

## **Binton Parish Council Report District Councillor January 2024**

### **Cllr Manuela Perteghella**

Hope you all had a very good start to 2024.

#### **Budget cycle & actions so far**

We are now in the first budget cycle of the new administration, with the proposed budget going for public consultation in January. Stratford-on-Avon District Council is required to set its budget annually; this is normally approved by Council at the meeting at the end of February each year. The Council sets out its spending plans for both revenue and capital for the year ahead, along with reviewing the position for the following four years. A key element of the budget is the Medium Term Financial Strategy, which is updated annually.

Prior to the current budget the Portfolio Holders have started to make changes. For example, these include a new contract for grounds maintenance that will be much more sustainable and environmentally friendly with the avoidance of glyphosate.

We have seen major progress in the economic development portfolio with good relationships developed with Warwick University and Stratford College as well as the business community.

The Climate Change Fund will be used for projects that include solar panels, heat pumps and insulation measures to reduce the Council's carbon footprint. A new Community Climate Change Fund is being launched this month which will encourage Parish Councils and constituted community groups to carry out actions that support the Council's climate change goals.

SDC Leader Cllr Juned has asked for a meeting with the Environment Agency to discuss recent flooding but also the implementation of natural flood management projects. Cllr Juned is also going to talk to Warwickshire County Council about surface water flooding.

Working with Warwick District Council and the County Council progress is being made on electric vehicle charging including a feasibility study to look at provision for council owned car parks, kerbside and village halls and for social housing.

#### **Council Plan**

Full Council approved the Council Plan on Monday 11 December 2023. Following this the Council Plan provides the strategic direction for the Council over the next four years and will be a critical document in guiding the District Council's allocation of resources to priorities. The proposed budget will reflect these priorities.

#### Council Plan 2023-2027

The Vision: We are an ambitious, fair, inclusive, and responsible organisation which will put our communities at the heart of everything we do.

The Council will be recognised as a leader for supporting the health and wellbeing of our residents, protecting our environment, delivering sustainability and innovation.

By proactively working with partners the Council will strive to deliver cohesive communities that are well built, in the right place and served by appropriate infrastructure.

The Council will support existing business to thrive and seek to attract new businesses to create valued jobs and opportunities.

Six priorities:






- Local Economy
- Affordable, Well Built and Maintained Homes
- Health and Wellbeing
- Climate Change
- Delivery of Service
- Residents and Communities

### Binton Bridge repairs works and road closure.

The bridge will be closed again on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January for the next stage of the closure.

A new revised timetable is below, but as usual this is subject to change.

115	<b>Traffic Management</b>	215 days	Mon 02/10/23	Fri 03/05/24
116				
117	<b>Type</b>	215 days	Mon 02/10/23	Fri 03/05/24
118	Road closure (with pedestrian access)	12 days	Mon 02/10/23	Fri 13/10/23
119	2-way temporary lights	23 days	Sat 14/10/23	Sun 05/11/23
120	Road closure (with pedestrian access)	47 days	Mon 06/11/23	Fri 22/12/23
121	Fully open (Christmas break)	16 days	Sat 23/12/23	Sun 07/01/24
122	Road closure (with pedestrian access)	47 days	Mon 08/01/24	Fri 23/02/24
123	2-way temporary lights	30 days	Sat 24/02/24	Sun 24/03/24
124	Road closure (with pedestrian access)	12 days	Mon 25/03/24	Fri 05/04/24
125	2-way temporary lights	28 days	Sat 06/04/24	Fri 03/05/24
126	Fully open	0 days	Fri 03/05/24	Fri 03/05/24

Project: Binton South Bridge Date: Tue 19/12/23	Task Split	 Milestone  Summary	 Project Summary  External Tasks	
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19/12/2023 (Rev 6 - 'High Level')

### Green bin subscription

At my first meeting last May with Binton Parish Council, the issue of raising awareness of renewing the green bin subscription was raised by councillors. Therefore I contacted the Portfolio Holder, Cllr Grocott to raise this issue. The council starts publicising the sale of the permits in January each year as they are aware that residents lose out if they buy a new permit after 1<sup>st</sup> April. There will also be an advert in the booklet that goes out with the council tax statements. I have asked for emails and text alerts too.

## **Fire & Rescue services consultation**

As you are aware, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) which carries out fire and rescue functions on behalf of the Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Warwickshire County Council (WCC), is consulting on a proposed change to its service delivery model as part of its Resourcing to Risk approach. It's a radical change to current operations. They are proposing to close Bidford, Fenny Compton, Henley, Shipston, Polesworth, Kenilworth, Wellesbourne and Gaydon as on-call fire stations into surge stations. I have grave concerns about the change from an on-call station system to a surge team model which has not been tried before in a comparable rural county. I also want to understand what data has been used to model these new options. I urge parish councils and residents to engage with the consultation: [Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service - Consultation on proposed service delivery model - Warwickshire County Council - Citizen Space](#)

There are public meetings and I have already attended the one hosted by Bidford on Avon PC. I will also attend the Stratford on Avon meeting on the 17th January at Stratford School. Link to register here:

[Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service Events | Eventbrite](#)

## **Rural Crime**

### **Community Crime Prevention Toolbox Event**

One of the SDC Rural Crime Advisor projects for 2023/2024 aims to raise awareness of the opportunities to improve home security by providing Crime Prevention Toolboxes to support village communities. These events are done, where possible, with the local Safer Neighbourhood Team in attendance and work best when run alongside an existing event, such as a coffee morning or lunch club.

Following the event, the box is left with a *custodian (identified prior to the event)* and the villagers can decide how they wish to use the contents e.g., loan the equipment to try, or organise a property marking event for tools.

Let me know if the parish council would be interested and if they can suggest a custodian, and I will book a session in Binton.

## **Podback coffee pods recycling**

Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils are launching a new service to help residents to recycle used coffee pods in partnership with **Podback**, a not-for-profit recycling organisation. The new coffee pod recycling service supports the District Council's aims to reduce waste, increase recycling, save resources, and give materials a second life.

Residents will be able to recycle their plastic or aluminium coffee pods at home by signing up for free on the Podback website. They will be sent two rolls of Podback recycling bags (26 bags or six months' supply) along with instructions on how to use the service. Filled bags of used coffee pods can then be put out alongside or on top (not inside) of the waste, recycling, or garden waste container(s), on the scheduled collection day. Residents living in flats can participate by using the Podback Drop Off service.

Once collected, the coffee pods will be sent to specialist recycling plants. The plastic and aluminium will be transformed into new products, including beverage cans, automotive

components, building products and re-usable plastic crates, while the coffee grounds will be treated by anaerobic digestion to create renewable energy and soil improver.

For more information, please visit: [www.stratford.gov.uk/podback](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/podback) To find out more about signing up for the new Podback service please visit: [www.podback.org](http://www.podback.org)

### **Christmas tree collections**

Stratford-on-Avon District council will also be collecting Christmas trees on the scheduled collection between 8th and 19th January 2024. Residents do not need to have a garden waste subscription for this. Just leave the tree outside on the day of collection, but do not obstruct the public highway. Trees over 5ft need to be cut in half.

### **Sherborne Material Recycling facility**

The state-of-the-art Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Coventry, which is a project by 8 local authorities including Stratford District Council is now fully operational. Its technologies achieve high purity rates and tackle a wider range of waste materials, including single use plastics. The most advanced MRF of its kind in the UK, the plant utilises specialist AI technology to process dry mixed residential kerbside recycling in the most sustainable and efficient way possible.