

Stratford *View*

Summer 2015

New **councillor's map**

Spotlight on **Kineton**

New **refuse & recycling
calendar inside**





The editorial content of Stratford View is produced by Corporate Communications at Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

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Here to help

If you find the text in this magazine difficult to read we can supply it in a format better suited to your needs. We try to write everything in plain English and want to make sure that everyone has access to the information they need.

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Welcome

to the summer issue of Stratford-on-Avon District Council's magazine Stratford View. This magazine is produced twice a year to keep you informed about Your District Council services. You'll be pleased to hear that the cost of producing the magazine has been covered by advertising income and only a small amount of money has been spent on distribution. We are keen to receive ideas for content in future issues and receive any feedback on the magazine, contact us at: corporate.communications@stratford-dc.gov.uk.

Some refuse and recycling collections rounds are changing in August. The changes won't affect everyone but those affected will receive further information in due course. This could be a change to your collection day and/or a change to the week the refuse or recycling is collected.

The revised collection days will help to improve efficiency and keep providing the best value service for District residents. The collection rounds have not changed since the introduction of the wheelie bin service in 2008 and since then new homes have been built in the District and these additional areas have just been absorbed into the collection rounds. But the time has now come to look at making changes and improve efficiency.

For further information please visit www.stratford.gov.uk or call 01789 260616

FROM AUGUST 2015

Your waste and recycling collection day may be changing

For more information visit www.stratford.gov.uk or call 01789 260616

News in Brief

Getting Stratford District active



Your District Council has produced a comprehensive sport and physical activity guide for older adults.

Following detailed consultation with residents and leisure centre users, the new guide lists the different daily opportunities and choices available for local residents to take part in a variety of activity programmes across the District.

The leaflet lists the District Council's free guided health walk scheme, 'Walk & Talk', the outdoor gyms locations alongside activities which have a charge to take part in such as 'Get Active' sessions at the leisure centres.

If you would like a paper copy of the activity guide please email leisure@stratford-dc.gov.uk or visit the District Council offices in Stratford-upon-Avon or the Leisure Centres in the District in Stratford-upon-Avon, Shipston, Southam and Studley.



A voice for older people

There are six Senior Citizens Action Network (SCAN) groups across the District, Stratford-on-Avon, Shipston-on-Stour, Bidford-on-Avon, Alcester, Henley-in-Arden and Southam.

SCAN groups are run by older people and meetings take place every other month. SCAN groups aim to provide a means of ensuring older people are kept informed on issues of relevance to them and are aware of what services are available locally.

Through inviting private, public and voluntary sector organisations to the meetings, SCAN groups give older people a chance to have their say and influence services. Refreshments are provided and there is time to socialise with other members.

For meeting dates and venues please visit www.stratford.gov.uk



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Or online at www.RingGo.co.uk

Motorists will no longer need to hunt for change in Your District Council operated pay and display car parks in Stratford-upon-Avon. RingGo cashless parking is now offered as an alternative to pay and display parking with coins.

NB This does not currently include the Bridgeway Multi-storey and Bridgeway Surface Pay on Foot car parks.

RingGo is a quick, easy to use mobile phone service, enabling you to pay for your parking by credit or debit card, rather than with cash at a pay machine.

With phone parking you don't have to save up change; you don't have to trek to and from the machine; and you don't need to put a ticket on your dashboard - Civil Enforcement Officers check which vehicles have paid using an internet connected handheld device.

If you have an iPhone, an Android, Blackberry 10, Windows or Firefox mobile phone, you can download and use the RingGo app to register and pay for your parking, or you can call the standard rate telephone number **020 3046 0060** (shown on signs), at the time you want to park. If you want to save time, you can pre-register in advance either through the apps or at www.RingGo.co.uk. Please note there is a 15p convenience charge on top of the normal parking tariff charges which applies when using this method of payment.

If it's your first time using the service, you'll be asked for information about your vehicle, the five digit car park location code (shown on the pay machines) and details of your payment card. When you use the service again, RingGo recognises your mobile phone and retrieves the information given, reducing time considerably.

You can pay with RingGo via the app, by calling, using a text message or paying on-line. Details of each are given on the RingGo website.

As well as being convenient, paying with RingGo allows you to extend your parking session without having to return to your vehicle and reduces the risk of receiving a penalty charge notice. If you're running late or simply need longer, there's no need to worry - just top up your parking wherever you are by using the service again.

The optional RingGo text reminders also help. These notify you 10 minutes before your parking time is due to run out, leaving you time to either extend your stay or return to your car (10p per reminder).

For more information on how the service operates, watch the short animation at www.myRingGo.co.uk/howitworks



a mix of old and new

Kineton is located approximately 5 miles south east of Wellesbourne and 10 miles north east of Shipston-on-Stour.

The first recorded mention of Kineton, spelt Cynton, is in a Saxon Charter of AD969. In 1227 it was granted a Market Charter and two years later, a Charter for Fairs. Kineton's role as an important administrative centre can be traced back to 1160 where, following the reorganisation of local government by Henry II, it gained an important role by being the centre of the Kineton Hundred.

Kineton is a delightful amalgam of the old and new. There are modern developments that blend well with the grey and brown stone buildings of the village of the past. There are a number of buildings capped by thatch here and there - some with the wisteria tumbling from the eaves almost to the pavement. As well as the

small number of retail premises, there are a number of businesses within the village and these range from a vet, a traditional butcher to a company that converts VW campers! The village also has two public houses, a highly regarded Indian Restaurant and a fish and chip shop.

The village library has been relocated to the village hall in Mill Street and is now a community managed library, run by the Friends of Kineton Library. The library is open to the public every Monday and Wednesday from 2pm to 5pm and every Saturday from 9.30am to 12noon.



Kineton has a Market Square which dates back to the 13th century where until a century ago the weekly Tuesday market was held, but today it is the home of a quarterly Farmers Market which is organised by Getting Kineton Growing. This is a local group, which promotes environmental sustainability with a community orchard and solar panels at the Sports and Social Club as well as encouraging local producers to sell their produce at the Farmers Market. For more information visit www.gettingkinetongrowing.org.uk

Kineton is a village where you should stop your car and take a stroll around. Immerse yourself in the wealth of architecture and history that this attractive village has to offer. In 1642 the village witnessed the scenes of a major battle of the English Civil War which was fought just to the south on land that now belongs to the Ministry of Defence.



Education has always been important due to its proximity in relation to the surrounding small villages and to the army base at Temple Herdewyke and what was until the mid-1950s, the RAF base at Gaydon; part of which is now Lighthorne Heath and the remainder of the airfield site the Heritage Motor Centre www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk Part of the original base is now Jaguar Land Rover and Aston Martin.

On the weekend closest to the 23rd October, re-enactments of the Battle of Edgehill are held. A monument to the battle can be found on the Banbury Road going towards Edgehill just outside of the village. More information can be found at calendarcustoms.com/articles/battle-of-edgehill-commemoration

The Dene Valley and King John's Mound area has been granted the status of a Local Wildlife Site by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. Situated on the north bank of the River Dene is the site of the Scheduled Monument of King John's Castle. The site features the earthwork remains of a Motte and Bailey Castle which now is open to the public

The village has two impressive churches, St Peter with its sturdy tower which dates back to the 14th century. The second is, in contrast to the ancient Anglican building, a modern Catholic Church, which is situated on Southam Road.



Kineton became the location for the building of a new High School and was opened in 1958. Today you see the school buses bringing pupils from the surrounding villages; the school has the status of being a specialist sports college. Kineton also benefits from having a large primary school with a nursery on the same site, which is located in King John's Road.

Kineton is also well known for its interest in sport, with league football, cricket and bowls being played at the Sports and Social Club. The Sports and Social Club is the venue for the Kineton Music Festival, which is in its third year. The Club is also the home of the Rural Cinema, which is run by local volunteers that enable villagers to watch up-to-date films without leaving their village.

There are numerous clubs and associations within the village catering for interests in art (painting and photography), entertainment (amateur dramatics), gardening (a new development of allotments will be available to the north of the village when the new housing scheme is completed) and many more. All the groups publicise themselves in the monthly Outlook newsletter, which is delivered to every household. A newly evolving village website will also provide a focus for this information for more information visit www.kineton.info/



Spot it - Report it - Sorted!



Tell My Council is a new, fast and easy to use mobile application designed by Your District Council to make reporting issues like fly tipping even easier for residents and visitors.

There is no need to download an app, you simply search for our 'Tell My Council website' - www.tellmycouncil.co.uk/stratford report the issue, location and add optional pictures then send it to us.

Spot it: Report it:

- Missed Street Bin
- Seen a fly tip
- Dead animal on the road
- Litter on public land
- Highway verges
- Issue within council owned green spaces
- Graffiti

....and we will do our very best to sort it - before you know it!

Your District Council will also be creating QR code stickers for the play areas in the District looked after by Your District Council.

QR codes are a machine-readable code consisting of an array of black and white squares, which can be read by using the camera on your smart phone. Smartphone users will be able to scan these strategically placed QR codes to report issues in public places.

When the QR code is scanned, it not only takes you directly to the web app but it also prefills location and category information, which is predefined by Your District Council.

If you would like more information or wish to speak to a member of the Council's Streetscene team, please contact us:

Telephone 01789 260616

Email: streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk





Highway Verge Cutting

From this year, Your District Council together with contractors The Landscape Group will deliver a District-wide fixed cycle of nine cuts per year on all highway verges within our settlements at an interval of three to five weeks between each visit.

Information on when and where Your District Council will be in your area can be found here www.thelandscapegroup.co.uk/stratford-on-avon-district-council/maintenance-rounds

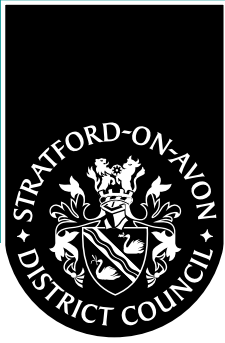
Some areas will be left uncut at certain times of the year to support Daffodils and Wildflowers, and if you are aware of any areas of highway verge that you think should be supported for biodiversity, please let us know so that they can be considered.

Introducing the Park Rangers

Your District Council's Park Rangers were introduced last summer to provide a reassuring presence to those using Bancroft Gardens and the Recreation Ground, particularly during the busiest summer months.

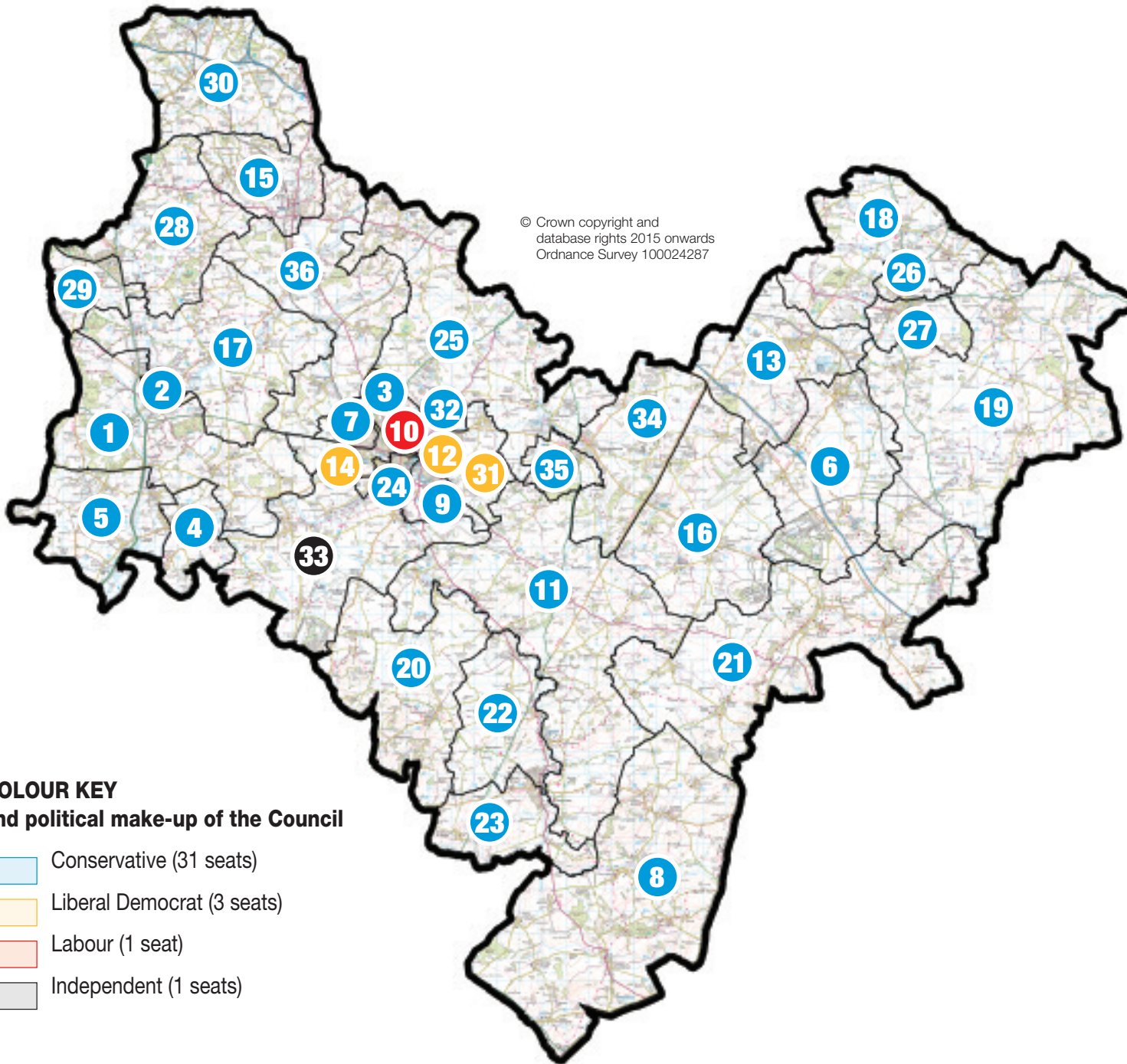
As well as carrying out maintenance and playground inspections in the area they are also there to offer help and advice to those visiting the park and the town to get the most out of their visit and also find out what visitors want. They will be on site from 8am to 8pm from Sunday through to Thursday and 8am to 10pm on Fridays and Saturdays ensuring that people visiting feel safe and secure in the park.





Your local District Councillor 2015/2016

Your District Council has 36 councillors who represent your views on local matters. These councillors are elected by you, usually for a term of four years. Following the most recent election on 7 May 2015, here are your local councillors.



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South Warwickshire Traders Become



South Warwickshire consumers want to employ good traders who are reputable and can demonstrate high standards of customer care. But how do good traders stand out from the crowd?

Traders offering building and home maintenance or improvement services are being encouraged to join Warwickshire Trading Standards 'Buy with Confidence' trusted trader scheme and become 'Trading Standards Approved'.

Not only will scheme members appear on a published and promoted list of reputable local businesses that have been vetted and approved, but they will also be entitled to use the Buy with Confidence and Trading Standards Approved logos on stationery, promotional material and vehicles.

Buy with Confidence is a successful national trusted trader scheme operated in Warwickshire by Warwickshire Trading Standards. Warwickshire based traders wishing to join must pass a vetting process. A small set up and annual fee is charged. To find out more please telephone Trading Standards on 01926 414080 or email buywithconfidence@warwickshire.gov.uk Information is also available at: www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

Scams Beware!

Fraudsters, often operating from outside the UK use the postal system, phone and Internet to scam consumers. They use a variety of methods to encourage people to send them money or reveal their personal or financial information. They may pretend to be a genuine business providing bogus pensions advice or dodgy investment opportunities or may offer fictitious cash awards or other prizes, in return for sending money using a money transfer voucher.

- Beware of cold calls from fraudsters offering pensions or investments advice. These criminal gangs want you to invest your money in high risk unregulated schemes with huge fees.
- Don't fall for the call blocking scam. Cold callers will take your money and claim in return that they can stop scam phone calls, but in reality they simply sign you up to the free Telephone Preference Service, or do nothing at all!
- Be careful before you sign up to 'free trials' on social media websites or via pop-ups. Paying for postage and packaging with your debit or credit card could lead you to sign up for expensive subscriptions, hidden in the small print!

Warwickshire Trading Standards offers residents advice and information on the latest local and national scams via their free weekly email alert - to sign up visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/scams.

Sign up now and keep ahead of the criminals!

Trading Standards Officers also support older and more vulnerable people who have fallen for these sorts of scams or who are at greater risk, helping them and their families install call screening systems and stopping bogus mail.

You can also report a scam to Trading Standards and receive more advice by phoning the Citizens Advice Consumer Service



Tackling Rural Crime

Warwickshire is a relatively safe place to live with fairly low and falling levels of crime. However, every crime impacts on individuals and communities and rural crime is an emerging issue in Stratford District.

Your District Council's Rural Crime Prevention Officers, funded by the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Ron Ball, have been out and about visiting local communities at Property Marking events across the District. They have also been working with vulnerable groups and dementia sufferers to help reduce the likelihood of residents becoming victims of crime.

Your District Council also has two Anti-Social Behaviour Officers who work together with Warwickshire Police and Housing Associations to coordinate and tackle anti-social behaviour in Stratford District. Anti-social behaviour at any level can have an impact on the community and blight the lives of individuals. If you need their help please visit: www.stratford.gov.uk/community/anti-social-behaviour.cfm



Keeping our streets safe with CCTV

Stratford-on-Avon District's CCTV system has received the British Standard Accreditation BS7958 which recognises good management and practice for an eighth year.

The District's CCTV is now operated in partnership with local towns and parishes.

There are 91 cameras, installed at strategically positioned locations in Stratford, Shipston, Alcester, Southam, Bidford, Wellesbourne, Henley and Studley recording real time footage 24 hours a day, seven days a week, which is then fed via optical fibre cabling back to the monitoring centre in Stratford-upon-Avon.



Warwickshire Police are committed to Neighbourhood policing and have a series of Safer Neighbourhood Teams across the county. There are six teams covering Stratford District led by Inspector Julia Brealey supported by Sgt Rich Thomas and Sgt Bob Shaw, providing communities with access, influence, interventions and answers. For further information please visit: www.warwickshire.police.co.uk



The virtual world has real life consequences

S Strong passwords are nonsensical and made up of a mixture of letters, numbers and punctuation.

M Make sure you update your software and your antivirus before using the internet.

A Always check for a  or  symbol in the browser window when banking online. The 'https' shows the connection is secure.

R Remember to shred documents containing personal details before throwing away.

T Think scams. If an online bargain seems too good to be true it probably is.



#Be Cyber Smart

For more information about the #Be Cyber Smart campaign go to www.warwickshire.police.uk/becybersmart or www.westmercia.police.uk/becybersmart

To learn about staying safe online visit www.getsafeonline.org

Residents reveal opinions

Thank you to all the residents who completed the Stratford District Council Residents' Survey at the end of last year, 1930 responses were received which achieved a 35% response rate.

76%

satisfied with how
Your District Council
runs things

28%

are satisfied with
the way complaints
are handled

21%

told us they were
satisfied with
development of
planning polices

72%

of you were satisfied
with keeping public
land clear of litter
& refuse

43%

of you are
satisfied with
public toilets.

90%

said you were
satisfied with our
refuse collection

29%

satisfied with
housing services

82%

said you were
satisfied with our
door step recycling
service

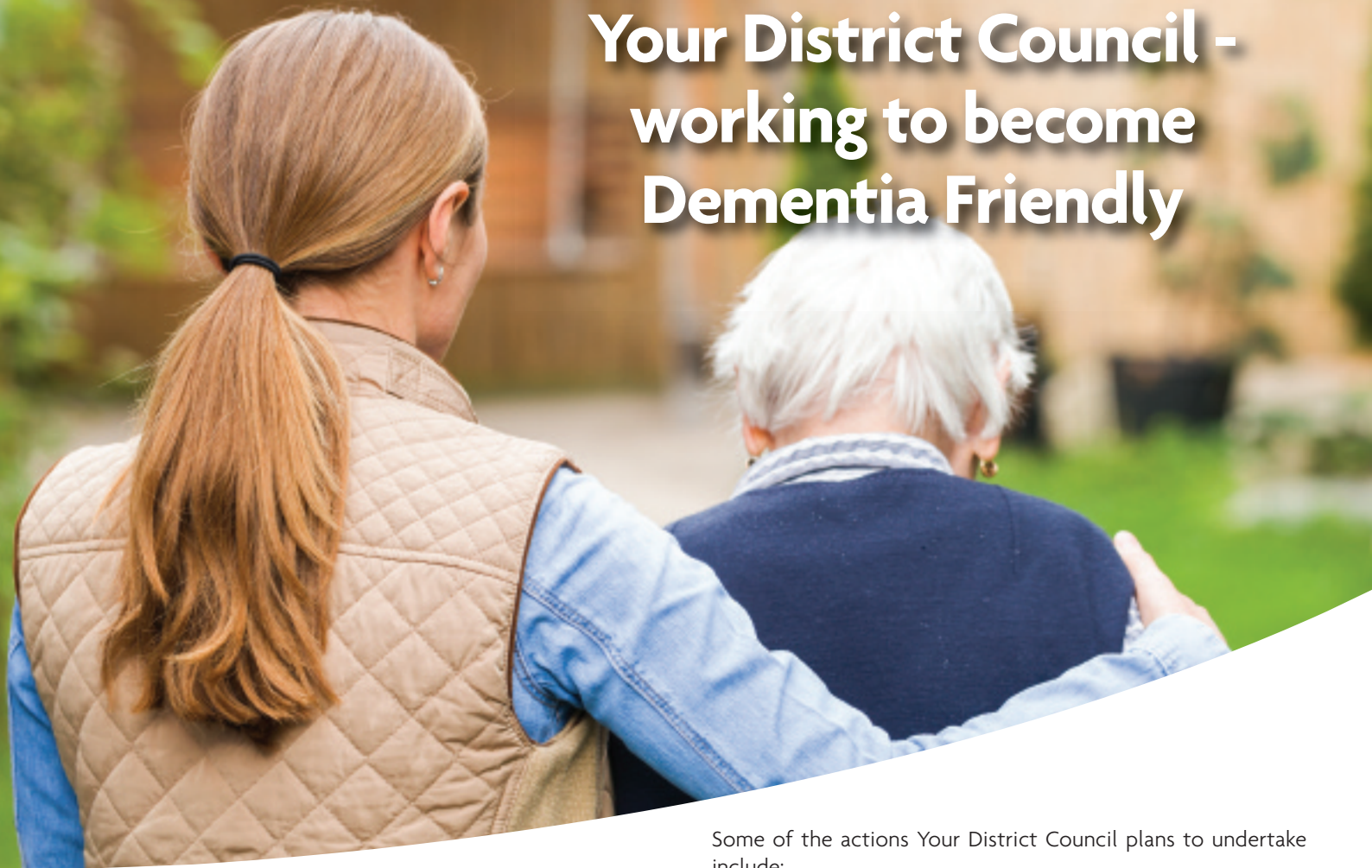
Key

Improvement
on 2012

Decrease
on 2012

Traffic congestion and affordable housing remain the most important aspects that need most improvement. This survey is carried out every two years. The full report is available on Your District Council's website www.stratford.gov.uk

Your District Council - working to become Dementia Friendly



There are currently 7,100 people living with dementia in Warwickshire and this is expected to increase by 34% over the course of the next 10 years. Dementia is one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century and over the coming years a lot of people accessing Council services will either have dementia or will know someone who does.

Being Dementia Friendly is about being aware of the impact that the condition has on a person and their life and how this might affect their behaviour and their ability to undertake everyday tasks. If someone experiences difficulty or confusion whilst accessing Council services it may suggest they have dementia but this may not necessarily be the case. However, if someone is suspected of having dementia they may need extra help, support, time and consideration. This would require good people skills, kindness, common sense, good communication skills and a culture of customer care.

It is about organisations, communities and individuals enabling people with dementia to continue living a good life by making them feel supported, welcomed and encouraged about accessing their local community.

Your District Council has pledged to become a dementia friendly organisation and has developed a Dementia Action Plan which sets out some key priorities which include raising awareness of dementia. The plan was put together with support locally from Carole Zambonini in Alcester and Dr Sue Pritchard in Shipston-on-Strour who are leading on excellent work to support residents living with dementia in their respect areas.

Some of the actions Your District Council plans to undertake include:

- Delivering a programme of dementia training & awareness for its staff and Councillors.
- Reviewing policies to help support staff who are caring for a person living with dementia.
- Ensuring Your District Council's public spaces are suitable for people with dementia and that signage is dementia friendly.

Dementia Friends

Dementia Friends is an initiative led by the Alzheimer's Society based on the principle that people with dementia can live well with a little help from other people and there are now over one million Dementia Friends in England. Becoming a dementia friend is about understanding a bit more about dementia and the small things that can help people with the condition. You don't need to already know someone with dementia to become a dementia friend.

You can become a Dementia Friend through one of the following ways:

1. Attending an hour long Dementia Friends Information session. You can book a place by visiting the Dementia Friends website www.dementiafriends.org.uk and searching for a local session.
2. Watching a short video on the Dementia Friends' website www.dementiafriends.org.uk.
3. Groups may want to hold a group Dementia Friends Information session, perhaps as part of their regular meeting. Sessions last between 45-60 minutes. If you would like to find out more about this please email: dementiapartnership@warwickshire.gov.uk

Business Matters Roadshow - Spring 2015



Business matters to Your District Council so, as part of the District Council's 'Open for Business' approach it teamed up with Warwickshire County Council and other key partners to take important information, support and advice out directly to businesses.

Over 100 businesses attended the events, which took place in the Spring at business venues in the District including Alscot Park, Atherstone-on-Stour, Warwick House, Southam and Minerva Mill, Alcester.

Experts from organisations and institutions including Coventry & Warwickshire Growth Hub, Warwickshire Rural Growth Network, Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, Stratford-upon-Avon College, Southam College, Coventry University, Warwickshire Apprenticeship Hub and Invest in Warwickshire were on hand to offer advice on matters.

This included:

- Access to finance
- Exporting
- Apprenticeship opportunities
- Commercial premises
- New business start up
- Funding & grants
- Skills & training
- Business growth
- Networking opportunities
- Business mentoring and more..

Feedback from businesses has been extremely positive and has resulted in positive outcomes including securing apprentices, access to finance, growth vouchers and help to start new businesses and more.

Image from Warwick House, Southam

Moving Pictures

Your District Council's highly regarded Rural Cinema Scheme, has been delivering film screenings in the local community since November 2007. The initiative is a real success story, with over 25 community venues participating in the scheme supported by 900 volunteers annually.

The Scheme provides an opportunity for residents living in rural areas to enjoy a high quality cinematic experience where access to urban cinema can be difficult and costly. Recent releases which have attracted large audiences include Paddington, The Hundred Foot Journey and The Theory of Everything.

Moving Pictures supports an increase in the use of community venues throughout the District through the provision of a

leisure activity that supports community aspirations. The Scheme also helps to develop skills and knowledge in the community on cinema and associated screening technology. Our venues are also a boost to the local economy by working in partnership with local businesses in and around their village to provide a fabulous cinema experience. For example one village combines their film screenings with a portion of fish 'n' chips supplied by local chippy The Bishop's Fryer, a glass of wine from Cana Import and ice cream for dessert from Henley Ice Cream and their screenings regularly sell out attracting over 100 people.

Did you know... over 33,000 residents have attended a Rural Cinema screening?

If you would like further information or would like to find out how to set up the cinema in your village please ring Lana Long, Rural Cinema Facilitator on 01789 260609.



ALL THE FUN of the MOP FAIR



Stratford-upon-Avon's Mop Fair rolls into town each year attracting large numbers of visitors with a tradition of exciting and up-to-date riding machines, as well as maintaining loyal old-fashioned rides. It is also renowned for the open roasting of pigs and the atmosphere remains at a premium right up until its midnight closure.

Today's Mop Fair is organised by Wilson Funfairs but has its origins in the hiring of agricultural and domestic labour. This was in the time during the reign of Edward III and provision of the statutes of labourers. The date is set for the 12 October (or is moved if the 12 October

falls on a Sunday), and as a pleasure fair it remains a key date in the Warwickshire calendar. In the 1950's during the prominence of railway travel, a plethora of special trains were laid on to ferry the local population to and from the fair.

Stratford Mop also has an associated 'runaway mop' one week later. The tradition of this is from the need for employers to reconsider and re-hire any staff before committing to a full year's work.

This year's Stratford-upon-Avon Mop Fair is on Sunday 11 and Monday 12 October with the Runaway Mop held on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 October.

