

Ward member Report to Parish Councils in Tysoe Ward.

October 2025

1. Planning

1.1 “Have your say in the future of our councils” – Consultation update

Have your say in the future of our councils! Local government reorganisation was conducted as I reported in my August supplementary report. The consensus across all of Warwickshire from those individuals and organisations that completed the questionnaire was for a two Unitary Authorities (UA), North Warwickshire and South Warwickshire, with South Warwickshire consisting of Stratford on Avon District and Warwick District Council geographies. If agreed by Central Government, this would mean the abolition of the five District and Borough Councils as well as the Warwickshire County Council. Final submissions from Councils must be submitted by the 28th of November by which time all six council entities must provide an unanimously agreed plan.

1.2 Welfare and Support

In Warwickshire Child and Adult Social Care and SEND account for a major part of annual budget. These services, along with other statutory services will be provided by either a Single UA or the Two UAs. Reports indicate that because the needs of the populations in North and South Warwickshire are significantly different in terms of demand and need, significant savings can be made.

2. SDC Finances & Resources

2.1 At the end of August budgets for project spend in the coming 2026/27 will start to be developed. This will take time for both Officers and members in the coming months. As an opposition we will be offering proposals that will seek to improve life and increase opportunities for residents in the District, both in the rural Centres and the wider communities. I would be very happy to receive any suggestions for projects from PCs in my Ward that will enhance and protect local communities.

2.2 A Community Grant Fund was put into the budget for 2025/26 but has only just been released and criteria for granting published. In the name of remembrance of VE & VJ days, the fund is available for bids for local assets and spaces. Please see the link below.

[Community Grant Scheme 2025 | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#).

3. Five Year Housing Land supply and what it means to planning

The current situation is that the District Council now has a 2.74 Year Housing Land Supply. The implication of this is that housing applications will be more likely to be granted planning permission unless there are significant and demonstrable factors that outweigh the benefits of the development and until the 5 Year Land Supply is re-established. The ‘bar’ however has been raised and reason to refuse permission must be able to show “Substantial Harm” including in Greenbelt. The definition of Greybelt has been introduced because of this change.

The standing of current Neighbourhood Plans remains if they are no older than five years. I introduced a motion at the last Full Council meeting on the 13th of October to fund NDP update and renewal. NDP’s need to reflect the National Planning Policy Framework 2025, [National Planning Policy Framework - GOV.UK](#). The emerging South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) objectives reflect the current NPPF also. Alongside the SWLP is the South Warwickshire Economic Growth Plan.

Inappropriate planning applications that would not meet the:

- Economic Objectives,
- Social Objectives,
- Environmental Objectives,

will be resisted.