

**Alderminster Parish Council**

Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
Alderminster Village Hall 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Chris Mason-Bailey

Cllr John Melville

Cllr Mark Meadows

Cllr Lesley Casley

Cllr David Curtis

Cllr Karen Jones

Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: Cllr Izzi Seccombe, Cllr Penny-Anne O'Donnell and twelve members of the public

	<p>Cllr Karen Jones agreed to chair the meeting.</p>	
1	<p><b>Apologies:</b> There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
2	<p><b>Declaration of interests:</b> There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3	<p><b>Questions from the public:</b> A spokeswoman from MEGA said that MEGA and the Village Hall Committee were working on a joint plan for celebrating the King's Coronation. She asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to contribute funding to the project. The Chairman said that they would discuss this at item 6. A resident from the Old Stour expressed his thanks to the PC for arranging a meeting with Cllr Sarah Whalley-Hoggins. He asked if invitations would be extended to the community as a whole. The acting Chairman replied that participation would be limited to those residents bordering the public open space, but the wider community would be kept informed of developments. Residents also raised again the question of ownership of the public open space requesting that the Parish Council should adopt it. The Council reminded residents that it had refused the offer of a commuted sum to adopt the public open space. Another resident asked whether the Council was aware that the Highways authority had jettied the culvert on the main road on the 1<sup>st</sup> March. The Council had not been notified of any work, and Cllr Seccombe agreed to see what information she could find.</p>	
4	<p><b>Minutes of the previous meetings:</b> The minutes of the meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were unanimously agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the acting Chairman.</p>	

5	<p><b>Flowers for planters:</b> It was agreed to authorise the sum of £367.20 for artificial plants for the three village planters.</p>	
6	<p><b>King's Coronation:</b> The Council agreed in principle to award the sum of £600 towards the celebrations for the Coronation. The sum would be authorised at an extraordinary meeting later. That meeting would also decide whether to purchase Coronation mugs for the children of the village.</p>	
7	<p><b>ANPR:</b> There had been further vandalism in the Blue Lane lay-by. The community police officer and the Rural Crime Officer from Stratford District Council had suggested investigating the possibility of installing ANPR to assist in identifying the perpetrators. ANPR had been installed in Claverdon and the clerk had contacted the parish clerk for advice. He had said that each camera cost in the region of £2,000. Electricity costs also needed to be considered. The system had also been installed in Barston and had resulted in three successful prosecutions for fly tipping. He suggested that councillors visit Barston to see how the system operated. It was agreed that the Council would investigate the possibilities.</p>	
8	<p><b>Bus shelter cleaning:</b> It was resolved to accept the quote of £120 for cleaning the three bus shelters.</p> <p>Cllr Seccombe left the meeting at 8.25 pm.</p>	
9	<p><b>Councillors' reports:</b> There were no reports to be made.</p>	
10	<p><b>District and County Councillors' reports:</b> Cllr O'Donnell's reports from the District and the County Council are attached at Appendix A. She also advised the Council that Cllr Seccombe had agreed to pay for the replacement of the railings along the old main road out of her County Councillor grant fund. As the cost would be in the region of £40,000 it would be funded over two years. The Council expressed its thanks to Cllr Seccombe.</p>	
11	<p><b>Clerk's updates:</b> The clerk had also received notification that the railings along the old main road would be replaced. Thanks had been received from Alderminster Parochial Church Council for the grant towards the lighting of the clock. A request had been received from CRUSE asking for volunteers to help in the bereavement service.</p>	
12	<p><b>Planning applications:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) 23/000921/LDE Spurshill Barn, Shipston Road, Alderminster: application for verification that use of Spurshill Barn holiday let as a dwelling house for a continuous period of at least ten years is lawful development. No representation was made to this application.</li> </ul>	

	<p>And to note the results of the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) 22/03650/FUL Sunnysdale, New Road: permission granted for single storey extensions to rear and side, new porch and bay window to front and external alterations.</li> </ul>																													
13	<p><b>Accounts for payment and finance matters:</b>  The following payments were approved and authorised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Alderminster Parochial Church Council (grant for lighting) - £330.00</li> <li>ii) Clerk's salary (January) - £**</li> <li>iii) HMRC (income tax) - £**</li> <li>iv) HSBC (bank charges) - £8.00</li> <li>v) HSBC (bank charges) - £8.00</li> <li>vi) Clerk's salary (February) - £**</li> <li>vii) HMRC (income tax) - £**</li> <li>viii) Maria Norman (office supplies) - £5.48</li> </ul> <p>The acting Chairman signed the supporting documentation.</p>																													
14	<p><b>Correspondence:</b>  Email from The Old Stour group.</p>																													
15	<p><b>Items for future agenda:</b>  Plans for the Coronation.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.</p>																													
	<p><b>Appendix A</b></p> <p>District Councillor Update 15.3.23.  Council Tax  SDC is raising the council tax by £5 (3.2%) based on a category D property therefore to £159.12.  Whilst SDC issue the Council Tax statements and are responsible for collecting all revenues on behalf of Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police, the district council's share of the council tax represents around 7% of the total monies collected.  Stratford District continues to have the lowest levels of Council Tax across Warwickshire. The levels of Council Tax to be charged by the other Borough/District Councils in the county for a Band D property in 2023/24 are:</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>2022/23</th> <th>2023/24</th> <th>Increase</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>North Warwickshire</td> <td>£222.30</td> <td>£228.86</td> <td>£6.56 2.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nuneaton and Bedworth</td> <td>£248.51</td> <td>£255.94</td> <td>£7.43 2.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rugby</td> <td>£204.72</td> <td>£210.84</td> <td>£6.12 2.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stratford</td> <td>£154.19.12</td> <td>£5.00</td> <td>3.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Warwick</td> <td>£176.86</td> <td>£176.86</td> <td>Nil Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Upper Lighthorne GP Services</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>I have been involved in the lobbying activities for standalone GP and Health services in Upper</p>	2022/23	2023/24	Increase	%	North Warwickshire	£222.30	£228.86	£6.56 2.95	Nuneaton and Bedworth	£248.51	£255.94	£7.43 2.99	Rugby	£204.72	£210.84	£6.12 2.99	Stratford	£154.19.12	£5.00	3.24	Warwick	£176.86	£176.86	Nil Nil	Upper Lighthorne GP Services				
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Lighthorne and have been working closely with Cllr Andy Smith of Lighthorne PC in this respect and as a conduit with SDC. Following a meeting that SDC set up with the parishes and the Integrated Care Board it was agreed that a new GP practice be developed in Upper Lighthorne which would relieve pressures on the surrounding GP facilities. Pressure on the ICB is being continued and SDC has appointed a project manager to develop the timescales and manage its development from an SDC and planning perspective.

#### SWLP Consultation

Hopefully you will have been able to navigate the complexities of this consultation and answered those questions of interest as the public consultation on the options and opportunities for housing development concluded yesterday. According to the Head of Development there appears to have been excellent levels of response to this consultation.

#### Economic Development Strategy

The draft South Warwickshire Economic Development Strategy has been launched for public consultation and sets out the priorities for how SDC and WDC wish to support the economy.

#### Whilst

there is no legal requirement for local authorities to prepare economic strategies both SDC and WDC recognize the importance of doing so. This has been produced to provide evidence in the preparation of the South Warwickshire Local Plan.

#### Wellesbourne University Innovation Campus Framework Masterplan SPD

Cabinet has approved the go ahead of the publication for this document which is designed to attract innovative new businesses and encourage economic growth delivering high calibre jobs for local people. This is also out for public consultation and the links can be found on SDC's website.

#### Wellesbourne Airfield Update

The future of Wellesbourne Airfield has been protected and is to benefit from enhanced flying functions, generating economic growth and safeguarding jobs.

Equally welcome to local residents is that there is now NO HOUSING planned for the development of

the airfield, which I have actively campaigned for over the last eight years.

Plans for the proposed Code2 runway are currently with the Civil Aviation Authority for review and

the new runway will have the same operating length as its existing 917m one, which is suitable for small commercial aircraft for business travel.

Stratford District Council will continue to be extensively involved in the development of the airfield

by Stoford which is looking to invest a £multi-million sum into the airfield, improving the existing

facilities and plans for the development of high-tech and innovative industries. In view of the progress to date there could be a planning application in by the end of the summer. This site could

create 4-5,000 highly skilled jobs over the next 5-7 years which would be a great result for Wellesbourne and the District as a whole.

The protection and planned enhancement of the airfield has only been made possible by extensive

legal initiatives and negotiations with the owners and their developer partners by Stratford District Council, which has also involved the necessary finance and complex preparation to enforce a Compulsory Purchase Order to protect the operation of the airfield if required.

#### Local Authority Housing Fund

SDC has been allocated £2.35m of support for its refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine from the

Government's £500m Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) which will be used to provide an additional 17 homes in the district both to accommodate refugees in the short term and provides a

welcome boost to the district's capacity for affordable housing in the longer term. Platform Housing

Group has been identified as the preferred partner to help the Council deliver these new homes

which are to be purchased.

#### Electric Vehicle Infrastructure in South Warwickshire

SDC will be carrying out a feasibility study in partnership with WDC to help inform the future infrastructure for Electric Vehicle charging across the districts. The study will build on the report

considered last year which identified the number of charging facilities that may be required and will

investigate how these could be implemented. In a nutshell this will be looking at making sure that

the location of chargers are in well-lit locations and addresses issues surrounding accessibility to

cater for the needs of all users.

#### VOTER ID

Villagers are urged to make sure they understand the new rules which require voters to show photographic ID before voting in this year's local elections on 4 th May.

The requirement to show photo ID at the polling station was introduced by the UK Government's

Elections Act, which was passed last year and comes into effect for the first time this May.

Anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID will be able to apply for free ID online

here, in person at Stratford District Council, or by completing a paper form. The deadline for applying is 5pm on Tuesday, April 25.

Acceptable forms of ID include:

- a passport
- a driving licence (including a provisional one)
- an older persons or disabled persons bus pass
- a Blue Badge
- a biometric immigration document
- an ID card issued by an EEA state
- an ID card bearing the proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a Pass Card).

Voters will be able to use an expired ID if the photo still looks like them. Alternatively, voter ID is not

required if you register for a postal vote.

Penny-Anne O'Donnell  
Ward Member Ettington

Ends

County Councillor Update March 13th 2023

One Year Anniversary of the war in Ukraine.  
As the war sadly continues, more Ukrainians need a place of safety, and the Council are seeking new hosts in Warwickshire to help those coming to the UK as well as those already in Warwickshire who need to move on from their initial sponsorship arrangement. If you are interested in hosting Ukrainians, you can join the 'Homes for Ukraine' Sponsorship scheme. This bespoke scheme will offer a route to those who want to come to the UK who have someone here willing to provide them with a home. It will enable individuals, charities, community groups and businesses to volunteer accommodation and provide a route to safety for those forced to escape their homeland. Alternately if you are interested in hosting in Warwickshire we now have a dedicated team who are supporting matching and rematching. Please get in touch via the helpline, 0800 408 1447 or email [ukraine@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:ukraine@warwickshire.gov.uk) to discuss further.

£2 Bus Cap  
Warwickshire welcomes extension to £2 bus fare cap. Warwickshire County Council has welcomed news, released by the Government, that bus fares will continue to be capped at £2 for a further 3 months.  
Help for Warwickshire residents struggling to pay utility bills.  
Warwickshire residents who are struggling to pay their utility bills can seek extra support from WCC.  
The councils Local Welfare Scheme is distributing government funding through the Household Support Fund to provide short term financial assistance for people in Warwickshire.  
It is a one off voucher payment to meet immediate needs and help those struggling with utility bills. This will supplement ongoing emergency support from Local Welfare Schemes for residents in financial crisis. Applications must be made by 24 th March 2023 by calling 0800 4081448 or 01926 359182

#### Warm Welcome locations

Warwickshire residents can now search over 150 Warm Welcome locations to find their nearest one, if they are looking for somewhere warm and safe to spend time. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3989/find-your-nearest-warm-welcome-location>

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#### Easter Holiday Activities and Food

The Warwickshire Holiday Activity and Food programme will once again offer free and fun activities for eligible children and young people this Easter. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4012/easter-activities-for-warwickshire-children-and-young-people>

Clean Air.

Warwickshire County Council has recently re-launched their popular 'Kids Need Clean Air' campaign in partnership with Warwickshire Primary Schools.

This campaign aims to educate drivers of the benefits of switching off their vehicle engines

when stationary, with a particular focus on engine idling outside schools during drop-off and

pick-ups. Idling uses unnecessary fuel and is a significant contributor to local air pollution.

By stopping engine idling, drivers will reduce fuel costs and save money, improve air quality,

and reduce air pollutants which can help cut heart disease, reduce lung cancer and prevent

asthma attacks. By reducing the amount of fuel being used, drivers can improve the quality of

the air that we breathe.

Throughout February 2023, 27 primary schools across the county launched this campaign,

with each of these schools receiving a banner for the schools' railings, a digital animation

offering advice and guidance for parents and carers, and an article for newsletters.

NO MORE Campaign re Domestic Abuse.

Warwickshire County Council and partners including Warwickshire Police, Refuge and colleagues from across the District and Borough Councils, unite together to say NO MORE to Domestic Abuse.

The national campaign, UK SAYS NO MORE, now in its 10th year, ran from 5th – 12th March. It looked to highlight domestic abuse and sexual violence for everyone across the UK.

One in four women and one in seven men will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime

and more shockingly, two women a week are killed by a current or former partner in England Wales alone. Warwickshire says NO MORE.

The Act also looks to promote greater awareness of domestic abuse and ensure it is the top of

everyone's agenda. Warwickshire has implemented a number of safe spaces for victim-

survivors. The idea behind the safe spaces is just as the name suggests, a safe room for

anyone who wants to escape an abusive partner or family member.

Anyone wishing to use the room would either simply 'Ask for Ani' or give a specific password unique to a supporting pharmacist or job centre. Inside the room is a phone that

connects to a domestic abuse helpline. Information and advice is also available. To access a

full list of participating pharmacists and jobs centres in Warwickshire, go to [www.uksaysnomore.org/safespaces/](http://www.uksaysnomore.org/safespaces/)

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SEND Supported Internships in Warwickshire.

In a drive to ensure that all young people have the opportunity to access their full potential,

young people in Warwickshire with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) will

benefit from a life changing supported internships programme, thanks to a grant of £105,000

from the National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi).  
The grant, which will be distributed over a three-year period is designed to support more young people with additional needs to have greater choice and control over opportunities that prepare them for adult life and enable them to gain long-term meaningful employment. Currently, only 4.8% of people nationally with special educational needs and disabilities gain permanent paid employment in the UK, compared to 80% of their peers. Supported internships help young people aged 16-24 with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) to achieve paid employment.

Businesses looking to grow in, or relocate to, Warwickshire now have access to £40m of financial support as the latest pillar of a major economy-boosting initiative goes live. The Property and Infrastructure Fund is the third and final strand of the Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund. This major £100m initiative was launched to provide access to debt finance and safeguard businesses in, or those expanding to, Warwickshire from any of the adverse economic effects caused by the pandemic. The focus of the PIF is on supporting and enabling new development that will help provide sites and premises needed to drive the future growth of the local economy and, with ambitions that match the County Council's goals on reducing emissions, to build on the strong links that the county has established in low Carbon fields such as digital creative, electric vehicle development and battery manufacturing. The £40m fund will be managed by CBRE following a competitive procurement process, providing loans of £2m-£10m to support commercial projects, with repayment terms available up to five years. Eligible developments include office, industrial and warehouse developments and refurbishments, new housing projects offering innovative sustainability solutions, early-stage infrastructure funding and mixed-use schemes. Those looking for more information or wishing to discuss investment proposals with the council should use the expression of interest form on the council's website at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wrif](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wrif)