

## **Wellesbourne and Walton Parish Council – District Councillor Report September 2022**

### **123+ Waste Collection from 1 August 2022**

The new service was successfully launched on 1 August 2022 and as anticipated in delivering to over 130,000 households, there have been a few hotspots where food caddies hadn't been delivered. However, myself and other Cabinet members have been out delivering to homes which had been missed, as they may have been hard to find by the contractor, or the household had recently moved into the area. In the event that anyone has still not received their caddies please contact the Streetscene Team or myself. The service was also hit by high absenteeism amongst the crew due to heat exhaustion during the heatwave, which has caused a few issues on missed bin collections, but is now starting to settle down.

Residents with smart phones are reminded to download the App and register their address to receive timely reminders of which bin/s to put out for the following morning. This can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play by searching [www.stratford.gov.uk/app](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/app)

### **MRF**

The new Multi-Recycling Facility is on track for being fully operational next summer. It will have the capacity to process 175,000 tonnes of waste although it will operate initially at around 125,000 tonnes with some of the capacity being sold to other local authorities and private companies at premium rates.

### **Cabinet Reshuffle**

There has been a slight reshuffle of Cabinet and I am now portfolio holder for ICT, Transformation and Tourism – which also includes culture and the markets. This means I have been appointed to the Board of Stratford-upon-Avon Bid and shall be moving back onto the Planning Committee.

### **Solar Farm Granted**

The application for a solar farm was granted at Newbold Pacey, despite significant local objection to the character of the landscape at the gateway entrance into the village and concerns to its impact with regard to the ancient track – E6982 and in view of its close proximity to the Newbold Road with the inevitable distraction and dangers to passing motorists. There are no energy benefits from this solar farm to villagers or residents in the district.

### **Dementia Café**

In response to a letter on behalf of over 30 carers in the village with regard to the lack of support for carers, I joined a meeting with the Cllr Anne Prior, Cllr Mark Cargill and Cllr Penny-Anne O'Donnell to gain a greater understanding of their needs. The meeting highlighted the type of help required and is resulting in the development of an action plan to address the issues raised that would help to provide more support for carers and their loved ones. Our thanks are extended to Heather and Paul Dowler together with their team of volunteers for the wonderful work that they do.

### **The Cost of Living Payment**

The first tranche payment should have been received by now. In total, eligible households will receive £650 in two tranches – next one October.

### **Healthcare**

The Minor Injuries Unit at Stratford is now opening at weekends as it can be staffed and there is a need. SWFT has continued its commitment to the Ellen Badger Hospital and will be building the Wellbeing Hub. This will contain all the remote services such as health visitors, district nursing, clinics and wellbeing work.

The media has been reporting about ambulance issues, but Warwick Hospital (or indeed UHCW) rarely have more than two ambulances waiting. The flow through them is good. The real problem with West Midlands ambulances is Birmingham – where they get backed up - which of course has a knock-on effect to the response rate.

### **Community Safety**

Delighted to advise that PC Catherine Morgan is back on patrol with the Wellesbourne Safer Neighbourhood Team and a meeting has been arranged in September to discuss any ASB issues and other matters in and around the village. County Lines remains a key priority for the Community Safety Team with numerous interventions led by the Team.

### **Casework**

There has been an increased number of issues raised by residents in the last month, which continues to take up time in a bid to resolve. This includes the new exterior lighting which Orbit has installed at Lawrence Mackie House which is causing unacceptable light pollution to neighbouring properties in Hastings Road. The matter is being addressed and hopefully will be resolved. Other matters continue to involve the impact of the shortage of affordable housing in the village.

### **Wellesbourne Allotments**

Despite writing a letter to the Bishop of Coventry regarding the safeguarding of the allotments, I have yet to receive a reply, which is disappointing.

### **Wellesbourne Flood Alleviation Forum**

Moreton Morrell Parish Council will be considering the request for a grant towards the programme of works at its next meeting in September.

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