

## **District Councillors report - Claverdon Parish Council, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

### **Water Testing**

Water testing is now underway in Langley, Preston Bagot and Snitterfield. Each of the three teams has their own test kit and testing is conducted weekly. The test kit is passed on to the next team member after each calendar month. Anyone wishing to join any of the teams are welcome.

### **“Resourcing to Risk” – Changes to the way Warwickshire Fire Service is deployed.**

I attended a meeting at Stratford High school on the 17<sup>th</sup> January to understand the implications of the proposed changes on Langley. The Green group of councillors will be responding to the consultation at the end of February. Residents with an interest in this matter should also submit their suggestion. I welcome discussion on this important matter to inform my position.

### **Stratford-on-Avon District Councillors have approved the new Council Plan.**

This sets its priorities for the district for the next four years. The Council Plan, approved by Full Council on December 11th, 2023, has been produced with input from a wide range of key stakeholders. It will provide the direction for the District Council over the next four years and will be a critical document in guiding the allocation of resources to priorities.

The Plan's six priorities are:

1. Local Economy - We will create a resilient, larger, greener and more inclusive Economy.
2. Affordable, Well Built and Maintained Homes - We will strive to deliver affordable well built and maintained homes.
3. Health and Wellbeing - Health and wellbeing will be at the heart of the decisions we make.
4. Climate Change - The time to act is now, we will lead the fight against climate change.
5. Delivery of Service - We will use your money responsibly in delivering the best services possible.
6. Residents and Communities - We will act in the best interest of our communities throughout our District understanding their needs to make responsible decisions.

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/council-plan-2023--2027.cfm>

### **Five Year Draft Budget Proposal**

The Liberal Democrat led District Council have released their draft budget for 2024 through to 2029 for public consultation.

In brief, the draft budget provides for: -

- £28,000 for the employment of Rural Crime Advisors, working with the Community Safety Team, to improve response to rising rural crime.
- £85,000 to continue financial support for the UBUS service.
- £25,000 funding to get people active through a new Leisure Community Instructor to provide targeted support for people with long term health conditions. Also proposed is a reduction in hire fees for use of public playing pitches in Stratford.
- £250,000 is proposed to continue to protect residents from the ongoing cost of living crisis.
- £500,000 of extra funding to address the Climate Emergency to enable the Council to achieve its carbon reduction targets.
- £250,000 to run the refuse collection vehicles on biofuel to reduce net carbon dioxide emissions.