

Ian Shenton

Arden Division County Councillor

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I am very pleased to have been successful in the recent by-election and can promise you that I will work hard to continue the good work that the late Cllr. John Horner did for his communities, he is hard act to follow. I can be contacted at any time so feel free to get in touch and if I can help I will.

As you may know I am also the Climate Change Portfolio holder at SDC and for the last year I have been saying that we need to understand that summers will get hotter and winters wetter and when it does rain, it will be torrential at times. This week has seen record temperatures, wildfires across the UK & Europe and it **could** get worse unless we reduce global emissions, The UK cannot do this alone as we account for only 1% of global Co2 emissions (although the measurement used could be challenged).

On a brighter note, last year I gave a talk on climate change where I said that snow would be a thing of the past, three days later it snowed, I'll never make predictions like that again.

Stay safe during the hot weather

All of us, even the fittest amongst us, need to be extra vigilant re our health during a heatwave. Do check in with family/friends known to have Asthma and COPD.

Find out more about staying safe during extreme heat:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3064/keep-cool-during-the-warm-weather->



Open water swimming warning

As temperatures soared across England, many families took the opportunity to spend time outdoors in Warwickshire. But with drowning causing hundreds of preventable deaths every summer, Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service would like to remind residents of the importance of staying safe around water.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3061/warwickshire-fire-rescue-service-issue-open-water-swimming-warning-as-heatwave-hits>

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Gritter alert!

Please do not be alarmed if you see our gritters out and about during heatwaves. Usually associated with chillier times

Heatwave Response – Warwickshire Gritters

The culprit that has triggered Warwickshire's fleet of gritters being on standby is not the white stuff but the exact opposite.

Read more: <https://warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3073/a-surprise-return-to-warwickshire-s-roads-for-its-fleet-of-gritters-could-be-on-the-cards-this-week>

As temperatures cool active travel is back at the forefront of our minds. Safe and Active Travel in Warwickshire.

A new online platform from Warwickshire County Council's Road Safety and Active Travel Teams aims to help residents to choose more active travel around the county.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3068/helping-residents-to-switch-justonejourney-and-ditch-the-car-for-an-active-travel-alternative>

Warwickshire County Council

How can you make active travel part of your routine?

- 1
Really simple but start small. Choose your journey!
- 2
Don't overdo it, just one or two active journeys once a week.
- 3
Slowly increase the number of days you leave the car at home.
- 4
Use Google to start planning!

#JustOneJourney



#JustOneJourney

I would be really interested in what the Parish Council members and residents think about active travel. It is trickier for rural villages to be as active in their travel when compared with our more urban neighbours and even though I lead the political side of Climate Change at SDC I will not tell anyone that they should give up their car when public transport links aren't as good as they would need to be in rural locations.

Keeping with the active travel theme: **Walking and Cycling plans consultation**

Your views sought on the plans for walking and cycling across Warwickshire.

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Read more and get involved: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3065/get-involved-with-infrastructure-plans-for-walking-and-cycling-in-warwickshire>



Grass Cutting

Please be prepared for a little delay if caught up in traffic associated with the annual grass cutting taking place. As you will know this is to keep our highways safe and visibility optimal.

Warwickshire County Council's grass cutters are out in force as they continue their annual roadside grass cutting operations to help ensure the continued safe running of Warwickshire's highways.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3062/warwickshire-s-grass-cutters-out-in-force>

Keeping with our grass theme but moving now into Parks....

Country Parks in running for UK's Favourite Park title (Twitter and Facebook)

People across the country have a chance to give national recognition to their favourite local park, as voting opened last week for this annual contest run by green space charity, Fields in Trust.

Find out how you can vote for your local Warwickshire country park:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3074/four-of-warwickshire-s-country-parks-in-the-running-to-scoop-uk-s-favourite-park-title>

As Summer holidays are almost upon us and the drive to strengthen literacy skills amongst 4-11 year olds and bring the joy of reading to life, children can join the

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Summer Reading Challenge 2022

This summer, children aged 4-11 can visit Warwickshire libraries to meet the Gadgeteers characters and to get involved in a science and innovation themed Summer Reading Challenge.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3071/libraries-across-warwickshire-are-inviting-children-to-participate-in-the-gadgeteers-summer-reading-challenge-from-saturday-16-july-2022>



Drug services in Warwickshire

It is a service you hope those close to you will never need. However, having a robust service supports those most in need.

Tonic research agency on behalf of Warwickshire County Council is asking residents of Warwickshire to share their thoughts on drug support in the county to help shape the future of the service.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3059/have-your-say-on-drug-services-in-warwickshire->

Pensioners struggling with household costs

The Cost-of-Living Crisis impacts across the age range. Older people in receipt of Pension Credit will receive a contribution toward food and fuel this summer from Warwickshire County Council.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3066/help-for-warwickshire-pensioners-struggling-with-household-costs>

Covid.

Finally, it is 900 days since we heard of the word Covid!

If you are 50 or over you are eligible for your next covid booster from September.

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Currently Hospital Beds Occupied by Covid 19 patients:

UHCW 172

SWFT 42

CWPT 16

Missed bins -. Contacts are streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk or Telephone: 01789 260616

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/missed-bin-report-form.cfm?fbclid=IwAR3vfk03zQgXUsEHH04ODeqfid1b1msbwpVg8DG6nQn47HoAcwmw5LL9Joc>

Reporting out of hours highways issues can be challenging, the best number for that is 01926 415000.

streetlighting@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01926 412515 (not all are currently owned by WCC – some owned by town or parish council.)

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/reports/Warwickshire>

It is worth noting for future reference that anything immediately dangerous on the highway should be reported direct to the Police on 999, which is the same process for any pressing issue Out of Hours.

During normal office hours - 8:30am to 4:30pm, WCC call centre is best on 01926 412515

Feel free to contact me if you need further details.

Cllr Ian Shenton

Proud to be County Councillor for the Arden Division

(Claverdon, Earlswood, Henley in Arden, Langley, Tanworth in Arden, Ullenhall, Wolverton, Wootton Waven)

Just for good measure I have included article I wrote for the Herald on behalf of the Leader of SDC.

THE ARTICLE BELOW APPEARED IN THE STRATFORD HERALD ON 16TH JUNE 2022 AND TOOK UP ½ PAGE

Climate Change – The Elephant is now in the room.

With the war in Ukraine, petrol and diesel prices, cost of gas, the cost of electricity, food prices rising, talk of inflation hitting 9% or more, the Queens Platinum Jubilee but somewhere amongst these conversations and issues the elephant looms, you may not see it but it's there in the room, its name, Climate Change. Everyone knows it's there and happening but its somehow slipping down the list.

Climate Change is not going away and we must all play our part if future generations are going to be able to continue enjoying this beautiful planet. We experience longer hotter summers, wetter winters and when it rains, it rains for longer causing floods. This will get worse if we do nothing, crops will fail, trees will die, our lands that were full of biodiversity and flowers will become barren, sea levels will rise, the oceans will

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become lifeless cess pits, food will become scarcer, health problems increase for everyone as a result. This is obviously a Domesday scenario but it could happen and sooner than you think.

To play your part is easy, think **reduce, reuse, and recycle**.

Based purely on the last six years we could see the increase in temperatures rise by 2C before 2050 and to 3C before the end of the century according to the IPCC, our own Climate Change Committee, the United Nations, the international Energy Agency.

At COP26, in Glasgow last year, world leaders declared that they were accelerating their programs on climate change, they would be carbon neutral by 2050 (or later) but before the ink on their commitments was dry, some were downgrading them. China and Russia didn't even bother to turn up.

It's down to ordinary people like ourselves to do something to **reduce, reuse and recycle**. If possible, try and turn the thermostat down by a degree (and possibly turn off in rooms you're not using along with the lights), only buy enough food that you will use, don't leave the tap running whilst brushing teeth, avoid over packaged products. If it's repairable take it to the Repair Cafes that are springing up, if it works to a charity shop or to the reuse facilities at our tips.

Analysis of the contents in our grey bins shows that much of it should be in the blue or green bins or is food waste. This is where the new 123+ waste collection comes in later this year

- 1 is weekly food waste collection,
- 2 is blue bin, every two weeks
- 3 is grey bin, every 3 weeks
- + is a fortnightly subscription green waste collection.

If we recycled better and unrepairable small electrical items were put out separately on the blue bin collection day, the grey bin might not be full even after 3 weeks, this is exactly why we are changing the collection of residual waste from the 1st of August to every 3 weeks. Everyone **must** play their part and **reduce, reuse, and recycle**. Doing this will reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, might save you money and is good for the planet

If you think Climate Change is bad now and getting worse then imagine just how much worse things will be for all of us if the climate is allowed to spiral out of control.

For future generations sake we must all do our bit for the planet.

Reduce, reuse, recycle.

ARTICLE ENDS
