

MARCH NEWSLETTER Shrewley Parish Council

This newsletter is published after the Parish Council meeting. It is also available on the website www.shrewleyparish.gov.uk. If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter by email, please send your email address to the Parish Clerk at clerk@shrewleyparish.gov.uk

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Report – Warwickshire County Council has approved its 2026/27 budget, increasing Council Tax by 4.44% (including 2% for adult social care), below the 4.99% cap. The budget maintains key services despite ongoing pressures in adult social care, SEN, and school transport. Additional funding was secured for rural support through the Warwickshire Rural Hub, and also increased gully clearance to reduce flooding, and targeted drainage works. Cllr Matecki has allocated part of his delegated highways budget to secure a dedicated gully-cleaning team for one week. They will focus on the main problem areas across the division. This work is scheduled for the first week of March and should help reduce the frequent flooding issues experienced in several parts of our rural community. Proposed large rises in short-stay street parking charges were scaled back to protect town centres. The revised plan retains the pro-business approach of the existing policy and reduces the proposed 15-minute charge from 45p to 35p, compared with the current 30p rate. On Secondary School National Offer Day, 6,939 applications were received, with over 83% of pupils offered their first-choice school and nearly 96% one of their top three preferences.

Warwick District Council (WDC) Report The budget was agreed at the last meeting with a 2.99% increase for 2026/27.

South Warwickshire Local Plan

Representatives from Budbrooke, Hatton, Shrewley and Beausale, Haseley, Honiley and Wroxall parish councils and Keep Hatton Station Rural (KHSR) met on 12th February to discuss next steps regarding the proposed B1 (Arkwright) development.

Concerns were raised about plans describing the three phases as separate “villages,” despite them effectively forming a single settlement of around 13,000 people — more akin to a small town. Reference was also made to Warwick District Council’s stated aim of protecting existing community identities, something residents feel would be undermined by a development of 5,250 homes.

With consultation on the draft Local Plan expected to begin by 8th June for six weeks, public meetings will be organised across affected parishes, alongside wider information sharing. The Joint Parishes Liaison Group and KHSR will continue gathering evidence to oppose the B1 development and prepare an effective response. More information on recent developments is available on the Keep Hatton Station Rural website: <https://www.Keephattonstationrural.com/latest-news>

A thermal imaging camera loan scheme is now available for Shrewley Parish residents. Before the cold weather ends, if you want to borrow the camera to find out where you can save money in your home please contact cllr.sarah.underwood@shrewleyparish.gov.uk

Biodiversity - Here are a few simple ways we can all help local wildlife this season: Why not let your lawn grow a little longer than usual? Dandelions and other wildflowers are an important early food source for bees and other insects. The RSPB also recommends keeping some ivy where you can - it’s one of the very best plants for wildlife, providing food and shelter throughout the year. If you’re planning to trim hedges, remember that for nesting birds it’s best to wait until September before cutting them back. If you’re interested in reducing waste at home, take a look at Warwickshire County Council’s composting offer and free workshops — a great way to turn garden and food waste into something useful. <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/home-composting-workshops>

For all Shrewley Village Hall events see the Parish/Village Hall notice boards and website www.shrewleyparish.gov.uk or shrewleyvillagehall.co.uk

Warwickshire Police Safer Neighbourhood Team and Neighbourhood Watch will be holding a Crime Prevention Evening at the Village Hall on Thursday 2nd April between 6-8pm. Open to everyone so please come along.

Parish Clerk - Eleanor Choudry 07785327513 clerk@shrewleyparish.gov.uk

**Next Annual Meeting and Assembly including
reports from local organisations
Tuesday 5th May 7pm**

EVERYONE WELCOME – PLEASE COME ALONG

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