

Ladbroke Parish Council Meeting March 12th 2025

District Councillor Report: Susan Ostrander

Headlines:

1. DC Budget
2. Devolution and Govt Reorganisation
3. SWLP – where we are now
4. Community Noticeboard Grant
5. Community Safety
6. Windmill Lane Update

1. District Council Budget 2025/6

Stratford-on-Avon District Councillors have set the district element of the Council Tax at a meeting of the Council on Monday 24 February.

The amount residents will be asked to pay for a Band D property is £169.12, an increase of £5. This is an increase of 3.05%, which for an average home represents just an additional 42p per month to the District Council next year. **Stratford-on-Avon remains a low-taxing authority, 18th lowest out of 164 district councils across the country in 2024/25.**

Although the District Council acts as the collecting agent for Council Tax, it **only receives 7.1% of the Council Tax paid by residents**. Warwickshire County Council receives the lion's share of 76.6%, the Police 12.8% and Towns/Parishes 3.5%.

	2025/26	% Increase
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	£169.12	3.05%
Warwickshire County Council	£1,822.95	5.00%
Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner	£303.71	4.83%
Sub-total	£2,295.78	4.83%
Town and Parish Councils (average)	£84.13	13.95%
TOTAL	£2,379.91	5.13%

More detail here: [Your Guide to Council Tax 2025 2026.pdf](#)

In addition, at the budget meeting, two items of particular interest to Parishes are the £250,000 for Parishes and Community groups to improve their community facilities and £50,000 for Trees for Parishes. As soon as we have further detail on how these funds may be applied for, we will of course, let you know.

2. Update on the English Devolution White Paper

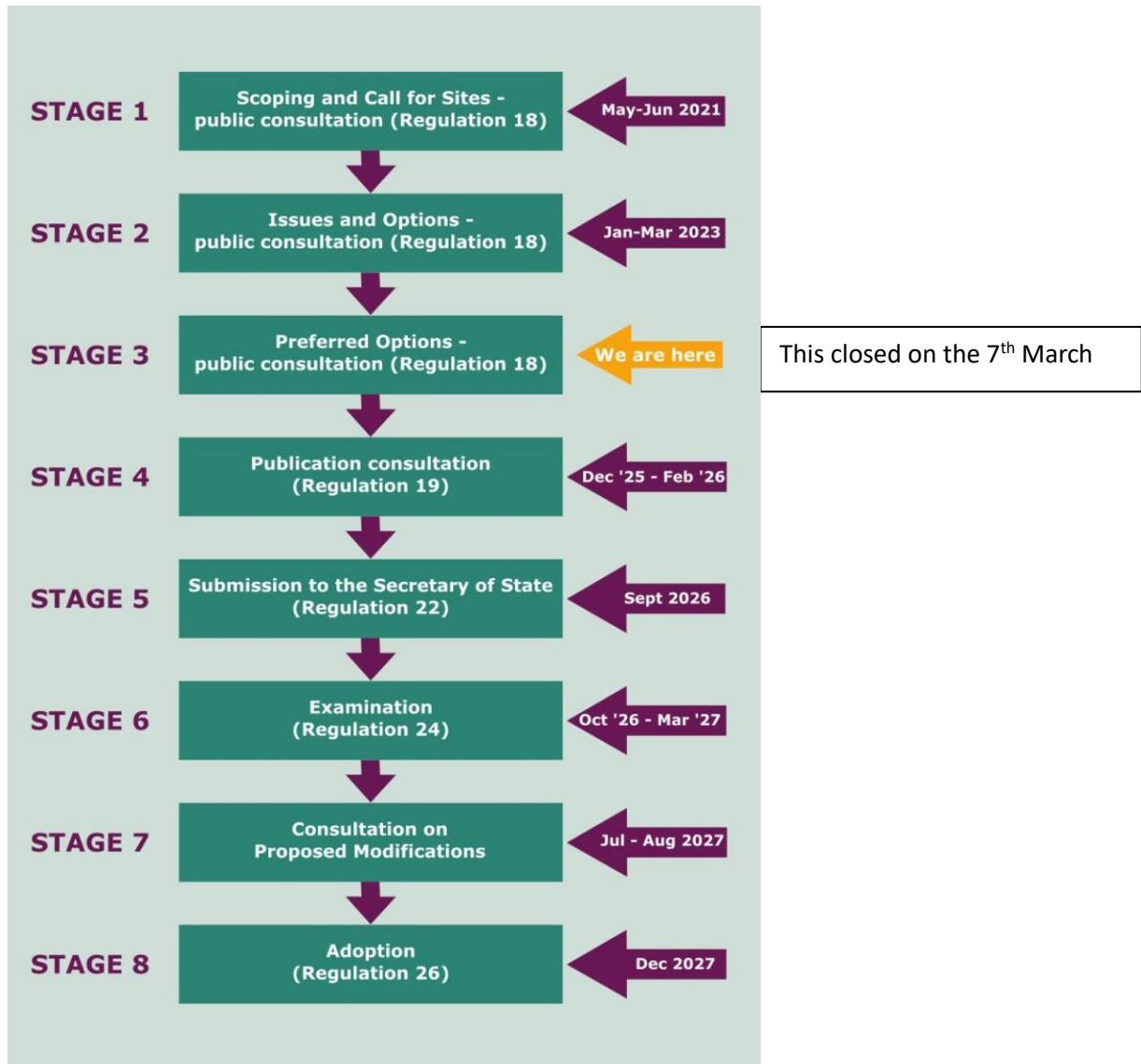
Central government wrote to the District Council in early February to request that their initial proposals for the re-arrangement of local government in England are submitted to them by 21 March.

As noted last month, the proposal is for two-tier authorities to be abolished (that is District, Borough and County Councils) and replaced with a unitary authority.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council held an **Extraordinary Full Council meeting on Monday 10 February at 2pm at Elizabeth House, Stratford-upon-Avon** to discuss the implications for the Council from Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation arising from the recent government white paper. The Press release following the meeting may be viewed here: [Stratford-on-Avon District](#)

[Council supports Devolution Notice of Motion | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#). The District Council are presently working on their proposals with partners in order to meet the very tight deadline for submission and we will let you have further information as soon as we are able.

3. South Warwickshire Local Plan – stage 3 completed.



Next Stage: Once the consultation has ended officers will collate and analyse the responses and prepare a consultation statement that will be made available on our SWLP website. These responses, alongside further Technical Evidence, will be used to inform the next iteration of the plan. The next stage will be a statutory consultation on Publication Stage (Regulation 19). This Regulation 19 consultation will be a further enhancement to this Preferred Options consultation, and where policy directions have been consulted on, these will be presented as full policies. The next iteration of the plan will be the plan as proposed prior to it being sent to the Secretary of State (stage 5). After the Regulation 19 consultation, only minor changes are likely to be made.

4. Community Noticeboard Grant Open for Applications

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Noticeboard Grant is now open for applications. Parish and Town Councils, community venues and local groups are invited to apply for funding for new community noticeboards.

There is £7,500 available with potential for supporting the purchase of 6-7 noticeboards across the District.

The grant will be open until **Friday 14th March 2025** and will be available for any community group to apply for either a new or replacement noticeboard.

To apply please contact the team at socialinclusion@stratford-dc.gov.uk

5. Community Safety:

a. Livestock worrying

Livestock worrying is a particular concern this time of year in our rural community with pregnant ewes and lambs being particularly vulnerable. Under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953, it is a criminal offence for a dog to actively worry livestock and dog owners risk prosecution. Whilst the majority of dog owners do walk their dogs in a responsible manner, unfortunately there are a small minority whose recklessness puts the welfare of other animals at risk. Please remember to keep your dog on a lead at all times in a field with livestock.

If you have livestock and would like a 'Dog on Lead' sign, please

email: ruralwatch@warwickshire.police.uk

b. Warwickshire Police and Crime Plan 2025-29

The Police and Crime Commissioner published the Warwickshire Police and Crime Plan for 2025-2029 last week and I attach it here for your ease of reference:

[PCCW-Crime-Plan-2025-29_web_final.pdf](#)

6. Windmill Lane Update:

- a.** John Careford (Head of Dev at SDC) emailed several of us on the 24th Feb to say that someone would be making a site visit but this would need to be accompanied by the police. This was in light of the gates, new structure on site and police activity. I chased this via email on the 6th March and again on the 10th. I have now had a reply: the site is being monitored, the decision made regarding the outline planning application is likely to cause a review of the case and they are planning a site visit at some point.
- b.** Outline Planning Application for 5 custom build homes: this will be determined on Thursday the 13th March. Because Ladbroke was downgraded to the category of 'All Other Settlement' in 2018, the principle of self-build is considered unacceptable according to The Core Strategy.

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