

Butlers Marston Parish Council

May 2026

District Councillor Report

New Chair for Stratford-on-Avon District Council

On Wednesday 13 May 2026, Stratford-on-Avon District Council held its Annual Council Meeting where Councillor Kate Rolfe handed over the chain of office to Councillor Mike Rice.

During her term of office (May 2025 - May 2026) Councillor Kate Rolfe (Stratford Tiddington) supported Stratford's Eco Workshop CIC, a community interest company who provide purposeful work activities for adults with learning disability and autism and raised over £7,000 - final figure to be confirmed.

This time, Cllr Mike Rice (Henley-in-Arden) has chosen The Shakespeare Hospice and VASA as his charities during his term of office.

His wife, Lorraine will be his Consort during his term of office and Paul Edmondson will be his Chaplin.

Leader and Cabinet for Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet for the new municipal year was agreed at the Annual Council meeting on Wednesday 13 May.

Leader - Strategic Leadership - Cllr Susan Juned

Deputy Leader and Planning and Economic Development Portfolio - Cllr George Cowcher

Law and Governance Portfolio - Cllr Natalie Gist

Environment and Neighbourhood Services Portfolio - Cllr Lorraine Grocott

Resources Portfolio - Cllr David Curtis

Housing and Customer Services - Cllr Liz Coles

Projects and Communications - Cllr Louis Adam

Apology statement

Following recent press coverage regarding a recording at a public meeting in relation to the South Warwickshire Local Plan called by Councillors, the statement below has been issued by Councillor Louis Adam to provide clarification and address the matters raised.

"I would like to apologise for not making it clear at the outset that I had made a recording of the meeting in question. I recognise that being more open at the time would have helped avoid any misunderstanding.

"I regret any concern this may have caused to colleagues or members of the public and remain committed to working positively with all parties. I hope that by offering this public apology, the matter can now be considered closed and that we can move forward in a constructive way."

Free memberships for people with Parkinson's in Stratford-on-Avon District

Free gym memberships are being offered by local leisure centres to people living with Parkinson's.

Stratford Leisure Centre, Southam Leisure Centre, Shipston Leisure Centre, Studley Leisure Centre and The Greig Leisure Centre in Alcester, run by award-winning operator Everyone Active in partnership with Stratford-on-Avon District Council, offer the initiative co-designed with the charity Parkinson's UK.

Now in its fifth year, the Everyone Active and Parkinson's UK free membership provides access to gym, swim and group exercise classes, as well as online Synergy Dance classes.

A free membership will also be given to up to three carers to provide additional support if needed.

Currently, Everyone Active supports 96 individuals in Stratford-on-Avon District with Parkinson's.

World Parkinson's Day, which took place on Saturday 11 April 2026, raises awareness of the progressive neurological condition that currently has no cure.

Parkinson's affects around 145,000 people in the UK and there are more than 40 symptoms, from tremor and pain to anxiety.

Being physically active can play an important role in living well with Parkinson's. Those living with the condition can find various activities, such as swimming, walking and dance, beneficial in managing their symptoms.

For further information or to join, visit:

www.everyoneactive.com/promotion/parkinsons

Those with underlying health conditions such as heart problems, diabetes or breathing issues should contact their GP before starting any new activity.

Fast and accessible sport of padel coming to Stratford Leisure Centre

The world's fastest-growing sport is coming to Stratford Leisure Centre, with work poised to begin on the installation of three padel courts.

Everyone Active is partnering with padel centre operator PadelStars to construct the courts at the centre, which is run by award-winning operator Everyone Active and Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

The new padel courts will sit next to the existing outdoor courts, replacing the 2G Multi-Use Games Area. Customers will have access to three football courts and three padel courts by the end of the project. There will be two doubles courts for padel and one singles court.

Construction begins toward the end of May, with courts for matches and training expected to open by June.

Padel is a racquet sport mainly played in a doubles format that combines elements of tennis and squash.

Originating in Mexico, the sport is now booming in the UK, with more than 850,000 people playing in 2025, up from just 15,000 in 2019, and the number of courts growing from just 87 in 2020 to now more than 1,500 nationwide.

Padel uses the same scoring system as tennis but is played with different racquets and lower pressure balls.

Cllr Alan Scorer

County Councillor Report

Butlers Marston Parish Council Meeting 20th May 2026

Raising of threat level to severe

The Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board are sharing this statement from Warwickshire Police on the raising of the terrorism threat level to severe.

Deputy Chief Constable, Ben Smith said:

“You will have seen in the news that the UK terrorism threat level has been increased from substantial to severe – meaning an attack in the UK is highly likely.

“This change comes following a series of recent incidents targeting Jewish communities in London, and our thoughts very much remain with all those impacted by these horrific attacks. “The raise in threat level will no doubt be a cause of significant concern. I therefore wanted to give some information and reassurance about what this means for us all here in Warwickshire.

“The change in the threat status is in response to those recent events and is a precautionary measure, not based on any specific threat.

“But we do all need to be vigilant.

“Warwickshire Police will continue to be visible in our communities, and will be working with partner agencies, local businesses, and faith groups to share information and advice on security, what to be on the look-out for and how to report any concerns.

“Communities defeat terrorism, and we are asking you, the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police.

“Your support is essential, and communities across the country continue to show they stand together against anyone who tries to divide them.”

If you do see anything that doesn't feel right, please report it via www.gov.uk/ACT. In an emergency, always call 999.

More information about what to do if you are concerned about the behaviour of someone close to you can be found on the <https://actearly.uk> website, including how to spot the signs of radicalisation and where to go for support.

Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/news/warwickshire/news/2026/may/raising-of-threat-level-to-severe--statement-from-deputy-chief-constable-ben-smith>

Warwickshire County Council AGM

Key appointments and several important items of Council business were agreed at the Annual General Meeting of Warwickshire County Council, held on 14 May 2026. During the meeting, councillors approved the new Council Plan, Recalibrating Warwickshire 2026-30, which sets out the Council's strategic direction and priorities over the next four years. The Plan will guide Council activity and decision-making, supported by a Council Delivery Plan and Performance Management Framework to ensure progress is monitored and outcomes are achieved. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7634/key-appointments-and-decisions-confirmed-at-warwickshire-county-council-agm>

Strengthening local social care and health support

Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet has endorsed an £80.1 million plan to support residents to live healthier, more independent lives for longer. Find out more: The Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2026/27 continues to bring together NHS and council funding to make health and social care services in

Warwickshire simpler to access, better coordinated and more focused on prevention.

Funding through the BCF directly supports older people, disabled residents and those with long-term or more complex health conditions by providing care and support closer to home.

This may include:

Help to remain independent at home for longer

Faster, better-coordinated support when people return home from hospital

Adaptations to homes that make everyday living safer and easier

Joined-up local services so individuals don't have to repeat their story or navigate multiple organisations

By supporting people earlier and in the right setting, the funding also helps to reduce unnecessary hospital stays and avoid long term care where it's needed.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7621/cabinet-endorses-80-million-plan-to-strengthen-local-social-care-and-health-support-in-warwickshire>

Enhancing school facilities in Warwickshire

£1.66 million in funding has been announced to deliver improvements to safeguarding, accessibility, and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities provision within Warwickshire's schools. A £1.66 million addition to the 2026/2027 Education Capital Programme was approved at the latest meeting of Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet.

The funding will be used to deliver improvements to safeguarding, accessibility, and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision, with a significant focus on reducing travel times for vulnerable students. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7626/significant-investment-agreed-to-enhance-school-facilities-and-specialist-education-provision>

Safe and Active Schools Awards 2026

Warwickshire's Road Safety Education Team is busy preparing for the County Council's Safe and Active Schools Awards 2026. These awards, now in their third year, celebrate the dedication of schools that go above and beyond to support safer, healthier and more active journeys for their pupils.

Building on the success of previous years, this year's awards will once again bring together Safe and Active School Champions, pupils, road safety partners and colleagues to recognise the commitment, creativity and impact of schools working to keep children safe and active on their journeys to and from school. The awards programme continues to grow, with over 110

primary schools now actively engaged in Warwickshire's road safety education offer. The programme supports pupils to develop the practical skills they need to travel safely and sustainably, addressing key issues such as distraction, peer influence and impulse control, while encouraging using more active modes of travel. Find out more about this event:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7633/warwickshire-county-council-looks-ahead-to-2026-safe-and-active-schools-awards>

Support available for families awaiting ADHD assessments

Parents and carers in Warwickshire whose children or young people are waiting for an ADHD assessment are being reminded that help and support are available without the need for a formal diagnosis. Warwickshire County Council and partners recognise that waiting for an assessment can be a stressful and uncertain time for families. Work is continuing across the county to improve waiting times, with partners committed to making progress as quickly as possible.

In the meantime, families do not have to wait for an assessment or diagnosis for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), to access support. A wide range of advice, guidance and practical help is available, including:

Family Support

- [Children and Family Centres](#) offer flexible support for families with young people aged 0-19 (or up to 25 years with additional needs).
- [IMPACT SEND Youth Forum](#) provides an opportunity for young people aged 13-25 years with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) to have their say and influence support in Warwickshire.

Advice and Signposting

- [Warwickshire Local Offer](#) - Here you'll find help, advice and information about the services available to support children and young people with SEND, from birth to age 25.
- [Warwickshire SENDIAS](#) - provides independent advice and support around various topics relating to SEND for children and young people aged 0-25 living in Warwickshire and their parents or carers.
- [Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice \(WPCV\)](#) - is an independent, parent carer led organisation for anyone with a child or children with SEND aged 0-25. WPCV ensure parent carers are involved when designing services for children, young people and their families.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7628/support-available-for-families-awaiting-adhd-assessments-in-warwickshire->

Cost of living webpages

Are you struggling with the increasing cost of living? Signposting and support is available here: <https://www.costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk/> For more information, visit the [Crisis and Resilience Fund pages](#) or call 0800

4081448 or 01926 359182.

Emergency contacts

Do you know who to contact in an emergency?

You can find your key contacts near you on the Warwickshire Resilience Forum website. Risks being: Industrial Accidents & Major fires, Cyber Attacks, Emerging Infectious Diseases, Extreme Cold Weather, Heatwave & Drought, Animal Disease, Loss of Gas or Electricity, Malicious Attacks, Pandemics and Flooding. Pick a risk and pop in your postcode at <https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/emergency-contacts/>, and find out who's here to help where you are.

Chris Mills

County Councillor

Butlers Marston