

Ordinary Meeting of Lapworth Parish Council

Monday 9th February, 2026. 7-30pm BST.

at Lapworth Village Hall.

Minutes:

Present: Cllr Henderson (Chairman), Cllr Rees, Cllr Cole, Cllr Beaver and the Clerk (R. Lucas).

Others Present: Cllr Stevens (WCC) and Cllr Hales (WDC).

Public: 4 + 2 invited guests.

1. **To receive and approve apologies. for absence submitted to the Clerk:** Cllr Petrov, Cllr Hall and Cllr Chatwin (all LPC). Cllr Aizlewood and Cllr Armstrong (WDC) sent apologies which were **approved**.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None received.

3. **Dispensations:** None received.

4. **Minutes:** It was resolved to **approve** and sign minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Lapworth Parish Council of 12th January 2026. The minutes were **approved** without amendment.

5. **Public Participation:**

W/25/1709 - Land South of Aylesbury Road – up to 330 dwellings:

2 x invited representatives from the developer attended and provided an overview of the outline planning application. Key points included:

The application is submitted in outline, with all matters reserved except access. Indicative layouts show development set back from Aylesbury Road to create a landscaped “green boulevard” effect. Should outline consent be granted, a Reserved Matters application would follow with detailed layouts, house types and landscaping. A consultation website has been established and will continue to be updated. The site forms part of a wider strategic growth location in the emerging Local Plan.

Archaeology:

The developer has instructed an archaeologist to engage with the County Archaeologist and undertake trial trenching (pre-determination), subject to agreement on scope of works.

Highways:

A Transport Assessment has been submitted. Highway capacity and junction

impacts will be reviewed by the County Highways Authority. Any required mitigation would be identified through that process.

Resident Concerns Included:

Proximity of proposed dwellings (c.25 metres) to existing properties and being overlooked. Traffic generation (estimated significant daily vehicle movements). A car-based scheme. Pressure on school places, GP services and local infrastructure. Cumulative impact with developments in neighbouring parishes (especially Hockley Heath). Impact on already-stretched rail and bus services. Questions of sustainability, of green belt and grey belt definitions and the impact on archaeology, ecology, wildlife and biodiversity.

The Chairman stated that no decision has been taken by Lapworth Parish Council prior to this meeting and that any rumours to the contrary were unfounded. The developer clarified that a previous statement regarding “appreciation of transparency” had been misinterpreted as support for the application.

Public participation concluded after an extended 30 minutes (**approved** at the start).

6. Matters arising from previous meetings that are not included on this agenda:

6.1. **Taylor Wimpey - Aylesbury Road development:** The Lapworth Parish Councillors discussed the W/25/1709 - Land South of Aylesbury Road with the developer’s representatives. Key points raised included:

Infrastructure capacity, traffic impact, cumulative cross-boundary development, the scale of development relative to the parish (approx. 40% increase in dwellings), questions of affordable housing delivery and build quality, where is the infrastructure additions to an already nearly full Education and GP provision? Extra pressure on roads throughout the parish, not a 20-minute neighbourhood.

6.2. **Flooding Working Group:** Flooding has been rife in the parish after recent terrible weather. Cllr Cole is attending the next inter-parish Flooding Working Group on Wednesday 11th February 2026.

6.3. **SWLP:** The next update should be available in June/July 2026 and the submission to the inspectorate should be in December 2026 so it will be a short window for consultation.

6.4. **Local Government Reorganisation:** Carried over to the next meeting.

6.5. **Thermal Imaging:**

Action: Cllr Henderson will pass the camera to Cllr Cole and feedback data to the Clerk who will then feedback to WDC.

6.6. **Speed in Lapworth:** There was a crash on the Old Warwick Road on Wednesday 28th January again highlighting the nationwide problem of speeding. LPC continues to do all it can (Nigel Manley will continue to lead the Community Speed Watch and Cllr Stevens will continue to help).

6.7. **Trees opposite Lapworth Garage & Pothole outside Lapworth Wines:** The Clerk and Cllr Stevens met with Mike Newham (WCC) and 5 x birches were planted in the verge. The Clerk has been in touch with the landowner who promises that the pothole will be fixed soon – the bad weather has been a hindrance.

6.8. **Formal Letter to WI regarding the missing painting:** Carried over to the next meeting.

6.9. **Warwickshire's Policing Budget – Online Consultation:** Cllr Henderson provided a slide show of a recent online consultation.

6.10. **Warwickshire Police and Neighbourhood Watch Community Event at Lapworth VH Thursday 29th January:** A good turnout from the residents for a late-notice event and Neighbourhood Watch and PC Tiwary and PCSO Kimber were in attendance. There will be another event soon.

6.11. **Lapworth Community Event:** Cllr Stevens and The Clerk are driving an event to advertise and connect the numerous groups and organisations around Lapworth (WI, Guides, Cricket Club, Moles, Elderberries, LVH, Film Club, Players, Charity etc etc). After an initial brainstorming meeting on Saturday 7th February, it was agreed to move the event back to the afternoon of Saturday May 9th 2026 (2-5pm). Kids, adults and residents new and old will be welcome to attend. There will be another planning meeting on Saturday 28th February.

6.12. **Report on LPC Website:** Deferred to next meeting.

6.13. **Meeting between Councillors from Lapworth and Rowington Parish Councils:** A good first meeting between the Councils and subjects to work on together included getting young people playing football/hockey etc at the Rowington Park and a plan to get older residents together too. Local football coaches would be good to source.

7. Reports for Information:

7.1. **Warwickshire County Council:** Cllr Stevens sent a report for February 2026 - see Appendix B.

7.2. **Warwick District Council:** Cllrs Aizelwood and Armstrong provided a report for February 2026 - see Appendix C.

8. Finance:

The Clerk presented the latest Financial Report. The report showed a total General Reserves balance of Reserves balance of **£25,252.89** on 3rd February 2026 and an expected General Reserves balance of **£24,163.55** once invoices have been processed. The Savings Account balance stood at **£51,335.88**.

8.1. It was **resolved** to approve the following payments:

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT
02/02/26	BACS	Lapworth Village Hall	Room Hire	£22.50
06/02/26	BACS	R Lucas	HW/allowance/expenses	£26.00
06/02/26	BACS	R Lucas	Salary	£800.50
18/01/26	BACS	R Lucas (Virtual Phone	Virtual Landline	£4.50
06/02/26	BACS	HMRC	NIC	£5.86
06/02/26	BACS	R Lucas (storage	Office	£34.29
13/01/26	BACS	R Lucas (5 x reams	Office	£21.49
28/01/26	BACS	Fairways – playground	Grounds	£181.20
			Total	£1,096.34

- The Clerk reported that he is speaking to Moore and WALC to finalise the accounts.
- **Additional** - The Clerk reported that the gross rate for the Instant Access Account at Unity Bank will reduce from 2.1% to 1.95% on 23rd March 2026.
- The monthly account fee for the Current Account at Unity Bank increased from £6 to £7 on 1st February 2026.

8.2. The purchase of 5 x reams of paper for the Clerk @ £21.49 from Amazon was **approved**.

9. Items and correspondence for consideration and decision:

9.1. **Potential Keep Fit Area at Lapworth Village Hall/artificial surface/other ideas:** The Clerk updated the Council that he has been getting prices thanks to Clare Shales but an artificial surface might prove too costly. It was agreed that prices for an outdoor table-tennis table should be explored.

Action: The Clerk to continue collaborating with Clare Shales re: astroturf and to explore pricing of the table-tennis table.

9.2. **School Walk-in Bus:** Carried over to the next meeting.

9.3. **Proposal for commemorative plaques to mark royal events from Pat Fox** -
1. Oak tree on the corner of Old Warwick Road and Lapworth Street, Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee 1897, known as 'The Jubilee Tree'. 2. King George V

Coronation 1911, Ash Tree in Melson Memorial Ground: Carried over to the next meeting.

10. Planning Matters:

10.1. Planning applications for consideration:

10.1.1. W/25/1775 - Ivy House Farm, Grange Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6PR - Proposed improvements to an existing vehicular access onto Grange Road. Lapworth Parish Council are **NEUTRAL**.

10.1.2. W/25/1709 - Land South of Aylesbury Road - Outline planning application for the development of up to 330 residential dwellings, including public open space, landscaping, sustainable drainage features and associated infrastructure. All matters reserved except for access from Aylesbury Road.

Lapworth Parish Council **OBJECT**. Please see **Appendix A** for Lapworth Parish Council reasons for decision.

10.1.3. W/25/1625 - Land adjacent to Tapster Brook Cottage, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 5PE - Change of use of existing storage land to mixed use as residential caravan site for 1 residential pitch to accommodate a Gypsy/Traveller lifestyle, together with the keeping of horses. Lapworth Parish Council are **NEUTRAL**.

10.1.4. W/25/1685 - 12 Fetherston Grange, Glasshouse Lane, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6PX - Erection of single storey front and side extension. Lapworth Parish Council are **NEUTRAL**.

10.1.5. W/25/1625 - Land East of Lapworth Hill, Stratford Road, Lapworth. B94 5PD - Change of use of existing storage land to mixed use as residential caravan site for 1 residential pitch to accommodate a Gypsy/Traveller lifestyle, together with the keeping of horses. Lapworth Parish Council are **NEUTRAL**.

- It was noted that 2 of the applications had the same code (W/25/1625).
Action: The Clerk to report that back to WDC Planning

10.2. Decision notices:

10.2.1. W/25/1116 - Thornwick, Lapworth Street, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 5QS - 12/01/2026 Lapworth Parish Council are NEUTRAL - WDC Decision is GRANTED

10.2.2. W/25/1173 - The Moorings, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6AP - Demolition of existing garage. Single storey and two-story extensions including plans showing fallback position under permitted development.
13/10/2025: Lapworth Parish Council are NEUTRAL - WDC decision: REFUSED.

10.3. Planning Appeal notices: None.

11. Road Closures and Rights of Way:

11.1. PACKWOOD ROAD - will be closed on 13th January 2026 to enable works for urgent replacement of a telegraph pole.

11.2. CHURCH LANE - will be closed to vehicular traffic to enable new electricity supply works from 6th to 9th February 2026.

11.3. VICARAGE ROAD - will be closed 19th January 2026 for Carriageway patching and associated works.

11.4. HOLE HOUSE LANE - will be closed to vehicular traffic between its junctions with Wheatsheaf Lane and Tapster Lane from 26th to 27th January 2026 (0930-1530hrs). This is to facilitate drainage maintenance and associated works.

12. Progress Reports: To receive reports and status updates for the following:

12.1. Lapworth Recreation Sites:

12.2. **Lapworth Train Station Adoption Group:** The 2 x suspect trees came down in the storm in the Community Area and awaiting Network Rail to remove them.

12.3. **Lapworth Village Hall:** It was noted that the new toilets and doors look very good.

12.4. Parish Online:

13. Communications, Openness and Accountability:

13.1. Nextdoor.com:

13.2. Parish noticeboards:

13.3. **Parish Council Website:** 'What's On' and 'Planning' has been added to the website. A 'History Of' will be explored by the Clerk too.

14. Correspondence and Publications received for information/consultation:

14.1. NALC: 14.2. WALC: 14.3. Warwickshire Matters: 14.4. Warwick District Council: 14.5. Warwickshire County Council: 14.6. Warwickshire Police: 14.

7. Rural Services Network: 14.8. CPRE: 14.9. Public Sector Network: 14.

10. West Midland Trains: 14.11. Chiltern Railways: 14.12. Equip:

15. Reports and Questions:

Lapworth Parish Council would like to thank Nigel Manley for his wonderful service for 8 years as Councillor and wish him best wishes and every success for the future.

His leadership of the Community Speed Watch Group has been particularly impressive, and he has kindly offered to continue that role.

16. Date of next meeting: **Monday 9th March, 2026** at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at: 10:10 pm.

Signed:

Cllr Henderson (Chairman)

Date:

APPENDIX A:

Formal Objection to Outline Planning Application

Lapworth Parish Council (LPC) formally objects to the above outline planning application on the following grounds:

1. Insufficient Information to Determine the Application

At the outset, LPC considers that there is inadequate information and supporting detail submitted with this outline application to enable a reasonable and properly informed decision to be made. The level of uncertainty regarding infrastructure provision, cumulative impact, transport modelling and cross-boundary effects renders the application premature and unsound in planning terms.

2. Prematurity in Relation to the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP)

LPC cannot properly evaluate the full impact of this proposal without clarity regarding the next stage of the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP). The emerging allocations, including Site C1 (circa 6,000 dwellings), the SG24 cluster of sites, and additional proposals in Hockley Heath, would collectively place extraordinary pressure on Lapworth Parish.

The cumulative scale of development would significantly strain:

- **Primary and secondary education provision**, including Lapworth Primary School, Henley-in-Arden School and wider catchment schools.

- **Healthcare infrastructure**, including Lapworth Surgery and already stretched regional healthcare facilities.
- **Transport infrastructure**, including local roads and junctions.
- **Utilities infrastructure**, noting that much of the Parish lacks mains sewerage, pavements, gas supply and has constrained drainage and water capacity.
- **Rail provision**, as Lapworth Station offers limited services and very limited parking capacity.

Without understanding how this application aligns with, or is affected by, the SWLP strategy, the proposal is premature and risks prejudicing comprehensive plan-led development.

3. Unsustainable, Car-Dependent Development

This proposal represents a fundamentally car-based development. There is insufficient robust analysis of the likely impact on the local road network, including Glasshouse Lane, Old Warwick Road and surrounding junctions.

Key concerns include:

- An estimated additional 660 vehicles associated with the development.
- No meaningful assessment of impacts on the Warwickshire side of the administrative boundary, despite significant likely effects there.
- Limited and sporadic bus services in Hockley Heath, which cease early evening.
- No regular bus services serving Lapworth Parish.

Given the lack of sustainable transport options, future residents would be heavily reliant on private vehicles, contrary to national and local policy objectives promoting sustainable transport and reducing carbon emissions.

4. Inadequate Social Infrastructure Assessment

The submitted social values study and landscape assessment fail to properly consider the Warwickshire context.

Examples include:

- Reference to a 37-minute walk to Dorridge Surgery, which in reality would necessitate routine car journeys.

- No assessment of travel times to Lapworth Primary School or Lapworth Surgery.
- Inaccurate assumptions regarding secondary school catchments, including reference to Arden School, which is outside the likely catchment area.
- Likely reliance on Heart of England School or Henley-in-Arden School, requiring bus or car travel.

The development cannot credibly be described as a “20-minute neighbourhood.” There has been insufficient collaboration between the applicant and both Warwick and Solihull authorities to establish where approximately 300 school-age children (estimated) would be educated, or how capacity would be delivered.

5. Failure to Address Cumulative Impact

This proposal is one of several current or emerging developments in and around Hockley Heath. LPC strongly considers that assessment of individual sites in isolation fails to capture the true cumulative impact.

A comprehensive, cross-boundary cumulative impact assessment should be undertaken in partnership with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Warwick District Council before any determination is made.

6. Healthcare Provision and NHS Capacity

There is no clarity regarding:

- Which GP surgeries would serve the development.
- Which NHS Trust or hospital(s) would be designated.
- How additional capacity for doctors, dentists and associated healthcare infrastructure would be delivered.

Given that existing services are already under strain, the absence of confirmed healthcare mitigation is a significant omission.

7. Green Belt and Grey Belt Assessment

LPC does not agree with the submitted Grey Belt assessment and strongly maintains that the site performs an important Green Belt function.

The land provides a distinct and valuable break between:

- Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath; and

- Hockley Heath, which acts as a gateway to Solihull.

This separation is fundamental to preventing settlement coalescence and preserving the character and identity of these communities. LPC requests that the Grey Belt designation be independently re-examined and robustly justified.

8. Archaeology

LPC considers that pre-determination archaeological evaluation should be undertaken prior to any decision.

If archaeological remains are identified, appropriate planning conditions must require:

- Proper excavation
- Post-excavation analysis and publication
- Conservation and preservation of artefacts

Generally, archaeology has not been properly regarded, and pre-determination evaluation needs to be done, and recommendations of the County Archaeologist followed.

9. Disproportionate Scale of Development

The addition of 330 dwellings to a parish currently comprising approximately 818 dwellings represents an increase of over 40% in size. This scale of growth is disproportionate and would fundamentally alter the character, infrastructure capacity and social fabric of Lapworth Parish.

Conclusion

For the reasons set out above — including prematurity, insufficient supporting information, unsustainable transport reliance, lack of infrastructure clarity, inadequate cumulative assessment, Green Belt concerns, and the disproportionate scale of development — Lapworth Parish Council objects to this outline planning application.

The proposal is not supported by sufficient evidence to demonstrate that it represents sustainable, policy-compliant development, nor that its impacts can be acceptably mitigated.

Accordingly, LPC respectfully requests that Warwick District Council Planning Authority refuse the application.

APPENDIX B:

Kenilworth Town and Parish Councils-WCC Monthly Report January 2026

Warwickshire County Council Organisational Change

Following recent events, Cllr Edward Harris has resigned his position as WCC Chair, with immediate effect. The members of WCC elected Dale Keeling, on 5th February, to assume role of Chair, with immediate effect. He was previously the Deputy Chair.

Connect with your County Councillor – Regular meeting schedule

Mark Stevens, your County Councillor, representing Lapworth and West Kenilworth division, is available on two occasions each month, to allow residents to catch-up on County matters or to raise any specific concerns, please see the schedule below.

Councillor Connect – Fleur-de-Lys, Lapworth Street, Lowsonford

- **Afternoon – 2pm on the first Tuesday of each month.**
- **Evening – 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month**

All are welcome, just look out for Mark on arrival.

Community Connect Event 9th May – Save The Date

There will be a community event on the afternoon of Saturday 9th May at Lapworth Village Hall. Community organisations will be able to share knowledge and useful information, give tips, give demonstrations and provide signposting to other organisational activities. This will be a great opportunity for residents of all ages to participate in activities on the day, see how they could get more involved or just make new contacts with helpful people, who are doing great things in our communities. Save the date in your calendars.

Keeping warm during low temperatures

Low indoor temperatures can have a serious impact on your health, especially if you have a medical condition or are older. Here are a few tips to keep warm:

- **try to heat rooms you spend a lot of time in, such as the living room or bedroom, to at least 18°C**
- **try to reduce draughts; you can fit draft excluders around doors cheaply**
- **keep your bedroom windows closed at night**
- **wear several layers of thinner clothing; this could keep you warmer than one thicker layer**

For more information visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/keepwarm

Visit www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/extreme-cold-weather/ for more tips on how to be #BetterPrepared.

Warwickshire residents among New Years Honours List

Warwickshire's former Early Years lead and one of its deputy Lord Lieutenants are among the 14 extraordinary Warwickshire people recognised in the King's New Year's Honours list for 2026.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7345/warwickshire-residents-among-new-years-honours-list>

Support available for anyone struggling with alcohol

January is traditionally a time when many people cut back on drinking, but for those struggling with alcohol, it's also a vital opportunity to seek help.

Find out what support is available in Warwickshire:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7348/support-available-for-anyone-struggling-with-alcohol-this-january>

Children's Chickenpox vaccinations

January 2026 saw the introduction of an update to the childhood immunisation schedule, the MMRV vaccine, which now includes protection against chickenpox as well as Measles, Mumps and Rubella.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7347/chickenpox-vaccination-offered-to-children-across-warwickshire-from-january-2026>

Voice of Warwickshire Panel

Looking for a new challenge in 2026?

Warwickshire County Council is inviting residents aged 18+ to join its Voice of Warwickshire panel. Share your views on a wide range of topics and make your voice heard.

Register now: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/voice

Living well webpages

A little bit of activity is a great way to help keep warm, as well as maintain strength and mobility.

Regardless of fitness levels the Living Well webpages have exercises to suit all:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/healthy-ageing>

#livingwell #healthy #exercise #mobility

Childminder recruitment

Do you enjoy working with children and looking for a new challenge in 2026?

Childminders play a vital role in offering caring, home-based environments where children can learn, play and thrive.

Find out more about how to get started in childminding:
<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childcare/become-childminder>

Reablement Assistant recruitment 2026

Do you want to make a real difference to people's lives in 2026?

Warwickshire County Council are currently recruiting Reablement Assistants to join our Social Care and Support service.

Apply today: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7304/do-you-want-to-make-a-difference-to-people-s-lives-in-2026-become-a-reablement-assistant-with-warwickshire-county-council>

How many smoke alarms do you have?

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, as part of the Fire Kills campaign, is asking people to make sure they fit smoke alarms on every level of their home and to test them regularly.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7357/how-many-smoke-alarms-do-you-have->

Grant fund to support local youth projects

The Warwickshire Youth Council Grant Fund is now open!

Up to £5,000 is available for projects supporting young people aged 11–17.

Apply by 8 Feb 2026.

More details: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7364/warwickshire-youth-council-launches-grant-fund-to-support-local-youth-projects>

New homes in Ilmington

A new partnership, between Warwickshire Property & Development Group and Coventry-based Deeley Group, has been formed to deliver around 25 new homes in the village of Ilmington.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7358/development-partner-appointed-to-deliver-new-homes-in-ilmington>

Start-up Programme is Martina's springboard

A Rugby photographer says a regional support programme has not only boosted her business but made her feel like herself again.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7354/start-up-programme-is-martina-s-springboard>

Libraries go all in for National Year of Reading 2026

From crime thrillers to summer reading festivals, libraries across Warwickshire are launching an ambitious programme to make reading irresistible in 2026.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7359/warwickshire-libraries-go-all-in-for-national-year-of-reading-2026>

Loneliness

Loneliness can impact mental and physical health, and older people are most at risk during winter. Warwickshire offers local groups, befriending services, and mental health resources to help you stay connected.

Please visit <https://orlo.uk/4wO1T> and <https://orlo.uk/3yKU9>

Support to stop smoking

People in Warwickshire are being encouraged to make 2026 their smoke free year by accessing free, confidential stop smoking support through GP practices.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7360/support-to-stop-smoking-now-available-through-warwickshire-gp-practices>

Bird flu identified at Ryton Pools Country Park (X and Facebook)

Avian influenza has been identified at Ryton Pools Country Park, and visitors are being asked to take a few simple precautions to protect both wildlife and other park users.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7361/bird-flu-identified-at-ryton-pools-country-park-as-visitors-urged-to-take-precautions>

Rugby business equipped for growth

A small business in Rugby is well-placed for growth after more than a third of its workforce underwent training supported by the Skills Escalator Fund programme.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7363/rugby-business-equipped-for-growth-after-skills-hub-support>

The warmest of welcomes at Warwickshire libraries (X and Facebook)

Warwickshire County Council has been celebrating Warm Welcome Week by highlighting the free and welcoming spaces available across Warwickshire Libraries, helping residents stay warm, connected and supported during the coldest time of the year.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7368/the-warmest-of-welcomes-on-offer-at-warwickshire-s-libraries>

Warwickshire mums work together to support new families

When a Warwickshire mum decided to launch a business to improve the experience of pregnancy, birth and parenthood for other local families, little did she know a neighbour was planning to do the same!

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7365/warwickshire-mums-working-together-to-support-new-families>

Register My Appliance Week 2026

Registering electrical appliances helps to alert owners of safety updates and product recalls, ensuring that appliances in the home are safe and up to date.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7369/improve-the-safety-of-your-home-by-registering-electrical-appliances-this-register-my-appliance-week>

Utility bill support available in Warwickshire

A scheme providing financial assistance to help those who may be struggling with their utility bills this winter is now available for a time limited period.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7370/utility-bill-support-available-through-warwickshire-local-welfare-scheme>

New support for Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance

Support is being rolled out across Warwickshire to help children and young people who are struggling to attend school.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7371/supporting-attendance-and-wellbeing-warwickshire-introduces-new-support-for-emotionally-based-school-non-attendance>

Direct Payments

Did you know that if you provide regular unpaid emotional or physical support to a friend, neighbour, family member or member of the community you might be able to receive a payment from us, to help support you outside of your caring role?

Find out more <https://orlo.uk/5UZC5>

Educational psychologists recognised for literacy work

Two Educational Psychologists, Sarah Crawford and Jo Ward, have received national recognition for their work supporting literacy development in schools across Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7372/educational-psychologists-recognised-for-literacy-work->

Prioritise physical health in 2026

January is often a time when people think about making positive changes, whether that is joining a social group, taking up a new hobby, or looking after their physical health.

Find out how 5-ways to wellbeing can help:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7374/council-encourages-residents-to-prioritise-physical-health-in-2026>

WCC Cabinet – January 2026

Find out what was discussed at the January meeting of Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7385/warwickshire-county-council-cabinet-27-january-2026>

Dedicated Schools Grant for 2026/27

Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet has approved the allocation of the 2026/27 Dedicated Schools Grant, confirming how more than £752 million of government funding will be used.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7382/warwickshire-county-council-agrees-allocation-of-752-million-dedicated-schools-grant-for-2026-27>

Concept Masterplan for the Leamington Spa Parade

A masterplan that will create a vibrant, accessible and thriving environment on and around the Parade in Leamington Spa has been finalised.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7377/concept-masterplan-for-the-parade-in-leamington-spa-finalised->

F40 – Fairer funding for SEND provision

Warwickshire County Council has joined with the f40 group to urge the Government to deliver much needed education reform and fairer funding for schools and for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7376/warwickshire-county-council-backs-national-campaign-for-fairer-funding-and-major-reform-to-send-provision->

Innovative road safety scheme coming to the Fosse Way

Warwickshire County Council has launched a pioneering road safety initiative aimed at tackling inappropriate speeding on rural roads, with a particular focus on the historic Fosse Way.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7383/county-council-launches-innovative-road-safety-scheme-on-fosse-way>

Warwickshire Youth Justice Service rated 'Good'

Warwickshire Youth Justice Service has been rated 'Good' with areas of outstanding practice following a recent inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7379/warwickshire-youth-justice-service-rated-good-by-his-majesty-s-inspectorate-of-probation->

Warwickshire LRF: Sandbag position statement

Did you know Warwickshire's Resilience Forum has published a Sandbag Position Statement? It lays out the ability of each of Warwickshire's local authorities to provide sandbags in case of flooding. Visit <https://orlo.uk/MKrih> to learn the approach for your area.

Living Well Webpages: social connections and support

Warwickshire County Council's Living Well webpages are available to help residents who may be struggling with loneliness or social isolation at the start of the year.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7386/discover-social-connections-and-support-through-warwickshire-s-living-well-webpage>

Have you been a victim of crime?

Have you been affected by crime in Warwickshire? Your voice matters!

Share your experience and help improve local support services.

Give your feedback at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/warkvna/ or text 'WARWICKSHIRE' to 0735 604 9783 to book a confidential interview.

Vaccinations

More than 3 million unvaccinated children are at risk of catching measles in England.

Make sure your child is up to date with their free NHS MMR vaccinations.

To check if you or your child has had the vaccine, ask at your GP surgery.

Go to <https://orlo.uk/H2PBY>

APPENDIX C:

Warwick District Council Report to Parish Councils, Kenilworth Abbey and Arden Ward – February 2026

Warwick District Council Report to Parish Councils, Kenilworth Abbey and Arden Ward – February 2026

1. LGR consultation

The government has opened a consultation into the two local government reorganisation proposals put forward for Warwickshire. The consultation is asking for views on the single, whole Warwickshire, unitary council compared to the two unitary North and South Warwickshire option. If you would like to influence the decision the consultation is open until 26th March 2026.

1. Warm Homes local grant

Further grants are available to help local residents make their homes warmer and decrease their energy bills through adding energy efficiency improvements to their homes. To be eligible residents must:

- Own and live in your home, or rent it privately as a tenant, within Warwick District; and
- Have a gross household income of £36,000 or less per year OR live in an eligible postcode area OR are on means tested benefits **and**
- Live in a home that has an EPC (Energy Performance Certificate) rating of D, E, F or G; if you don't know your home's EPC rating, we will complete one as part of this scheme.
- **District Council budget 26/27**

The council is currently considering budget proposals for the next financial year. These have been released in the latest Cabinet agenda. Key changes include a proposed 2.99% council tax increase and the continuation of the additional fly tipping response team following positive feedback.

Events:

Kenilworth Valentine's market – 14th Feb, Abbey End, Kenilworth

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Please feel free to contact us with any issues or questions on wider Council activity