

Ward Report and Ward Member Annual Report – Tysoe Ward.

Ward Report covering April 2026

Health screening events across Stratford District

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has joined together with the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust (GFCT) to offer a series of health screening events for both men and women across the District.

The tests on offer cost £14 each, subsidised by the District Council and are:

- For men over 40 - PSA (Prostate Screening)
- For men and women aged 18 and over - diabetes and cholesterol

The next event takes place on Saturday 9th May at The Graham Adams Centre, Saint James Road, Southam, CV47 0LY

The accessible sport of padel coming to Stratford Leisure Centre

Everyone Active is partnering with padel centre operator PadelStars to construct the courts at the centre, which is run by award-winning operator Everyone Active and Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

The new padel courts will sit next to the existing outdoor courts, replacing the 2G Multi-Use Games Area. Customers will have access to three football courts and three padel courts by the end of the project. There will be two doubles courts for padel and one singles court.

Construction begins toward the end of May, with courts for matches and training expected to open by June.

Free memberships for people with Parkinson's in Stratford-on-Avon District

Free gym memberships are being offered by local leisure centres to people living with Parkinson's.

Stratford Leisure Centre, Southam Leisure Centre, Shipston Leisure Centre, Studley Leisure Centre and The Greig Leisure Centre in Alcester, run by award-winning operator Everyone Active in partnership with Stratford-on-Avon District Council, offer the initiative co-designed with the charity Parkinson's UK.

Now in its fifth year, the Everyone Active and Parkinson's UK free membership provides access to gym, swim and group exercise classes, as well as online Synergy Dance classes.

A free membership will also be given to up to three carers to provide additional support if needed.

Currently, Everyone Active supports 96 individuals in Stratford-on-Avon District with Parkinson's.

World Parkinson's Day, which took place on Saturday 11 April 2026, raises awareness of the progressive neurological condition that currently has no cure.

Parkinson's affects around 145,000 people in the UK and there are more than 40 symptoms, from tremor and pain to anxiety.

Being physically active can play an important role in living well with Parkinson's. Those living with the condition can find various activities, such as swimming, walking and dance, beneficial in managing their symptoms.

Clinical waste disposal

We are seeing an increase in **needles and other clinical sharps** being found in recycling and household waste bins. This is dangerous and puts residents and waste crews at risk.

Any clinical sharps such as needles, syringes and prick sticks boxed up to 1 litre can be taken pharmacies across the District.

Sharps boxes over 1 litre should be returned to your doctor's surgery.

By-election in the adjoining Ward of Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton and Napton

For information purposes with the resignation of Cllr. Nigel Rock (LibDem) due to ill health the local by-election will take place on the 7th May. This will not have any direct effect on your Parishes but depending upon the outcome could change the political balance within SDC and change the membership of the working committees, especially for the minor parties and independent members. Good luck to all candidates.

Ward Member Annual Report

Is it already another year gone by, and what a year for Stratford on Avon District Council. My focus as Ward member has and always been on residents. I have been active supporting residents in their problems with Planning, Housing Associations, Severn Trent Water, and Highways (potholes etc.). I have attended as many Parish Council and Parish Meetings as I have been able to, in line with my Role and Responsibilities as your Ward Member. For those interested a full description of the role and responsibility of a District Councillor can be read at [Ward Councillor](#).

After the General Election in 2024, the new Labour Government started a range of democracy changes including Local Government reform abolishing County, District, and Borough Councils replacing them with Unitary Authorities (UA's). At the moment, these changes are planned to take effect after the next elections for the current Authorities in May 2027.

When SDC is abolished, a new shadow authority will be established. Wards are likely to disappear, and the old County Divisions, or close to those boundaries, replace them. This would reduce democratic representation significantly, so I think it is likely that the 'new divisions will

have two councillors, but this is yet to be determined. For Town and Parish Councils this will mean little change.

This change coincides with the need to produce a new Local Plan which was started before 2023 by SDC and Warwick District Council; known as the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP). The SWLP is now almost ready to be agreed and move to Regulation-19 by the end of 2026; the major step in its progress to planning and development policy. Sadly, in December of last year the current Local Plan – the Core Strategy – was found to be not fully up to date because an Inspector found that SDC’s Housing Land Supply was only 2.7 years and not the required 5 years.

This means that local communities have come under increasing pressure from housing developers who wish to build in our rural communities because of the higher housing value and increased profitability. Rural communities need housing to meet local needs, but these are not the dwellings that developers want to build necessarily. To help rural communities protect their settlements, I successfully put down a motion (seconded by Cllr. Anne Parry Wellesbourne North and Rural) to provide funding for Town and Parish Councils to bring up to date existing Neighbourhood Development Plans and help to fund new NDP’s. When ‘made’ an NDP has equal planning weight with the Local Plan and forms part of local planning policy.

At the same time as introducing Planning and Local Government Reform, the Government has required the new UA’s to come together to form Mayoral Strategic Authorities with populations around 500,000 with mayors. Strategic Authorities will take on the role of Police Authority, Fire Authority, and Highways and receive additional funding it is promised. The new Mayoral Strategic Authorities are supposed to geographically match with Police and NHS organisations, whilst at the same time looking to reduce the number of Police authorities significantly, so this latter responsibility is proving almost impossible to incorporate into strategy planning!

Our Ward has seen significant planning applications. Here are a few of the current proposals:

- 1,150 houses off Fell Mill Lane Honington
- Solar Farm proposal off Fell Mill Lane Honington
- Travelling Snowpersons’ Site proposal Pillerton Priors/Hersey

I will continue to represent all residents in the Ward to the best of my ability, and remain available to help, signpost and advise as well as I am able.