

County Councillor Report

Butlers Marston Parish Council Meeting 6th August 2026

Crisis and Resilience Fund

The Crisis and Resilience Fund offer emergency help with essential living costs for low-income households after a sudden financial shock.

To ask about support call Warwickshire's Local Welfare Scheme on 0800 408 1448 or 01926 359 182 (Mon-Fri) or

visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/crisisresiliencefund

FIS

Warwickshire's Family Information Service (FIS) provides information, advice and one-to-one support on issues including family relationships, finance, housing, parenting support and more. Learn more:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/directory-record/40/family-information-service

Positive changes coming to NHS Health Checks

Residents will continue to receive NHS Health Checks through their local GP practices. However, from 1 July 2026 the delivery of the service will be moving from Fitter Futures Warwickshire to Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Primary Care. The NHS Health Check programme offers eligible Warwickshire residents aged 40–74, who do not have certain pre-existing health conditions, a free health check every five years. The checks help identify early signs of conditions such as heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and kidney disease, enabling people to access advice, support and treatment to improve their long-term health and wellbeing. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7753/positive-changes-coming-to-nhs-health-checks-in-warwickshire-for-residents-aged-40-74>

Screentime for children

How does screen time affect my child's development?

Your child's brain develops rapidly before age 5 and thrives on play, conversation and connection. While screens are part of daily life, too much can affect sleep and development.

What content is better content?

Young children's brains are stimulated much more easily than adults', so they need content specifically made for them.

Slow-paced content: Slow-paced, predictable content is better for young brains. Fast-paced, over-stimulating social media-style videos may affect how young children learn to concentrate, so it's best to avoid them.

Choose safe content: Use [parental controls](#) to block inappropriate, harmful content. **Avoid social media:** Social media isn't made for young brains, so it should be avoided. **Avoid AI:** Don't let young children use AI toys, tools or chatbots until there's more evidence on how they affect your child. This includes devices or apps such as interactive robots, smart speakers or AI chat apps. For more info visit: <https://orlo.uk/wXQrh>

Improved mental health services for children and young people

A mental health service, called ECHO, was launched on 3 August 2026. The service will provide early support and improved access to community-based mental health care for children, young people and their families so that they can get the help they need before mental health difficulties escalate. Learn more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7908/improved-mental-health-services-for-young-people-in-warwickshire>

New national school profiles service trial

Warwickshire County Council has been chosen by the Department for Education to take part in the trial of its new School Profiles service. The pilot programme, known as School Profiles, will support families applying for secondary school places from September 2026 by bringing together key information about schools in one easy-to-use location. Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7957/warwickshire-selected-to-trial-new-national-school-profiles-service>

Warwickshire Police – We're Listening Campaign

Warwickshire Connected is a free messaging service brought to you by Warwickshire Police, where you can tell them about your priorities and be the first to hear the facts about any incidents and emergencies near you. Join today: <https://survey.warwickshireconnected.com/Survey/REGISTRATION/985BF47BF2E1F338BE4B4D9712A944AD>

Operation Etone

Warwickshire County Council and its partners have carried out the largest co-ordinated operation of its kind in the county to tackle the illegal trade of tobacco and vapes. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7967/operation-etone-cracks-down-on-high-street-dodgy-shops->

Private seller car buying scam warning

Warwickshire County Council is warning residents who are selling their cars privately to be alert to fraudsters posing as genuine car buyers. Anyone who has been approached by suspected fraudsters should report the incident to Warwickshire Trading Standards through the **Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline** on **0808 223 1133**. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7905/trading-standards-warns-of-car-buyer-scam-targeting-private-sellers->

Spotting online scams

Scams don't all look the same. Some start quickly; some build up over time. That makes them hard to spot. Scams can look convincing and feel normal. They can start with a message, an advert, a phone call or something that appears genuine. So, when you're asked to pay, take a moment. Stop. Check. Before you pay. Find more advice: <https://centsa.org.uk/campaigns/customer-resources-scams/>

Summer safety

Protect your skin by keeping an eye on your moles. Keen an eye out for changes to your skin. Check for: A new mole, lump, or growth Changes in size, shape, or colour of existing moles or freckles If you notice anything unusual, contact your GP. Early detection matters.

Hybrid booking system at HWRCs

Warwickshire County Council has announced that a new hybrid booking system will be introduced across its Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs), came into effect on Monday, 20 July 2026. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7866/new-hybrid-booking-system-for-household-waste-recycling-centres>

Return to school – healthy routines, 5 ways to wellbeing

Instilling healthy habits from an early age will support your child's learning and development. Get sorted for school with health and wellbeing advice by visiting our webpage: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sortedforschool>

MenB vaccination (Yr13 and under 25s)

If you're in Year 13 (or equivalent), starting university for the first time in 2026 and moving into halls or student accommodation, please book your vaccine early so you're protected before term starts.

All those who are eligible can continue to get first doses until 31 December 2026; they can get their second dose up to 31 March 2027.

If you are an international student looking to come to the UK – you should receive the first dose in your home country (where possible).

Don't wait, please book your vaccine early so you're protected before term starts. For more information, please visit <https://orlo.uk/ESG3C>

To find your nearest pharmacy please visit <https://orlo.uk/63MLL>

National play day (Summer of play)

This summer, we're celebrating National Playday by sharing simple, fun and affordable ways for families to enjoy play across Warwickshire.

From holiday clubs and library activities to country parks, museums and family events, Warwickshire is packed with opportunities to play, explore and make memories together.

Discover what's happening near you and make this your family's Summer of Play. <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7879/helping-families-find-something-to-do-and-somewhere-to-go-this-summer>

Free summer parking at Stratford Park and Ride

Visiting Stratford-upon-Avon? Take advantage of FREE parking offered by the Stratford Park and Ride this summer! Available from 1 August until 31 August.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7895/explore-beautiful-stratford-with-free-parking-at-the-park-and-ride>

Chris Mills

County Councillor

Butlers Marston

Butlers Marston Parish Council

August 2026

District Councillor Report

Stratford-on-Avon District Council by-election result

Five candidates contested the seat for the by-election for the Kinwarton Ward of Stratford-on-Avon District Council on Thursday 9 July 2026.

Kinwarton Ward

Tina Ballinger - Liberal Democrats - 500

Andrew Mark Foster - Labour Party - 28

Rachael Chadwick-Harrison - Reform UK - 231

Janine Ann Lee - Conservative Party - 507 Elected

Lizzee Leedham - Green Party - 128

Turnout: 45.05%

Number of ballot papers issued: 1,394

Turnout for the last contested election at Kinwarton in May 2023 was 43.63%

The electorate for the Kinwarton Ward is 3,094

The current political make-up of the District Council's 41 seats is now:

Liberal Democrats - 24 seats

Conservatives - 10 seats

Green - 3 seats

Independent - 2 seats

Reform UK - 2 seats

Warwickshire on Local Government Reorganisation

North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, Rugby Borough Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Warwick District Council and Warwickshire County Council have responded to the Government's decision to create two unitary councils for Warwickshire.

Under the decision, one unitary council will cover the north of Warwickshire, including North Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth, and Rugby. A second unitary council will cover the south of Warwickshire, including Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick.

The six councils said: "We note the Government's decision to create two unitary councils for Warwickshire.

"We recognise that councils across Warwickshire have held different views on the best structure for local government in the county.

"All six councils have a history of working well together and have been praised by Government for being an area where cooperation is high. We remain committed to continuing to work together constructively and responsibly as we move into the next stage of this process.

"Our shared priority is to make sure residents, businesses and communities continue to receive the services they rely on, and that the move to the new councils is managed carefully and in the best interests of Warwickshire.

"There is now important work to do. We will work closely with Government, partners, our staff and councillors to support a smooth transition and to help shape the best possible future for local services.

Next steps for South Warwickshire Local Plan

At the individual Full Council meetings of Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils that took place on Wednesday 15 July, Councillors gave their recommendation for the next stage of the South Warwickshire Local Plan to be

presented to the public for consultation, following agreed revisions in several key areas.

This Regulation 19 consultation is being undertaken on behalf the Government's Planning Inspector and is focused on specific issues, namely whether the plan meets legal requirements, shows effective joint working between councils and has been properly tested in terms of soundness. It gives residents, businesses and stakeholders the opportunity to have a final say before the document it is submitted to the government for independent examination.

The South Warwickshire Local Plan will guide where new homes, businesses, employment and infrastructure are located across the combined Stratford and Warwick District boundary areas up to 2050. It aims to ensure that development is carefully planned and supported by the necessary infrastructure including roads, schools, health facilities and green spaces to meet the future needs of local communities.

Both Councils have been working on the development of the new South Warwickshire Local Plan since 2021, there has been extensive public engagement at every stage, with the latest Preferred Options consultation in 2025 generating more than 22,000 responses.

The Regulation 19 South Warwickshire Local Plan consultation will run for seven weeks from Tuesday 21 July to Tuesday 8 September 2026.

Members of the public are encouraged to respond online via the South Warwickshire Local Plan Consultation Portal where possible.

Representations can also be emailed to swlp@warwickdc.gov.uk, or posted to the South Warwickshire Local Team, Stratford-upon-Avon District, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6HX.

Printed copies of the consultation will be made available at the locations listed below.

Following the consultation, the plan is scheduled to be submitted to the Secretary of State by 31 December 2026, in line with Government deadlines.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon

Warwick District Council, Town Hall, The Parade, Leamington Spa

Alcester Library, Globe House, Priory Road, Alcester

Bidford Community Library, Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon

Harbury Community Library, The Wight School, High Street, Harbury

Henley Community Library, Henley-in-Arden

Kenilworth Library, Smalley Place, Kenilworth

Kineton Community Library, Mill St, Kineton

Leamington Spa Library and Information Centre, Royal Pump Rooms, Parade, Leamington Spa

Lillington Library and Information Centre, Valley Road, Lillington

Shipston-on-Stour Library, 12 Church Street, Shipston-on-Stour

Southam Library, Tithe Place, High Street, Southam

Stratford-upon-Avon Library, 12 Henley Street, Stratford-upon-Avon

Studley Community Library, Studley Village Hall, High Street, Studley

Warwick Library and Information Centre, Shire Hall, Warwick

Wellesbourne Library and Information Centre , Kineton Road Wellesbourne

Whitnash Civic Centre and Library Acre Close, Whitnash

Brunswick Healthy Living Centre, 98-100 Shrubland St, Leamington Spa

Hockley Heath Parish Council, The Pavilion, Hockley Heath Recreation Ground, Old Warwick Road, Hockley Heath

Stratford-on-Avon District Council adopts interim planning approach to support housing delivery

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has adopted an Interim Policy Position Statement to help increase housing delivery while ensuring that new

development is directed to sustainable locations, supported by appropriate infrastructure and high-quality design.

The interim approach has been introduced in response to the current planning context, which includes a shortfall in housing land supply and the period before the South Warwickshire Local Plan is adopted.

Earlier this year, changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) reinforced the requirement for local planning authorities to support the delivery of additional homes. In response, the District Council proactively developed and agreed an Action Plan to boost housing supply. A key commitment within that plan was the preparation of an Interim Policy Position Statement, which was endorsed by Cabinet on 1 June 2026.

Under the interim approach, the District Council will continue to seek development that delivers high-quality places, responds positively to local character and protects the District's valued natural and historic environments.

Developers will be expected to demonstrate that proposals can be supported by the necessary infrastructure, including transport improvements, education provision, healthcare services, green infrastructure and other essential community facilities appropriate to the scale and nature of development.

The Interim Policy Position Statement is designed to provide greater certainty and consistency in planning decision-making while the South Warwickshire Local Plan progresses. It aims to ensure that growth is delivered in the most sustainable locations and in a way that benefits both existing and future communities across Stratford-on-Avon District.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet decisions - 6 July 2026

The decisions from Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet meeting on Monday 6 July.

Support approved for Warm Hubs

Following a Notice of Motion, Cabinet approved a £25,000 grant fund to help support Warm hubs across the District following the closure of the Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC). The funding will help community organisations continue providing welcoming spaces for residents, particularly those at risk of social isolation or fuel poverty, while longer-term options for support are developed alongside partners. Additionally, over £200,000 is being invested in community hubs over the next five years.

Funding agreed for Free Trees for Farmers

Cabinet approved £72,400 from the Council's Climate Change Reserve to enable Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to deliver the fourth and fifth rounds of the Free Trees for Farmers scheme. The initiative has already led to more than 29,000 trees being planted across the District, helping to boost biodiversity, improve climate resilience and support natural flood management, as well as support rural and agricultural businesses.

Infrastructure projects move forward

An updated Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Infrastructure List was approved, allowing a range of transport, healthcare, community, leisure, flood management and active travel projects to be considered for future Strategic CIL funding. The approved list will help inform future investment decisions to support growing communities across the District.

Action agreed on privately managed public open spaces

Cabinet endorsed recommendations arising from a cross-party Task and Finish Group examining privately managed public open spaces, flood alleviation schemes and estate roads. Measures include the development of guidance for residents and parish councils, councillor training, improved monitoring

arrangements and increased support for communities considering the adoption of public open space.

Health and wellbeing strategy endorsed

Members approved the Warwickshire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2026-2031. The strategy focuses on improving mental health and wellbeing, tackling poverty and inequalities, and encouraging physical activity, while addressing specific health priorities across South Warwickshire.

Financial and performance matters approved

Cabinet also approved a number of financial and governance reports, including capital and revenue budget monitoring, capital programme updates, treasury management arrangements and budget allocations to support the delivery of Council priorities and ongoing investment in local services.

New funding will help Stratford-on-Avon District Council to tackle the sticky issue of chewing gum on streets

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has successfully obtained a grant of £2,250 from the Chewing Gum Task Force, administered by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, to help clean up chewing gum and reduce chewing gum littering.

The District Council is one of 50 local authorities across the country that have successfully applied to the Chewing Gum Task Force, now in its fifth year, for funds to clean chewing gum off pavements and prevent it from being littered in the first place.

The clean-up operations will be carried out in targeted areas of Stratford-upon-Avon and Southam by the Council's street cleansing contractor, Biffa Waste Services, in August 2026 using specialist cleansing equipment.

The Chewing Gum Task Force grant scheme is open to councils across the UK who wish to clean up chewing gum in their local areas and invest in long-term behaviour change to prevent it from being dropped in the first place.

In the past four years, the Chewing Gum Task Force has awarded grants worth a total of £6.46 million, funding the cleaning of over 4.15 million square metres of pavements.

Monitoring and evaluation carried out by Behaviour Change - a not-for-profit social enterprise - has shown that in areas that benefitted from funding, a reduced rate of chewing gum littering of up to 86% was seen in the first two months.

Reductions were still being observed six months after targeted street cleansing and the installation of specially designed signage to encourage people to bin their chewing gum.

According to Keep Britain Tidy, around 77% of England's streets and 99% of retail sites are stained with chewing gum.

Beat the heat - stay safe in Warwickshire!

Residents across Warwickshire are being urged to take extra care as the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and the Met Office have issued a Health Alert for the West Midlands.

While the warm weather may be welcome, prolonged high temperatures can pose serious risks that can affect everyone, not just those who are usually more vulnerable (i.e. older people, young children, and those with underlying health conditions). Everyone is encouraged to take simple steps to protect themselves and to check in on others.

During the hot weather, it is important to:

Drink plenty of fluids, particularly water, throughout the day. Check the list of water refill stations across Stratford-on-Avon District [here](#).

Avoid drinking too much alcohol, caffeine, or sugary drinks as they can make you more dehydrated

Look out for warning signs of heat stroke which includes a headache and disorientation

Stay out of the sun during the hottest part of the day (11am to 3pm)

Wear light, loose-fitting clothing and apply sunscreen when going outside

If you're at home

Keep your living space cool by closing curtains or blinds on windows that face the sun

Open windows when temperatures drop, especially overnight

Use fans where possible, ensuring rooms are well ventilated

Hot weather can affect people in different ways, so checking-in on others is especially important. A simple phone call or visit can help ensure that older neighbours or relatives, babies and young children, and those with long-term health conditions are coping in the heat, staying hydrated and keeping cool.

For more information on staying safe in hot weather:

Preparing for a heatwave: advice from Warwickshire Resilience Forum

Community Fire Safety: advice from Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service

NHS - Dehydration: guidance on recognising symptoms and when to get help

NHS - Heatwave: how to cope: advice for families, young children, and older people

GOV.UK - Beat the Heat: practical tips for staying safe during hot weather

Actions to take to prepare for a power cut: you can report a power cut by calling 105

By taking simple precautions and looking out for one another, Warwickshire communities can stay safe and well during this period of extreme heat.

Cllr Alan Scorer