

## **County Councillor report Upper Lighthorne Parish Council Meeting 6th July 2023**

### **Household Support Fund**

Central Government recently extended the Household Support Fund grant to support those most in need to help with global inflationary challenges and significantly rising living costs specifically food, energy, and linked essentials. Warwickshire's allocation is £6.945million to cover the period 1 April 2023 up to 31 March 2024.

Warwickshire County Council is continuing to distribute its Household Support Fund grant allocation via the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme (WLWS). This includes an extended welfare offer, countywide utility voucher campaigns, cost of living support for families/carers of children eligible for benefits related free school meals, a further grant to Act on Energy, and welfare grants for community-led groups and initiatives, including schemes led by district and borough councils that meet the funding criteria.

As with all central government funding streams we will need to provide the justification, audit trail etc. to the DWP to receive the funding. Please find attached a grant application form that needs to be returned to [localwelfare@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:localwelfare@warwickshire.gov.uk) by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023**.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us by email [localwelfare@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:localwelfare@warwickshire.gov.uk) and one of the team will get back to you.

### **Warwickshire County Council launches a Social Fabric Fund**

An innovative new fund that will invest in the power of communities has been given the green light by Warwickshire County Council.

The £2.5m Warwickshire Social Fabric Fund will provide a route to explore the development of local projects and initiatives that will have a positive impact on communities. The fund will look to allocate resources across the county to areas where they can have the most impact and will empower communities to be part of the solution; focusing primarily on the 22 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) identified in the [Countywide Approach to Levelling Up](#).

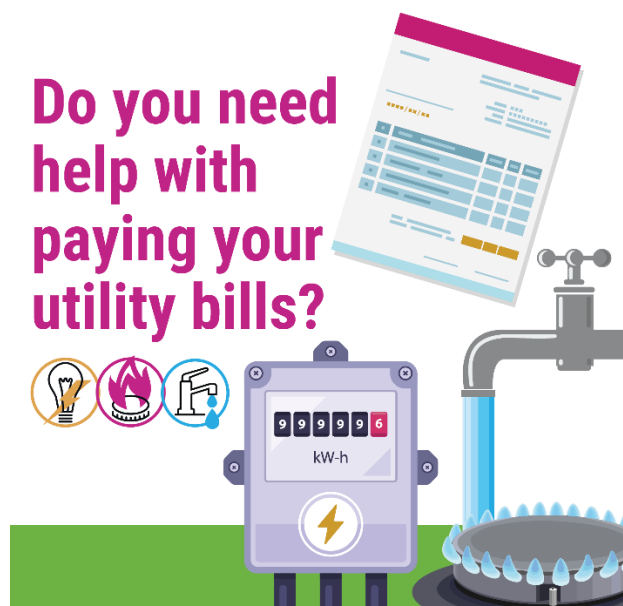
This new fund will help tackle inequalities across the county.

More information about the Social Fabric Fund is available on the Heart of England Community Foundation website: [www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/warwickshire-county-council-social-fabric-fund/](http://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/warwickshire-county-council-social-fabric-fund/)

## **Utility bill support**

Warwickshire residents struggling to pay their utility bills can look to the county council for support.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4248/utility-bill-support-from-warwickshire-county-council>



**Do you need help with paying your utility bills?**

## **Mental Health Wellbeing Counselling and Support**

If you are struggling with your mental health, there is support available for you. Visit [www.wellbeingforwarwickshire.org.uk](http://www.wellbeingforwarwickshire.org.uk) or call 0800 616171 for free, safe and anonymous mental wellbeing counselling and support.

## **New Community Autism Support Service**

Autistic people in Coventry and Warwickshire, or those awaiting a diagnosis, are now able to access improved support through the all-age autism support service. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4231/new-community-autism-support-service-launches-to-support-people-across-coventry-and-warwickshire>

**This July, embrace sustainability and be a part of the movement to reduce single use plastics**

Residents are urged to ditch the single-use plastic with a series of helpful tips as part of Warwickshire County Council's support for the Plastic Free July campaign.

Plastic pollution is a real problem that affects our environment, our health and wellbeing and contributes to carbon emissions:

Over 2 million plastic bags are used every minute worldwide and the average time that a plastic bag is used in its lifetime before being discarded is 12 minutes; One million plastic bottles are bought every minute worldwide; 32% of all plastic packaging produced finds its way to our oceans every year; You will ingest an average of 70,000 microplastics each year!

Given the scale of the problem, Warwickshire County Council is asking residents to consider how they might reduce the amount of single use plastics. To help, the Council will share a daily tip for each of the 31 days of the month across its social media channels and website.

Find out more about plastic-free July 2023 on the Plastic Free Foundation website: <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

For more information about how Warwickshire County Council is facing the challenges of the climate change emergency, visit: <https://www.warwickshireclimateemergency.org.uk/>

**Applying to change schools in September**

Warwickshire families who want their child to start a new school this September are being encouraged to apply now.

Find out how to apply:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4237/now-is-the-time-to-apply-to-change-schools-in-september>



## **Leamington Farmer**

A Leamington Spa farmer who committed a number of animal health offences including causing unnecessary suffering to a ewe that had to be euthanised has been handed a 16 week prison sentence, suspended for 12 months and banned from keeping animals. The prosecution was brought by Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards.

Mr Ewan David Wells (age 64) of Main St. Hunningham, Leamington Spa had already pleaded guilty to three Animal Health offences in December 2022 and appeared at Coventry Magistrates Court on 29th June 2023 for sentencing.

## **Up-date**

An inspection of the pavements in Upper Lighthorne was taken by Warwickshire County Council Highways Localities Officer Jeoffery Hobday and Chris Mills on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June to look at:

1. Marston Avenue. Works completed.
2. Ash Path. Not WCC's land
3. Avon Road. WCC do not consider this as a trip hazard.
4. Leam Road. Not consider a trip hazard as does not fit WCC criteria.
5. Paths to bus stop. Although narrow, WCC says there is a pavement on opposite side of road which can be used.
6. Cromwell Place. Not considered a trip hazard
7. Kenilworth Road. This trip hazard was flagged up for immediate repair.

I have had complaints regarding helicopter noise which I am looking into and complaint of dead trees on the Ash Path. As this land does not belong to WCC it has been suggested that a Land Registry Search be taken out. However, it may show it as "no-man's-land".

A complaint of trees Owned by Orbit, overshadowing gardens and blocking out sunlight. This has been reported to Orbit.

A complaint from a resident in Aston Grange regarding dust from the building site.

Chris Mills  
Kineton and Red Horse

