

Warwick District Council ('WDC') Report for KTC June 2026 - Cllr Kate Dickson

Issue/Portfolio Holder(s)	Current status
1 Arts, Culture & Economy Cllr Ella Billiald	- WDC through CJs arranged the recent showing on a big screen of the Eurovision Song Contest in Leamington Pump Room Gardens. This followed advice that they should show the Israeli entry despite protests. A request was made to publish the legal advice. - The events team are planning for the town's Christmas light switch on events - The event plan has been received by the events team for Kenilworth Carnival ahead of the July event
2 Decarbonisation Cllr Hema Yellapragada, (since April 26)	- A new website has been launched for the South Warwickshire Local Climate Engagement Programme jointly with SDC - Plans have been approved for a new shared use path across Abbey Fields, forming a part of the National Cycle Network route.
3 Strategic Leadership Cllr Ian Davison	- Cllr Pam Chilvers has been appointed as Chair of WDC for the year 26/27 with Cllr James Kennedy appointed as Deputy Chair. - The cabinet members and portfolio titles were confirmed at the annual meeting on 13th May 26 - The Joint Cabinet for Stratford (SDC) and Warwick (WDC) District Councils are due to consider the current draft plans for the new joint local plan before consideration by both Councils – an oral update to be given at Town Council meeting 4/6/26 - see note under Place - All councils are awaiting announcements regarding Local Government Reorganisation which are expected before the summer recess at Parliament, although this date may be delayed.
4 Resources Cllr Jonathan Chilvers	The introduction of 2nd home council tax premium was approved to commence in April 2027
5 Housing Cllr Jessica Melrose	- A new Housing and Homeless strategy is being developed working with SDC and other support agencies - A report is to be presented to cabinet to improve the standards of families and pregnant residents in temporary accommodation - Consideration is being given to a report on the acquisition of section 106 properties and whether this should be limited to sites where green infrastructure and roads are to be adopted by relevant public authorities - Compliance with the standards in the Pennington's report is expected to be completed in June - Work continues to improve the Regulator Standards including compliance with Awaab's law - Work continues to audit WDC owned void garages including those in Kenilworth and evaluate options for future use. This is due to be reported in August - Procurement for the new housing repairs contract is underway, meanwhile complaints are being monitored and reported

6	Neighbourhood Cllr Will Roberts	• Bereavement services – at a recent open day The Little Oaks Memorial Garden was opened as a memorial to remember children and babies • We await details of the reinstatement of the tennis courts following the swimming pools opening as required by a planning condition • WDC has gone live on the National Parking Platform for its car park parking, meaning that ticket machine users are not limited to using single parking apps and able to use a range of approved apps
7	Place Cllr Chris King	• South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) is due to go forward for a section 19 consultation soon. This is to enable the plan to progress to inspection before a December deadline to allow submission under the current planning rules. This consultation is for examination by the public to assess whether the plan is sound. At the time of writing this report, it is not clear what the next step will be and when or if this consultation will take place. • SWLP is due to be considered by the Joint (WDC & SDC) Cabinet on 28th May. Therefore, oral update to be given at KTC on 4/6/26 • 2 sites in Kenilworth have been identified as sites for development in the plan please see: https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/doc/214611/name/Baseline%20Report%20SG01.pdf https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/doc/214613/name/Baseline%20Report%20SG04.pdf
8	Safer, Healthier and Active Communities Cllr Jim Sinnott	• Abbey Fields Swimming Pools are due to open on July 11th with events being planned for the weekend
9	People and Organisational Development Cllr Becky Davidson	• Appointment process continues to fill identified gaps in workforce amidst a challenging job market. • A new Planning IT system is under review and expected to be introduced in September • A training programme continues for all employees handling complaints with the aim of reducing the rise in level 2 complaints