

## Parish and Partners Foreword

Dear All,

**Whilst we have now had the summer holidays as I am writing this foreword, we are experiencing the hottest weather of year so far!**

Whilst the summer period is traditionally the quieter period of the year, that has not been the case for the Council. This year we have been developing the Council Plan which will set the strategic objectives for the Council over the next four years along with dealing with a host of different issues.

Thank you to all of you who have participated in the Council Plan engagement sessions. All of the feedback has been key in developing a plan which meets both the political objectives and the views of our partners. It is expected that the draft Council Plan will be launched for consultation on 21 September and will last for several weeks. Following the consultation period, the views from this exercise will be incorporated into the proposed plan which is expected to be considered by The Cabinet on 4 December 2023, before final decision by Council on 11 December 2023.

The Council Plan will then be integral in determining what we do as a Council and the draft budget for the Council which will be published just after Christmas, will be built around this plan. If you have not had the chance to participate in the engagement sessions then please take the time to tell us your views during the consultation.

On some of the other issues affecting you, you may be aware that The Cabinet has decided that it will designate the Lench Meadows in Stratford-upon-Avon, as Stratford Riverside Local Nature Reserve. The Council has been working with the Stratford Town Trust since 2020, when grant funding was made available under the Better Building fund to improve the area on the edge of Stratford-upon-Avon known as Lench Meadows.

These works have significantly improved biodiversity of the site. To help protect this area and support habitats and wildlife on the site the Local Nature Reserve Status would be very beneficial. Whilst last year the vegetation had not yet fully developed, over this summer the site has now properly established itself. If you are in Stratford I would thoroughly recommend that you pay it a visit.



During the summer there was briefly discussion surrounding the County Council exploring whether to make an application to become a full constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority, in time for the May 2024 elections. Due in the main to insufficient time for consultation on the proposition, this has not progressed. However, there is still a question to address surrounding devolution for Warwickshire. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill is currently at report stage in the House of Lords. It will be interesting to see what opportunities there will be when this is ultimately agreed.

In this edition of the Parish and Partners there is an article surrounding the impact of the new waste arrangements after a year. Whilst I do appreciate there was some disruption at the beginning of the new arrangements, I am very proud of how these are now operating and the environmental benefits they are delivering. I would like to specifically thank Julie Lewis and the team for all their efforts.

I would also like to mention that the Council has achieved a record for affordable housing, with 540 affordable homes delivered in 2022/23. This beats previous record highs over recent years, including 495 last year. I would like to express my thanks to everyone who has contributed to this success, including colleagues in planning and legal, but most importantly and significantly, to the efforts of Renata, John and Lisa in the Housing Policy and Development Team who I know have worked tirelessly over the last few years with partner housing associations.

Finally, I am pleased to report that both Marcia Ecclestone (Head of Law and Governance) and Annette Homer (Head of Housing, Revenues and Customer Services) have joined our Management Team over the summer. This means that the new Management Team for the Council is now complete. I would like to formally welcome them to the Council and very much look forward to working with them.

Best Wishes

David





## Stratford-on-Avon District Council

### Management Arrangements - from 7 August 2023



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## One year on - rubbish and recycling collection changes a success

**Changes to Stratford-on-Avon District Council's rubbish and recycling collections introduced a year ago have been a success, with figures showing a reduction in the amount of rubbish being disposed of and residents recycling more than two-thirds of all household waste collected in the District.**

In the first year of operation, figures show that 68% of the District's rubbish has been recycled and 26% less residual waste was collected.

During the period August 2022 to July 2023, 16,226 tonnes of residual waste was collected, which is 5,635 tonnes less than the same period the previous year.

The introduction of a separate weekly food waste collection service has seen 4,888 tonnes collected between August 2022 and July 2023.

The new 123+ waste collection service was introduced on 1 August 2022 to boost recycling rates and reduce the amount of general waste.

In Stratford-on-Avon District, the new waste contract introduced a separate weekly food waste collection service using food caddies and a three-weekly refuse collection, whilst maintaining a fortnightly dry recycling collection service and a fortnightly chargeable garden waste collection service.

One year on, the figures show that the three-weekly refuse collection arrangements have reduced the amount of general rubbish each household puts out and has encouraged residents to recycle more.

Councillor Lorraine Grocott, Environmental and Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder, said: *"Since the introduction of the new 123+ waste collection service last August, it has been encouraging to see how much of a positive difference residents' efforts and the hard work of council staff have made during the course of the last year. The results speak for themselves - showing a substantial decrease in the amount of material now going to landfill."*

*"The service goes hand in hand with the council's commitments to tackling the issues around climate change and the environment. The new waste contract has helped to bring with it more efficient vehicles and smarter routing as well as changes to food waste collection processes, which reduces the volume of harmful greenhouse gases entering our waste streams."*

*"There is still more we can do to reduce our ecological impact and live more sustainably, but this has been an excellent start. We've also been approached by other Councils, as we're seen as a market leader in this field!"*



For more information visit [www.stratford.gov.uk/123](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/123)



## Consultation on the draft revised Statement of Community Involvement

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is updating its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), to reflect changes in national planning legislation and remove references to COVID restrictions.

Planning decisions affect land and buildings, so it is important that local communities, businesses and other interested parties have the opportunity to engage in the processes for plan-making and development management decision-making. A SCI identifies how and when they can be involved.

The SCI sets out how the District Council as the Local Planning Authority will engage stakeholders in the following planning documents and applications:

- Development Plan Documents
- Supplementary Planning Documents
- Neighbourhood Plans
- Community Infrastructure Levy
- Planning Applications
- Permission in Principle

This SCI is a Local Development Document and once adopted will supersede the District Council's previously adopted SCI from October 2020 - [Statement of Community Involvement | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

**The consultation starts on Thursday 21 September and runs until 5pm on Friday 3 November 2023**

You are encouraged to submit your comments electronically on the draft revised SCI. This can be done either by using the on-line form on the website at <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/planning-building/statement-of-community-involvement.cfm> or by attaching a form to an email and sending it to [planning.policy@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@stratford-dc.gov.uk).

If you want to post your response, please send it to Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Planning Policy Section, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX.

## Future provision of Shopmobility

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet has agreed to transfer the shopmobility service to Active Mobility to safeguard future provision.

The delivery of the shopmobility service will be transferred for an initial period of three years and would operate from two sites within the town: the existing Shopmobility office at Bridgeway car park and the existing Active Mobility office in Wharf Road.

The service would have longer opening hours as well as new computer systems and would expand with deliveries to hotels and homes.

Cllr Susan Juned, Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council said: *"Shopmobility is a discretionary service, but the District Council is committed to supporting the provision of a Shopmobility service and understands its importance and the role it provides to residents and tourists in the District. Over the years it has provided vital support and assistance to those who need it most."*

*"I would also like to thank The Friends of Shopmobility who have raised considerable sums of money for equipment to be used around the District and we are grateful for all the hard work."*

*"Transferring the service to a local company who is already familiar with the operation, as they currently service all the equipment and look to offer a more wide-ranging service for the benefit of all users, makes perfect sense."*



## Plan to grow innovation campus approved by Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet

**In July, Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet backed a plan to support the long-term growth of the University of Warwick Innovation Campus Stratford-upon-Avon at Wellesbourne.**

The Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which sets out a framework to guide the growth of the Campus, which would be delivered by the University of Warwick, was approved by Councillors.

The Campus could create thousands of highly skilled jobs and attract cutting-edge and high growth businesses. It has the potential to be a keystone of Stratford - and Warwickshire's - economic growth for decades to come, in sectors such as advanced manufacturing, life sciences, automotive, and digital.

The Innovation Campus has already attracted exciting global brands, including Lotus Engineering and Rimac. A former agricultural campus, it is also home to some of the world's most cutting-edge life sciences research and innovation. The SPD is designed to support these existing strengths.

The Campus will be distinct from the University's main campus as it will focus on research and not be student-focussed. With the principle of the Innovation Campus now agreed, the University of Warwick will begin to prepare more detailed proposals.

An outline planning application will be submitted by the University in due course, following detailed discussions with Stratford-on-Avon District Council and consultation with the community. At this stage, there is no agreed timetable for this process.

Cllr Susan Juned, Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council, said: *"The Innovation Campus Stratford-upon-Avon is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create an environment centred on collaboration between industry and academia. We are taking the initiative to shape the growth of the Campus, so it delivers for Stratford."*

*"We've worked closely with the University of Warwick to develop a joint approach and there are exciting opportunities ahead. Today, we are pleased to approve a framework and long-term approach for the Campus."*

*"The Campus will become a place to solve real-world problems and fundamental challenges such as climate change, environmental damage, and health inequalities. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the University to deliver."*



## Concessionary parking permit re-introduced

The re-introduction of the concessionary parking permit in Stratford-upon-Avon for residents of state pension age was formally agreed by the District Council's Cabinet in September.

District residents who are of state pension age will be able to use the permits from 1 October 2023. They will cost £50 a year.

Cllr Lorraine Grocott, Environmental and Neighbourhood Service Portfolio says: *"This was one of our main manifesto pledges and I am so pleased that we have been able to work with officers to bring back this permit for residents. The re-introduction of the concessionary parking permit will encourage more residents of state pension age to visit Stratford-upon-Avon to interact as well as providing more affordable access to open spaces and leisure facilities."*

Those eligible will be able to purchase the concessionary parking permit from the District Council offices.

The use of the concessionary parking permit will be limited to a maximum of four hours a day and will allow permit holders parking at Bridgeway Multi-Storey and Bridgeway Surface Car Parks only.

Cllr Grocott added: *"We also looked into a reciprocal scheme being introduced by Warwick District Council, but sadly this was declined, and we are unable to extend the offer to other car parks in the town presently."*

One hour's free parking is still available at Bridgeway Multi-Storey and Bridgeway Surface Car Parks for all residents and visitors and disabled parking for Blue Badge holders remains free of charge in all District Council car parks.

The Concessionary Permit will be re-introduced with the following terms and conditions:

- Available for those residents of state pension age only.
- Maximum stay of 4-hours a day (Monday to Sunday).
- Initial cost of £50 per annum (subject to inflation each year).
- Allows use of Bridgeway Multi-Storey and Bridgeway Surface Car Parks only. These two car parks are the closest to Stratford town centre (the former is home to Stratford Shopmobility), and both have an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) system in operation which will make it much easier and cheaper to enforce.
- Non-transferrable between vehicles.



If you are looking to modernise your play area or build a new one, we can help.

SDC has experience of supporting parish and town councils in developing better and inclusive play spaces.

If you wish to consult your residents about this subject, please email

[simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk)  
or [melanie.jeffery@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:melanie.jeffery@stratford-dc.gov.uk)



## Rural Crime Advisor Update - Can you help please.....

One of our rural projects for this year (2023/2024) is to raise awareness of the opportunities to improve home security by providing Crime Prevention Toolboxes to village communities.

The toolbox contains several of the following pieces of equipment:

- Shed alarms
- Van alarms
- Property marking kits / property marking pens
- Can hides
- Faraday pouches
- Window vibration alarms
- Switch timers and TV simulators as well as various security information leaflets.



The team introduce the toolbox to a village by linking into an existing event such as a coffee morning or lunch club and set up a display table so those attending can drop by, see the equipment on offer, receive an explanation as to how the equipment might best be used for home security and ask any questions.

Following the event, the box is left with a custodian. The custodian is someone who has volunteered prior to the event, to look after the box; the villagers can then decide how they wish to use the contents eg loan the equipment to try or organise a property marking event.

If you are interested in having a community crime prevention toolbox for your village and have a venue/event in mind that could be used to introduce the toolbox and you would be happy to be a custodian for the toolbox (or know someone who would be), please do get in touch.

### Contact the District Council's Rural Crime Advisors:

**Rebecca Jenkins:** rebecca.jenkins@stratford-dc.gov.uk

**Alison Packer:** alison.packer@stratford-dc.gov.uk

For some general crime prevention advice on home security please refer to the following leaflet which is available to download at [https://www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk/downloads/Home\\_security\\_%20template.pdf](https://www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk/downloads/Home_security_%20template.pdf)

## Crime prevention advice for home security



Home security is the best way to reduce your chances of being burgled. A lot of burglaries are spur of the moment, as a burglar may see an open window or other easy point of entry and take their chance.

### Tips to consider:

- If you are installing new doors and windows get ones that are certified to British Standard BS 7950 (windows) or PAS 24-1 (doors).
- Window locks especially on older windows will help stop people getting in
- Securely lock all doors and windows before leaving the house. It's easy to forget when you're in a hurry, but it's the simplest way for a burglar to enter your home.
- Never leave keys anywhere near the front door, including your letterbox; burglars know where to look.
- A home that looks empty is far more likely to be targeted by a burglar, so it's worth making sure your home looks occupied
- Use automatic timer-switches to turn on a light and perhaps a radio when it goes dark, even if you are just out for a couple of hours
- If you're away for longer periods of time, cancel any newspaper or milk deliveries.
- Why not ask a neighbour or relative for help could they clear the post away from the door mat and open and close the curtains.
- Visibly and permanently marking your belongings helps you and the police identify them if they are stolen. It can also make it difficult for the thief to dispose of the property (see *property marking factsheet*)
- Prevent easy access to the back and sides of your home by installing locked gates, 2 metre minimum fencing or walls. Trellis topping also makes climbing difficult.
- Security lighting can be used to make offenders feel vulnerable and observed. It is suggested that you use dusk to dawn lighting.
- Visible burglar alarms are a deterrent there are many to choose from (see *factsheet on alarms*)
- Fit padlocks and hardware to shed and garage doors.
- Make sure that passers-by can see the front of your home. Remove and secure items that may be used to break in or climb up such as ladders and garden tools
- Beware of bogus callers; use your spy hole and a door chain until you have seen their ID and are satisfied you want to let them in
- Never discuss your security requirements or existing arrangements with a doorstep caller or salesperson
- Work with your neighbours to keep an eye on each other's security, Neighbourhood Watch groups are good for this



## Coventry and Warwickshire Destination Partnership

**Two of the Midlands' leading tourism bodies are launching a major partnership to map out a long-term blueprint to grow Coventry and Warwickshire's national and international profile.**

Destination Coventry, the destination management organisation (DMO) for Coventry, and Shakespeare's England, the DMO for south Warwickshire, are forming the Coventry & Warwickshire Destination Partnership. The partnership is being created alongside local authority stakeholders Coventry City Council, Warwickshire County Council, Stratford District Council, Warwick District Council, Rugby Borough Council, and Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council.

The new partnership has been formed under the new Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) framework, which was developed and administered by VisitEngland as a result of the government's response to the independent de Bois Review of Destination Management Organisations in England, with the overarching aim of supporting and growing the visitor economy.

The Coventry & Warwickshire Destination Partnership will see both organisations working together with local authority stakeholders to ensure that the region's tourism community has a powerful voice at national level, with both VisitEngland and the government, when it comes to shaping future policies and for all visitor economy priorities. It will also see both DMOs laying the foundations for potential future investment to develop the region's offering, with LVEPs eligible for future grant funding, shared destination marketing opportunities, and access to data-rich research projects to help inform future decision making.

Alongside this work, both Destination Coventry and Shakespeare's England will remain as separate brands and will continue to promote and support the area's tourism businesses.

The Coventry & Warwickshire Destination Partnership was formed after both DMOs applied for LVEP status, which is supported by Coventry City Council, Warwickshire County Council, Warwick District Council, Stratford District Council, Rugby Borough Council, and Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council.

Destination Coventry, which launched in 2021, includes the brands Visit Coventry and Conference Coventry & Warwickshire. It is a collaboration between Coventry City Council and Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce.

Paul Michael, Chair of Destination Coventry, said: *"We are laying the foundations for a thriving tourism economy in Coventry and Warwickshire with this partnership."*

*"Partnership has been the core value of Destination Coventry since it formed, and we know that through further collaboration even greater results can be achieved in the long term."*

*"Coventry and Warwickshire has an incredibly diverse tourism offer and by partnering with Shakespeare's England and our local authorities as an LVEP, we will be able to further showcase why our region should be a key location for leisure and business tourism."*

Shakespeare's England was formed in 2012 and is a not-for-profit public and private membership organisation, supported by Stratford and Warwick District Councils.

Tara Robinson, Chair of Shakespeare's England, added: *"This partnership has the potential to be a watershed moment for future-proofing Coventry and Warwickshire's tourism scene."*

*"Our region has shown great resilience and continues to recover strongly from the pandemic, and mapping out a new long-term plan for growth, in conjunction with Destination Coventry and others, is the next logical step to capitalise on this."*

*"We are already working closely with Destination Coventry on boosting the region's sustainability credentials, as well as attracting more business tourism, and we are looking forward to strengthening our relationship even further which will undoubtedly help us to collectively create a strong launchpad for further growth over the coming years."*



Photo caption: Left to right; Tara Robinson (Shakespeare's England Chair) and Paul Michael (Destination Coventry Chair).



## Coventry and Warwickshire Destination Partnership continued

VisitEngland Director Andrew Stokes said: *"Local Visitor Economy Partnerships (LVEPs) are at the heart of transforming the visitor economy landscape in England and we are delighted to welcome the Coventry & Warwickshire Destination Partnership onto the programme."*

*"We look forward to continuing our close collaboration with the Coventry & Warwickshire Destination Partnership as the LVEP is established, providing ongoing support including a dedicated VisitEngland regional development lead."*

*"Having the right national and local infrastructure in place to grow our visitor economy, in an inclusive, accessible and sustainable way, will ensure England continues to be a compelling destination for both domestic and international visitors."*

Supporting the new partnership, Cllr George Cowcher, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio at Stratford-on-Avon District Council said: *"This is great news for our visitor economy with the formation of the Coventry & Warwickshire Destination Partnership. By joining VisitEngland's Local Visitor Economy Partnerships this will help protect the future of our tourism scene on a local, regional and international level, which is so important for our local economy, whilst retaining our world-renowned Shakespeare brand."*

## Victorian Christmas Market

**The countdown to the most enchanting event of the year has begun! The Stratford-upon-Avon Victorian Christmas Market is back, and it's bigger and more magical than ever.**

From 7th to 10th December, the historic streets of Stratford-upon-Avon will be transformed into a festive wonderland, offering an unparalleled holiday experience for visitors of all ages.

Immerse yourself in the past as you wander through 300+ stalls adorned with the finest festive treats and gifts. Traders, dressed in authentic Victorian attire, create a nostalgic atmosphere that transports you to a bygone era. The market is not just a shopping destination; it's a captivating journey through time.

Indulge your taste buds with a wide array of festive food and drinks. From roasted chestnuts to traditional mulled wine and cider, the flavours of Christmas will tantalise your senses.

Experience the joyous sounds of the season with live music, choirs, and dance groups performing on the main stage. Marvel at stilt walkers, chimney sweeps, and festive characters that roam the streets, creating a lively and engaging atmosphere for all. The fun fair, featuring an original Victorian carousel, promises a delightful experience for both the young and the young at heart.

Recognised as the 'Best Large Specialty Market' at the Great British Market Awards, the Stratford-upon-Avon Victorian Christmas Market has truly earned its place as a must-visit event.

Convenient Park and Ride facilities, along with accessible bus and train routes, make reaching the market hassle-free. Extend the festivities by booking a local hotel and experiencing the magic after dark, when the stalls light up, and the atmosphere becomes truly enchanting.

Mark your calendars for 7th to 10th December 2022, and join us at the Stratford-upon-Avon Victorian Christmas Market for an unforgettable celebration of the festive season.

What: Victorian Christmas Market

Where: Town Centre, Stratford-upon-Avon

When: Thursday 7 December - 12pm to 8pm

Friday 8 December - 10am to 8pm

Saturday 9 December - 10am to 8pm

Sunday 10 December - 10am to 5pm

Details: Victorian attire, Street food, unique Christmas gifts, entertainment, festive spirit, and so much more.

For more information please visit the Facebook page: [\(1\) The Stratford-Upon-Avon Victorian Christmas Market 2023 | Facebook](#)



## Global Street Art Awarded Bronze Stevie® Awards

Global Street Art has been named the winner of Bronze Stevie® Awards in the 20th Annual International Business Awards for 'The Art of Shakespeare', an immersive art installation in Stratford-upon-Avon.

'The Art of Shakespeare' saw Global Street Art partner with Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Shakespeare's Birthplace Trust to create a first-of-its-kind immersive art experience in the town centre.

The high street regeneration project featured 3D artworks created by street artists in disused retail spaces, helping to bring life and vibrancy into otherwise empty shop fronts. The campaign, launched in April 2023, helped to drive tourism back into the area, boosting the local economy and engaging visitors with some of Shakespeare's lesser-known sonnets.



Judges of the marketing campaign of the year Stevie® Award said: *"A creative and unique approach that connects modern street artists with Shakespeare's themes. A brilliant campaign that creates an immersive experience for visitors while working to help bring back the local economy after lockdowns and business closures. I especially like the fact that the window art is mobile and as space is rented, the displays can be moved to another empty retail window. This is an excellent example of a community-based campaign that pulls everyone together!"*

The International Business Awards are the world's premier business awards program. All individuals and organisations worldwide – public and private, for-profit and non-profit, large and small, are eligible to submit nominations. The 2023 IBAs received entries from organisations in 61 nations and territories.

Global Street Art works with a world-leading community of artists to paint murals for commercial campaigns and community initiatives. Its mission, "to Live in Painted Cities", has seen the organisation paint over 2700 murals across London. The organisation also runs the London Mural Festival and the pioneering 'Art for Estates' programme, which aims to increase the amount of public art on London's housing estates.

Commercially, Global Street Art has delivered over 337 projects since the start of 2021 for leading brands including Google, Nike and Gucci. The revenue generated from these projects helps to support grassroots artists to develop their skills and showcase their work to a wider audience, including the organisation's impressive social media following.



The London-based organisation also took home a Silver Stevie® Award in the Company of the Year, Advertising, Marketing, & Public Relations category. The award was granted for the organisation's community-centred approach to mural creation and the revitalization of urban areas, in addition to its commitment to supporting new talent through both commercial and community projects.

Judges of the company of the year Stevie® Award commented: *"Global Street Art's achievements are impressive and well-documented. The company's community-centred approach to art creation and their mission to revitalise urban areas through murals are quite distinctive. The expansion of the team, increase in community and commercial projects, high-profile collaborations, and their commitment to safety standards (evidenced by their ISO ratings) are notable accomplishments!"*

Dr Lee Bofkin, CEO and co-founder of Global Street Art, said: *"We really want to thank the Stevies for these two brilliant awards; it is indeed an honour! We're glad that the human element is still being celebrated in an age where we're increasingly overlooking what we're capable of!"*

Stevie® Award winners were determined by the average scores of more than 230 executives worldwide who participated in the judging process in June and July. Winners will be celebrated during a gala banquet at the Cavalieri Waldorf Astoria Hotel, in Rome, Italy on Friday, October 13th.



## Stratford Leisure Centre staff take on national Three Peaks Challenge and raise £1,430

**A team of eight staff members from Stratford Leisure Centre raised more than £1,430 by taking on the national Three Peaks Challenge, in support of Dementia UK.**

Battling through rain, fog and wind, the team successfully climbed Ben Nevis (Scotland), Scafell Pike (Cumbria) and Snowdon (Wales) one after the other, in an impressive 24-hour timeframe.

The group began by climbing 1,345m high Ben Nevis at 10pm on Thursday 20 July. This was followed by a five-hour overnight drive to Scafell Pike, climbing 978m to the summit at sunrise on Friday 21 July.

The group then made the four-hour journey to North Wales before climbing to the 1,085m summit of Mount Snowdon in the afternoon.



everyone  
ACTIVE

You'll feel better for it

  
DementiaUK  
Helping families face dementia

Everyone Active, Stratford-on-Avon District Council's leisure operator, selected Dementia UK as its corporate charity in 2022, setting a national fundraising goal of £50,000. Everyone Active has so far raised more than £26,000 nationally.

Toni Gaskins, Regional Contract Manager at Everyone Active, took part in the challenge and commented: *"Tackling the National Three Peaks Challenge in support of Dementia UK has been an incredibly meaningful journey for all of us. Dementia is a cause that resonates deeply with our team at Everyone Active, and we are overwhelmed by the generosity of those who have supported us through their donations."*

*"While there is currently no known cure for Dementia and no guaranteed method of prevention, research suggests that maintaining a healthy lifestyle, which includes regular physical activity, may play an important role in protecting against the onset of the condition or delaying its progression."*

*"We hope to raise awareness about the positive impact of an active lifestyle on individuals and families affected by Dementia and we are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to such a worthy cause."*

Dementia is a progressive neurological condition that affects memory, thinking and reasoning skills, posing significant challenges to individuals and their families. In the UK alone, it is estimated that there are 944,000 people living with Dementia, with approximately 70,800 experiencing early-onset symptoms before the age of 65.

The money raised from this challenge will aid Dementia UK in their vital work, providing support to those living with dementia and their families through specialist dementia nurses, helplines, and invaluable resources.

For more information on Everyone Active and their partnership with Dementia UK, please visit <https://www.everyoneactive.com/about-us/our-charity/>

## Have your say on the Health Visiting service in Warwickshire

Anyone interested in health visiting in Warwickshire is invited to take part in a survey to share their views on a new proposal for the health visiting service in Warwickshire.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust (SWFT) have launched a joint public consultation regarding a proposal to enter into a partnership agreement.

People can respond to the consultation via a survey until 30 September 2023, and parents and carers of children aged 0-5 years old and professionals who work with the health visiting service are invited to take part.

The survey is available online at [warwickshire.gov.uk/ask](https://warwickshire.gov.uk/ask)

Health Visiting services support families with children under 5 years old and play a vital role in ensuring children have the best start in life through delivery of the healthy child programme. This includes a series of developmental reviews, immunisations, parent-infant health support and advice and guidance to support parenting and healthy choices.

Warwickshire County Council currently commissions SWFT to deliver the health visiting service. The current arrangements expire on 31 March 2024 presenting an opportunity to consider new ways to offer the service to meet the rising child population and support needs of families. The consultation asks for views on a proposed model with integration of services at the heart of the local health visiting offer where services across the

0-5 years can work more closely to deliver the best outcomes for families. The proposed partnership agreement between WCC and SWFT would improve access to services so that families and children receive the right support, from the right service at the right time.

### Get involved:

- Complete the online survey at: <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/section75>
- Respond in writing to: Warwickshire County Council, Health Visiting Consultation, Shire Hall, Market Place, Warwick, CV34 4RL or by emailing [peoplestrategyandcommissioning@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:peoplestrategyandcommissioning@warwickshire.gov.uk)
- Email [peoplestrategyandcommissioning@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:peoplestrategyandcommissioning@warwickshire.gov.uk) or telephone Warwickshire County Council Customer Service Centre on 01926 410410 who will direct you to the Family Wellbeing team for support, this includes:
  - > Requesting a paper copy of the survey.
  - > Assistance in completing the survey online.
  - > Providing the survey in another language format.



## Lench Meadows to become Local Nature Reserve

**Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet has agreed to support the designation of Lench Meadows as a Local Nature Reserve and be managed for wildlife for the long-term future.**

The designated area runs from Fisherman's car park alongside the river to behind the Crowne Plaza into a local nature reserve.

In 2020, Stratford-on-Avon District Council working with Stratford-upon-Avon Town Trust secured a grant from the Better Building fund to improve the area and have worked together to transform the area with new paths and bridges to provide better access as well as landscape and habitat works.

Cllr Susan Juned, Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council said: *"Designating the site as a Local Nature Reserve will provide multiple benefits. Local Nature Reserves protect and support habitats and wildlife and contribute to the overall Green Infrastructure network in an area.*

*"Increasing access to good quality areas of green space also benefits the local community. This is a valued natural space which will now have a secure future for both residents and wildlife.*

*"The designation of Lench Meadows also aligns with the current Council Plan by enhancing and protecting the natural assets of the District and responding to the climate emergency declared by increasing climate change adaptation and increasing carbon sequestration."*

The District Council will now make a submission to Natural England for formal consultation on the Local Nature Reserve designation.



## UBUS



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01789 264491

@UBUS@stratford-dc.gov.uk

If you live in an area with limited public transport or you struggle to use public transport because of mobility or health issues then **UBUS** could be for you.

**UBUS** is a dial-a-ride service for people of all ages in the **Stratford-on-Avon District**, operating between **9:30am and 7:00pm, Monday to Friday**.

supported by



## SAVE TIME

### 2 NEW SERVICES FOR ALL RESIDENTS

Did you know you can now claim Housing Benefit online. Go to [www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk)

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## Council Tax Help

**Are you, or someone in your household, living with:**

- a degenerative brain disorder such as Alzheimer's
- a learning disability
- other kinds of dementia
- a severe stroke
- severe or chronic mental illness

**and are entitled to one of the following benefits:**

- Employment Support Allowance
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- increased Disability Pension
- Personal Independence Payments (PIP)
- Income Support that includes a disability premium
- the care component of high or middle rate Disability Living Allowance
- Constant Attendance Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit

**then you may be entitled to a Council Tax discount**

**and save money off your Council Tax bill**

For more information please contact Revenues on

01789 260990

@revenues@stratford-dc.gov.uk



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## Stratford District Council meetings

District Council meetings can be accessed and viewed using the link from the front page of the agendas.

| Date                  | Time    | Meeting                         |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| Monday 2 October      | 10.00am | The Cabinet                     |
| Wednesday 11 October  | 6.00pm  | Planning                        |
| Monday 16 October     | 2.00pm  | Council                         |
| Wednesday 25 October  | 6.00pm  | Planning                        |
| Friday 3 November     | 10.00am | Overview and Scrutiny Committee |
| Monday 6 November     | 10.00am | The Cabinet                     |
| Tuesday 7 November    | 4.00pm  | Climate Change Panel            |
| Wednesday 8 November  | 6.00pm  | Planning                        |
| Wednesday 22 November | 6.00pm  | Planning                        |
| Friday 1 December     | 10.00am | Overview and Scrutiny Committee |
| Monday 4 December     | 10.00am | The Cabinet                     |
| Wednesday 6 December  | 6.00pm  | Planning                        |
| Monday 11 December    | 2.00pm  | Council                         |
| Wednesday 20 December | 6.00pm  | Planning                        |

Go to: [Monthly meetings calendar - October 2023 | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#) to see the District Council meeting calendar

## Need HELP... with the survey for your Plan?

A personalised consultation service is available, totally independent from the Parish, Town or Neighbourhood Plan process in your area.

### Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Consultation & Insight Unit offers you:

- > Pick and Mix flexible approach
- > Survey design from draft questionnaire to final report
- > Low cost one-stop shop for all your market research needs
- > Data processing via an unconnected, unbiased third party
- > Anonymity assured
- > Work carried out to Market Research Society guidelines

Satisfied clients include Parish Councils from both within and outside Stratford-on-Avon District.



### Feedback received includes:

*"Just wanted to say a big thank you for doing a cracking job on our village survey"*

*"Again thanks to you and your staff for a professional job - and lots of patience!"*

Get professional assistance for your consultation

### Contact Simon Purfield on



01789 260118



[simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk)



[www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk)



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