

LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT DECEMBER 2021

The Council met in the village hall at 7:30pm on Monday 13th December.

The Council spent time preparing the 2022/23 Budget and resulting Precept request; this will be finalised and approved in the Council's next meeting on 10th January 2022.

Following the recent meeting with Officers from the WCC Transport Planning and Road Safety team, the Council have now received details of the estimated costs of some of the recommended mitigation measures. The proposals will be considered further by the Council in the New Year. WCC have also raised concerns over the increasing instances of logs and rocks placed on grass verges outside properties; they are considered a safety hazard on land that is usually part of the designated highway, not in the control of nearby householders.

The Parish Council are a consultee on all planning applications submitted for properties and land in the Parish; the Council consider on average 6-7 new applications at each main meeting. It has been agreed to form a Planning Working Group in order to provide Councillors with sufficient time to review each application in detail. The group will meet virtually on a regular basis and will provide the Council with their recommendations. The Council's formal response to all planning applications will still be decided by the full Council in the monthly meetings held at the village hall which the public are welcome to attend.

The Council have been informed that Wharf Lane will be closed to vehicular traffic on 12th January 2022 and Spring Lane will be closed to vehicular traffic from its junction with Church Lane between 19th -20th January 2022. Diversions will be in place and vehicular access to properties will be maintained where possible. Both road closures are required to create a safe environment for engineers working on underground networks.

The Council have received notification from WDC that following their Full Council meeting on Monday 13 December, it's been agreed to formally submit a request to the Secretary of State at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for a full political merger with Stratford-on-Avon District Council to create a South Warwickshire District Council. Councillors approved the recommendations as set out in the report; 23 members of the council voted for the recommendations, 12 voted against and there were five abstentions. You can read more about this decision and read the report here: www.warwickdc.gov.uk/news/article/740/councils_agree_to_take_historic_next_step_in_merger_plans

In light of the substantial new threat from the Omicron variant, there is an urgent need for volunteers to come through quickly to meet the need for a big increase in booster jabs. Anybody who is willing and able is requested to get in touch with ruthwarner@wcava.org.uk in order to find out what you may be able to do in whatever capacity.

The next meeting of Lapworth Parish Council will take place on Monday 10th January 2022 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

Parish Clerk: Helen du Bois

Email: clerk@lapworthpc.org.uk tel: 07712531873