

LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT JANUARY 2023

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7:30pm in the village hall, the meeting was attended by five Councillors and Cllr John Cooke (WCC).

The Council have appointed residents Ruth Hall and Bob Cousins to the new role of Parish Paths Wardens. The Council thanks both Ruth and Bob for offering up their time to help monitor the footpaths that run through our Parish; the new Wardens will be supported by the Rights of Way team at Warwickshire County Council.

The Council's Budget for expenditure and Precept request for 2023/24 has been approved. It was agreed to set the Budget for Expenditure at £38,714 and the Precept demand at £24,593. The expected Budget for 23/24 is higher than usual due to the likely cost of the Local Government Elections being held on 4th May 2023, when all 9 members of the Parish Council will be elected. The Parish Council does not receive any direct funding from central government and relies on the Precept it receives each year to cover the cost of the Council's functions. The Precept is collected from residents as part of the Council Tax charged by Warwick District Council. For more details of the 2023-24 Budget and Precept please see the meeting minutes.

There are several areas of flooding on the roads in the Parish at present, likely caused by blocked drains and gullies. Residents can report flooded roads and blocked drains to Warwickshire County Council using the following link: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reporhighwayproblem – you can leave a report even if someone else has already reported on it.

A reminder that our next meeting on Monday 13th February will be attended by Mr Philip Seccombe, Warwickshire's Police and Crime Commissioner. This is a public meeting, all are welcome; if you have any specific questions that you would like to be put to Mr Seccombe that evening, please email them to the Clerk in advance via clerk@lapworthpc.org.uk.

Warwickshire residents are being encouraged to get around by bus in 2023 thanks to a new Government-backed scheme to save money on fares. Most Warwickshire bus operators have signed up for the scheme and will be capping the price of a Single ticket at £2 from 1 January to 31 March 2023. You can find more details here: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/indiegoplus

South Warwickshire residents are being invited to have their say on the next stage of the new South Warwickshire Local Plan, which will cover the combined geographic area of both Warwick and Stratford District Councils for the next 25 years. The 'Issues and Options' Consultation runs from 9 January to 6 March 2023 and focuses on the options for *how* and *where* development should take place. The work done to date draws on responses to the previous 'Scoping and Call for Sites' consultation undertaken in 2021 and will give residents the opportunity to comment on the suitability, sustainability and desirability of each of the potential options identified by both Councils at the first stage.

You can find out more information about the South Warwickshire Local Plan, make comments on the consultation and find details of a number of online and face to face consultation events being held by visiting www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp. Hard copies of the documents are available to view at libraries, Riverside House, Leamington Spa and Elizabeth House, Stratford-on-Avon. Comments on the 'Issues and Options' consultation must be received by 5pm on Monday 6 March.

The next meeting of Lapworth Parish Council will take place at the village hall on Monday 13th February 2023 at 7.00pm.

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

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