

LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2021

Hello! I am Helen, the new Clerk for the Parish Council. I took on the role from Elaine at the beginning of September and I am looking forward to working with the Council and exploring the Parish. You can contact me using the details at the bottom of this update.

The Council met in the village hall at 7:30pm on Monday 13th September. At the start of the meeting, Liz Beaver was unanimously appointed as a new Councillor and was welcomed onto the Council. It is hoped that the remaining councillor vacancy will be filled at the next meeting in October.

Councillor Cooke (WCC) explained that Warwickshire has welcomed around 100 people from Afghanistan seeking refuge in the UK as part of the national Home Office plan. For some it will be a short stay as they move to be close to friends and family elsewhere in the UK, others will be here for longer. Warwickshire County Council is working with partners in health and the districts and boroughs to ensure the new arrivals are safe and well. And residents of Warwickshire have been quick to show their compassion and offer support - WCC are currently assessing what things would be most helpful and working with local charities to coordinate donations.

Cllr Illingworth and Cllr Hales from WDC gave an update on the proposed merger between the Warwick and Stratford Districts to form a South Warwickshire District. Earlier in the year, elected members of both Councils agreed to explore the proposal and drew up the following vision: *"To create a single statutory South Warwickshire Council covering all of the activities currently carried out by Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwick District Council by 1 April 2024."*

A full public consultation exercise was launched on Monday 6 September 2021 and will run until 24 October 2021. Residents are invited to have their say on the plans via www.southwarwickshire.org.uk. A paper version can be requested by emailing: swconsultation@stratford-dc.gov.uk or calling Stratford-on-Avon District Council on 01789 267575.

The issue of speeding within the Parish was discussed, with Cllr Rees providing a detailed summary of the problems and the mitigation actions that have been taken so far. It was agreed to invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to a meeting to discuss the issue in more detail with the Parish Council.

Cllr Rees also gave an update on the work of the Lapworth Station Action Group who have spent time and effort tidying up the platform. The red phone box outside the station was discussed and a suggestion was made to explore if it could be moved to a more central point in the village. The Council would welcome ideas as to what the former phone box could be used for in the future.

The next Litter Pick is taking place on 25 September at 10am, starting from the Village Hall. Please contact Stuart Mace (stuart.mace@lapworthpc.org / 01564 785437) if you are able to volunteer or if you know of any specific areas in the Parish that have a litter problem. Litter picking equipment will be provided.

The next meeting of Lapworth Parish Council is scheduled to take place on Monday 11th October at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

Minutes and Agendas for meetings are on the Parish Council website www.lapworthpc.org.uk

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