

Ettington Parish Council

13 December 2023

Briefing re Stratford District Council

1. Community Climate Change Fund.

SD's Cabinet has agreed to establish a Stratford-on-Avon Community Climate Change Fund financed from the climate change reserve included in this year's Conservative Administration's approved budget. The intention is to allow SDC to invest in initiatives proposed by community organisations to enhance local climate change agendas.

The £100,000 Community Climate Change Fund will provide the following groups with the opportunity to apply for grant funding:

- Town and parish councils
- Properly constituted community and charity groups operating within the Stratford-on-Avon District

Applications will be assessed against their fulfilment of one of the below criteria:

- Criteria 1 - Bids should demonstrate how they will contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The ratio of CO2 saved relative to the cost of the bid will be used as a guide to bid assessment.
- Criteria 2 - Bids should demonstrate how they will contribute to providing climate change adaptation, building resilience to the impacts of climate change. Bids looking to increase climate change adaptation must not result in an operational increase in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Criteria 3 - Bids should demonstrate that they have explored all other funding options.

Successful bidders will be required to enter into a legally binding agreement with the District Council prior to funds being released. They will also be required to report back on the delivery of their projects.

For further details, see the link below:

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/news/press.cfm/current/1/item/138088>

2. Concessionary Car Park Permit

SDC's concessionary parking permit for residents of state pension age has been available since 1 October 2023. It costs £50 per year. The permits are available for residents aged 66 and over only for use at any

time of the week at Bridgeway Multi-Storey and Bridgeway Surface Car Parks. The maximum stay permitted in any 24-hour period is 4 hours. It is understood that by the end of November 2023 about 100 permits had been issued. Further details are available at:

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/news/press.cfm/current/1/item/138090>

3. Recycling of Used Coffee Pods

SDC and WDC are launching a new service to help residents to recycle used coffee pods in partnership with Podback, a not-for-profit recycling organisation. Residents will be able to recycle their plastic or aluminium coffee pods at home by signing up for free on the Podback website.

Coffee pods will be sent to specialist recycling plants. The plastic and aluminium will be transformed into new products, including beverage cans, automotive components, building products and re-usable plastic crates. The coffee grounds will be treated by anaerobic digestion to create renewable energy and soil improver. For more information, see: www.stratford.gov.uk/podback

4. Data Breach

On Monday 20 November SDC became aware of a data breach. Initial investigations suggest that the data breach is restricted to a database of email addresses which had been supplied to the Council by residents. SDC does not believe at this stage that any further personal data is affected. SDC has referred the matter to the Information Commissioner's Office.

It is believed that this data breach is an isolated incident and does not reflect a general failure of internal controls. SDC has instigated an internal investigation and is liaising with other agencies including Warwickshire Police.

In order not to interfere with the investigations, SDC has not made any further comment.

5. Four additional CCTV Cameras in Stratford

Four new CCTV cameras have recently been installed in Stratford as part of the Home Office Safer Streets Initiative. One camera has been installed by Stratford train station, one by the bandstand on the Recreation Ground and one by the natural play area just off the Shipston Road. The final camera has been placed on the RSC Theatre building allowing significant views of the Recreation Ground.

Since being installed, the CCTV cameras have already assisted partners to gather evidence in a number of incidents which has resulted in the

arrest of individuals and criminal charges being brought. The Home Office Safer Streets fund allows police forces and local authorities to invest in transformative crime prevention initiatives including in additional CCTV, lighting and behaviour-based programmes.

6. Cabinet Meeting – 4 December 2023

Amongst the principal items considered at this meeting of The Cabinet's meeting were:

- The Council Plan 2023-27. The supporting paper identifies six specific priorities set by the Liberal Democrat administration as:
 - Local Economy
 - Affordable, Well Built and Maintained Homes
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Climate Change
 - Delivery of Service
 - Residents and Communities

Further detail can be found on pp. 13-16 of the supporting papers which can be accessed via the following link:

<https://democracy.stratford.gov.uk/documents/g6389/Public%20reports%20pack%2004th-Dec-2023%2010.00%20The%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

- The South Warwickshire Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan for 2024-25 which is also subject to agreement and adoption by Warwick DC.

The three themes of the supporting document are:

- South Warwickshire at a glance; this presents facts and figures about the South Warwickshire economy, challenges and opportunities for the future.
 - An Economic Strategy for South Warwickshire; this sets out a vision for economic growth across South Warwickshire, our mission and focus.
 - Delivering the Economic Strategy; this present the objectives to be achieved and some actions to be delivered during 2024-25 to be revisited annually against the overarching programme themes until 2028.
- The Cabinet was asked to give authority for the approval of a Collaboration Agreement with the West Midlands Combine Authority (WMCA) that establishes the roles and responsibilities of both SDC and the WMCA with the aim of acquiring and

subsequently developing the Gateway site in accordance with existing planning policies as well as the draft Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document.

- The Cabinet approved the allocation of money collected by SDC through CIL payments held on 31 March 2023 amounting to £3.772m to eight projects of varying amounts ranging from £93k to £1.1m.

7. Planning Appeal - Land North East Of The Exchange, Mill Lane, Newbold-on-Stour

An outline application for a phased residential development comprising five self-build/custom build dwellings with access from Mill Lane (23/00989/|OUT) was refused by SDC's Planning Committee in July 2023. The applicant has lodged an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate (APP/J3720/W/23/3328604).

The appeal is being dealt with by way of Written Representations. Any representations that were made on the proposal at the application stage have been forwarded to the Inspector appointed by the Department of The Environment and have also been copied to the appellant.

Further representations may now be made, however, to the Planning Inspectorate. Any representations should be submitted online via the Appeals Casework Portal using the following website address:

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

The deadline for further submissions is 1 January 2024. Copies of a booklet entitled "A Guide to Taking Part in Planning Appeals" can be obtained free of charge from the Planning Portal website at:

http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/pins/taking-part_planning-written.pdf

Cllr Trevor Harvey
Tredington Ward
7 December 2023