Advice for the early years of a child's life
- a child's life
 Family-friendly activities and events



Parenting a baby or toddler and meeting their needs can be difficult at times. It's normal to have lots of questions. Our team at Warwickshire Family Information Service can help you find support with money issues, such as household debt, benefits, and free school meals applications.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis



Stratford Greenway closure

The top half of the Stratford Greenway will be closing in phases to complete essential resurfacing works in April and May.

Find out more about these works:

https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5069/stratford-greenway-expected-to-close-for-resurfacing-in-april-and-may



Sunday Service for the Stratford Park & Ride

Stratford Park & Ride has reintroduced its popular Sunday Service, so that the site will now be running every day of the week boosting the public transport offerings for locals and visitors alike.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5079/warwickshire-county-council-is-reintroducing-the-sunday-service-for-the-stratford-park-ride-from-sunday-24-march-2024



Zero emission buses in Warwickshire

It's great news for residents and the environment as Warwickshire County Council secures significant funding to roll out Zero Emission Buses across the County.

Find out which routes will soon be electric:

 $\frac{https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5090/zero-emission-buses-are-set-for-warwickshire-roads-thanks-to-new-funding$