**County Councillor report Tysoe Parish Council Meeting 10th February 2025**

**Measles and whooping cough**

Cases of childhood infections like measles and whooping cough are rising – but they can be prevented. Immunisation is the best defence for children against any common illnesses. Make sure your child is up to date and book any catch up appointments with your GP practice. Go to <http://nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

**Flu vaccines and winter pressures**

Our hospitals are experiencing high levels of attendance to A&E due to winter pressures.

To help alleviate long waiting times and pressure on the NHS, it’s important to get your winter flu vaccination.

**Mental Health**

If you are struggling with your mental health, remember you are not alone. There’s support and help available to you and it’s just a click or phone call away visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth> to find out more.

**Residents offered support with financial concerns**

I you are feeling concerned about money and the cost of living, support is available. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5931/coventry-and-warwickshire-residents-offered-support-with-financial-concerns-during-and-beyond-january>

**Warm and well**

Help is available if you are struggling to afford food or pay household bills this winter. Information and support is available through [www.costoflivingwarwickshire.gov.uk](http://www.costoflivingwarwickshire.gov.uk/) or call the cost of living support line: 0800 408 1449

 **Warwickshire Family Information Service newsletter**

Finding reliable information and support for your family is as easy as checking your email. Thousands of Warwickshire parents and carers already subscribe to the county's Family Information Service newsletter, why not join them? More: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5924/the-warwickshire-family-information-service-newsletter-family-support-at-your-fingertips->

**Warwickshire County Council approves budget for 2025/26**

Warwickshire County Council has approved its budget for 2025/26, alongside the medium-term financial strategy for the next five years.

**Investing in key areas to protect vulnerable people**

The Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy includes significant investment over the next five years in key areas such as:

* £46.8 million to support vulnerable adults and elderly citizens, meeting increasing demand and managing placement costs while progressing with the integration of health and social care. Such are the pressures on social care, this allocation is nearly six times higher than the £7.9m funds generated by taking the 2% adult social care precept.
* £8.1 million for children’s social care services, including £5.5 million to address rising costs and demand for children's placements.
* £7.4 million in home-to-school transport, ensuring services meet demand, particularly for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The Council will also use £4.813 million from reserves in 2025/26 to cover time-limited costs and budget allocations.

**Council tax increase**

The Council Tax increase from April will be capped at the Government’s national limit of 4.99%, including a 2% rise for adult social care and a 2.99% core increase for all services. This is equivalent to an increase of £1.67p per week for a Band D dwelling. Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5958/warwickshire-county-council-approves-budget-for-2025-26-to-support-vulnerable-residents-amid-financial-challenges>

**Support for residents facing financial hardship**

Anyone struggling to pay their Council Tax is encouraged to contact their local District or Borough Council to explore potential discounts or exemptions.

Additional information on support for households facing increased costs isavailable at <https://www.costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk/>

**Concessionary travel companion add-on**

Carers can continue to enjoy free travel on Warwickshire’s buses, when accompanying eligible concessionary passholders after Warwickshire County Council confirmed the continuation of the Companion (+1) Travel Pass add-on scheme. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5928/further-free-travel-for-carers-as-companion-travel-pass-add-on-continues>

**Warwickshire Resilience Forum website**

You can find your key contacts in a range of emergencies, on the Warwickshire Resilience Forum website? This will *include* ***Industrial Accidents and Major Fires. Cyber-attacks****.* ***Emerging Infectious Diseases. Extreme Cold Weather. Heatwave and Drought. Loss of Gas or Electricity. Malicious Attacks. Pandemics. Flooding. Animal Diseases.*** Select a risk and enter your postcode at <https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/emergency-contacts/> and find out who’s here to help near you.

**Register your appliances**

Every January, a nationwide campaign gets underway that encourages people to register their appliances allowing them to get up to date safety information, such as product recalls. The cost-of-living crisis is driving more people to consider buying second-hand large domestic appliances, but only one in five (20%) take the simple safety step of registering that appliance with the manufacturer before installing it. Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5889/register-your-old-and-new-appliances-to-stay-up-to-date-with-the-latest-safety-information>

**Home to school transport process simplified**

Students living in Warwickshire starting Year 7 in September 2025 will benefit from a simplified school transport process. Rather than having to complete applications forms, the Home to School Transport Team will now contact families directly to confirm their eligibility.

This approach is designed to simplify the process for eligible pupils, ensuring transport is arranged earlier and more efficiently, ahead of the new school year.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5901/home-to-school-transport-process-simplified-to-help-families->

**Warwickshire County Council moves forward with support for all-electric bus city scheme**

Warwickshire County Council has approved plans to procure all-electric buses for cross-boundary services operating into Coventry as part of the Coventry All Electric Bus City (CEBC) Scheme. The decision made at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 28 January 2025 – will see the Council work with bus operators to introduce a fleet of zero-emission vehicles on key subsidised routes operated under contract to the County Council, contributing to a cleaner and greener transport network for the region.  Along with the West Midlands Combined Authority, Warwickshire has been instrumental in making CEBC a reality through the provision of a £1.366 million contribution from its Capital Investment Fund.

**Adults with a Learning Disability JSNA**

The Adults with a Learning Disability JSNA examines the needs of the adult population with a learning disability aged 16 years and over. This JSNA looks at the demographics of the adult population with a learning disability, their health outcomes, and how some of the wider determinants of health impact on these outcomes. Read the full report: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/directory-record/8076/adults-with-a-learning-disability-jsna-2025>

**Dangers of Romance Fraud**

With Valentine’s Day approaching, Warwickshire residents are being reminded of the dangers of romance fraud, which can have a catastrophic impact on people’s finances and emotional wellbeing. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5947/dangers-of-romance-fraud-highlighted-in-valentine-s-day-campaign>

**Highway Code video**

Warwickshire County Council is pleased to announce the launch of a new video designed to refresh the knowledge of experienced drivers on the updated Highway Code. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5896/new-video-launched-to-refresh-warwickshire-drivers-knowledge-of-the-highway-code>

Chris Mills

County Councillor

Tysoe