

LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT - MARCH 2025

The Parish Council met on Monday 13th February 2025. It has been a galvanising time for the village with the South Warwickshire Local Plan released and a well-attended meeting on 18th January at Lapworth Village Hall and on 1st March at Rowington Village Hall. I must congratulate the people of Lapworth for their interest and passion in this and for all those who sent your comments to the SWLP. A special thank you to Lucy Pickard at savelapworth.com for collating, sharing and making the reams of information simpler for all to understand.

Elsewhere, you will not be surprised to learn that speeding traffic on the roads of Lapworth is one of the constant topics discussed at monthly Parish Council meetings. Funding for speed-calming measures (including traffic speed cameras and signs) is extremely limited and is directed to sites that have significantly higher rates of road accidents and injuries than here.

Despite this, the Parish Council wanted to be proactive and so, with the full backing of Warwickshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, formed Lapworth Community Speed Watch. Local volunteers monitor traffic speeds at certain sites within the village and drivers exceeding the speed limit by a set margin have their number plates recorded and passed to the Police (they have a number of sanctions available from an initial letter to remind drivers of the danger to pedestrians and other road users of excess speed, right up to a personal visit from a Police Officer and potentially even further sanctions).

Lapworth Community Speed Watch have been running for nearly three years now and, despite their great efforts, the number of speeding drivers recorded has increased by 20% in that time. For that reason, more volunteers are needed so that they can be visible as much as possible. During a monitoring session, the number of people who stop to talk to and thank them for their efforts is confirmation of the support that they have in the village. Please contact The Clerk at the email below to help out.

The Friends of Lapworth Station (FOLS) continue to work with Chiltern and Network Rail to improve the station. New posters promoting the National Trust properties and the Canal and River Trust have appeared. Network Rail have also erected fencing and a gate to the third platform area and given FOLS the licence to start improving the area. It is hoped that it will be an attractive, biodiverse and environmentally interesting area for the school and other local groups to use in due course. Most recently Network Rail have repainted much of the bridge and replaced the treads on the steps. Next up will be buying and planting ready for summer.

As always, support with volunteer time or financial contributions are much appreciated by FOLS – please email The Clerk.

Finally, do visit the Council's website at www.lapworth-pc.gov.uk as well as our friends at lapworth.org for more about our great village.

The next meeting of Lapworth Parish Council will take place on Monday 14th April 2025 at 7:30pm. Minutes and Agendas for meetings are on the Parish Council website www.lapworth-pc.gov.uk Parish Clerk: Richard Lucas (email: clerk@lapworth-pc.gov.uk and tel: 01564 660141).