

PILLERTON PRIORS PARISH COUNCIL

**The 214th Meeting of the Pillerton Priors Parish Council was held on Wednesday 15th January 2025 at 7.30pm Pillerton Priors Village Hall.
All Parishioners were welcome to attend.**

Present: Cllr Ian Greenall (Chair)
Cllr Dave McWhirter (Vice Chair)
Cllr Jo Wilkinson (Treasurer)
Cllr Michael Nevill
Sue Greenall (Clerk)

Cllr Izi Seccombe OBE (WCC)

Residents 9 Residents were present

Number	Item
1	Chair's welcome – Ian Greenall welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported on the death of Michael Stanton on 23/12/24. Michael was a previous Pillerton Priors Parish Councillor and Chair of the Council for 10 years until 2011.
2	Apologies were received from Cllr Malcolm Littlewood (SDC), Cllr Dominic Sant and one resident.
3	Warwickshire County Council update Cllr Seccombe gave a verbal update. On 16/12/24 Warwickshire County Council along with the District and Brough Councils had received notification from the Minister for Local Government of a white paper to consider the reform of the UK into Unitary Councils by 2028. In 2020 Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils had proposed a South Warwickshire Unitary but Warwickshire County Council believed a Unitary authority covering the whole of Warwickshire would be best. The Minister has stated he will consider Unitary Councils which represented over 500,000 residents. Warwickshire is currently 620,000. The Leaders of the authorities had met on 19/12/24 and Rugby Borough Council declared it would support a Warwickshire Unitary. However Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick Districts along with Nuneaton & Bedworth and North Warwickshire Borough Councils opposed the Warwickshire model as they thought more discussions between the authorities were needed. The Unitary Council would require the abolishment of all of the councils, including the county council, and the creation of a new single council. To be considered within the first tranche of unitary authorities the County Council had to submit an expression of interest for the postponement of the County Council elections scheduled for May 2025, which they have done via a Leader decision on 10/01/25, and a response from the Minister is expected by the end of January. If the Council had decided not to try for the first tranche, then the Government would have expected a joint submission from all the authorities by March 2025. If the submission is supported by the Government then County Council elections would be delayed 12 months until May 2026. There would be a saving of around £1 million by not holding elections in both 2025 and 2026. It is the County Council's belief that by applying early they will have a greater say in how the new authority is set up rather than have to follow a model that has worked in another area.

Whenever the Unitary Authority is created there will be a lot of tasks that need to continue in all of the councils although it is noted the degree of instability across all of the staff and all of the councils are concerned about the retention and recruitment of staff. It is hoped the new Unitary Authority will retain local working for both staff and councillors as their experience would be required within the new authority and this would help residents through the transition. At this stage it is not thought that Parish or Town Councils would take on any additional responsibilities to those they currently have. It was noted that the Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council area does not have any town or parish councils. Likewise Rugby Borough Council does not have a Town Council.

Any consultation would be run by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and not the local councils. It is envisaged that any consultation will be available on all of the local authorities websites.

Cllr Seccombe then responded to questions from the audience.

With all councils becoming larger unitary councils there will be a reduction of the number of elected councillors there are at present. Currently there are 250 elected councillors in the county, district and borough councils. Of those 57 are twin hatters and have seats on both the county council and their local district or borough council.

It is not known where the new authority would have its headquarters but it is expected that there will be a requirement for some local offices.

It is beneficial for Warwickshire to have Coventry at arms length with its economic and health responsibilities. It is not known if the new Unitary Warwickshire would be able to, or want to, join the West Midlands Combined Authority under its Mayor. The powers given to the various Mayors are more concerned with transport, the economy and bringing investment and skills to the area, and also creating safer streets. Stratford made a bid to the Combined Authority to help fund its £10 million Gateway Project.

All of the local councils have different levels of Council Tax so there would need to be some method of harmonisation to balance the figures as Stratford Council is relatively well off where others are struggling financially so this may take some time.

Stratford and Warwick District Council are currently producing a joint Local Plan. This work should continue as a strategic view is required for the future planning requirements in South Warwickshire. Housing need has to be based on evidence and local need which will be part of the local plan.

If the County elections in May 2025 are postponed they would be held in May 2026. The elected councillors would not only represent WCC until its potential closure, but would also be part of a shadow vesting council for the new unitary authority where they would review boundaries and harmonise the various tiers before elections are held for the new Council.

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Stratford-on-Avon District Council update

Cllr Littlewood supplied the written report below which Ian highlighted the main points.

District Council Report December 2024/January 2025

1. Ellen Badger – Rehabilitation Beds – Consultation

There are two potential options that are being consulted on to ensure these beds remain accessible, effective and sustainable. The options are:

Option A – Three sites: Distribute all 35 beds across three sites: Ellen Badger Hospital, Leamington Spa Hospital, and Stratford Hospital. This would reduce the number of beds currently at Stratford Hospital and Leamington Spa Hospital and return up to 12 beds to the Ellen Badger site.

Option B – Two sites: Provide all 35 beds at two sites, Leamington Spa Hospital and Stratford Hospital. The wards would remain the same current size at Leamington Spa Hospital and Stratford Hospital and there would no longer be any beds at the Ellen Badger site.

The Trust prefers the second option, i.e. NOT having beds at the Ellen Badger. SDC have reserved some £1.5M to support the project that included the provision of a GP practice and the Rehab beds. Neither provision is certain. At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting prior to Christmas 2024 I asked the Portfolio Holder for Development if planning permission was granted for a site for beds, would the lack of such provision require a change of use and as SDC had supported the project for beds and new GP facilities and if neither provision was to be implemented then would any grant funding be withdrawn and he assured me that it would.

The original proposal was that rehabilitation beds would be a 'halfway house' for those in Shipston and area before returning to self-sufficiency so easing the bed shortage in the acute care sector and would also provide care in the community. Removing this facility from Ellen Badger not only flies in the proposal but would particularly impact on local families having to travel from the Shipston area to either Stratford upon Avon or Leamington Rehabilitation hospital an almost impossible return journey by public transport.

I therefore urge Parish Councils to advertise the Consultation and help as many as possible to participate. <https://www.happyhealthylives.uk/integrated-care-board/your-voice/currentconsultations/south-warwickshire-community-hospital-rehabilitation-bedconsultation/consultation-document/>

The survey can be accessed here: <https://surveys.qaresearch.co.uk/WebProd/Interview/8U3338DPK0TGSHSQ8U300ASAWP0CJ0YK>

2. South Warwickshire Local Plan

Central Government have issued a draft revise National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF]. This coincides with the development of the South Warwickshire Local Plan [SWLP] which has been in development as a replacement of the current Core Strategy for SDC but includes Warwick District Council as well and has therefore been developed jointly between the two Councils.

The consultation period for the SWLP commenced on the 10th January 2025 details of which can be viewed at; <https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/>

	I urge all Parish Councils to comment within the consultation period and to encourage residents to do the same as this plan will impact them locally going towards 2050; this is a plan for a generation and will shape the environment in which we live and cherish. The NPPF focus is on delivering affordable housing and that includes new settlements, traveller sites, and the status of green belt as well as 'green' power generation projects such as solar and wind farms. In addition, the government has determined that District Councils will be abolished within this Parliament. That makes the design of the SWLP most critical for local democracy and protection of our countryside, because decisions on planning will become more remote from communities by definition. 3. Devolution As mentioned above, in December 2024 the government issued an English Devolution White Paper. Warwickshire was already designated as a Tier Two devolved Council but retaining the two tier political system of District and County Councils. The white paper would remove the District Council tier but retain Parish Councils. It is likely therefore that Warwickshire will be in the van of implementation which might happen as soon as 2027 [see page 32 of the English Devolution White Paper]. There is therefore an argument to delay WCC elections due in May 2025. District elections are due in May 2027 but would no longer be required with the abolishment of the Councils. It costs around £1,000,000 to run the WCC election and having to repeat the election some 24 months later does not seem a good use of public money but others may take a different view. In any case, the requirement for a non-mayoral Unitary Authority [Foundation level] is to have a population of 500,000 or more. Warwickshire has around 650,000. A mayoral authority would require a population of 1.5M and to achieve that Warwickshire would need to join with another authority such as Worcestershire or as some District/Borough Council Leaders have suggested, the West Midlands Combined Authority. The Mayor of the West Midlands has appeared to have ruled that option out but the Northern Boroughs seem to be in favour as does the Leader of SDC. If Warwickshire moves in the vane of authorities to a non-mayoral Unitary Authority, it can design its own destiny rather than have won imposed that does not have the priorities of residents at its heart.
5	Approval of the minutes of the 213rd Parish Council Meeting The Minutes of the 213th Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd October 2024 were approved and signed by Ian Greenall.
6	Matters Arising from the Minutes
6.1	Community Speed Watch Ian had contacted Shipston Police regarding training of the new speed watch volunteers and the possibility of borrowing a speed gun from them. Disappointingly he have not received a response to date. He had also contacted Ettington PC and Pillerton have previously used a gun purchased by them. They have purchased a new gun and would be willing to sell their old one to us for £300. They cost £1000 new. This appears expensive if it is the same gun that was used previously as it was already refurbished at that time.

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6.2	Responsible Dog Ownership At the last meeting we decided against installing dog waste bins because of the cost. Stratford-on-Avon District Council are currently running a consultation regarding the Stratford-on-Avon District Council (Public Spaces Protection) (Dog Fouling) Order 2025. The Council will shortly consider making a public spaces protection order, effective across the whole district, to prohibit people from failing to pick up after their dogs. Public spaces protection orders are designed to tackle anti-social behaviour in public places. The behaviour which the Council is looking to prohibit has been identified as detrimental to the area, persistent and unreasonable. Should you wish to take part in this consultation, please visit the Council's website – Proposed PSPO (Dog Fouling) Consultation Stratford-on-Avon District Council. The last date for consultation responses is 24/01/2025.
6.3	Gates at Dickensbury Farm. It was reported that large concrete blocks and a gate had been installed at the entrance to Dickensbury Farm. This has narrowed the entrance which was one of the concerns on a recent planning application. SDC Planning Enforcement have opened a case reference: 24/00610/DESB0C relating to concerns if all the conditions of the planning permission 22/00030/FUL have been fulfilled. County Highways have reviewed the planning approval 22/00030/FUL which made it clear that the approval required improvements to the access (widening and visibility splay improvements), which was consented in January 2023 with 3 years to be implemented. The gate shown in the photo was not proposed as part of the planning application and SDC had not consulted with WCC on any discharge of condition applications. It was reported to the meeting that additional blocks had been installed since the October meeting.
7	Treasurer's Report Jo Wilkinson had supplied written notes regarding quarter three of 2024-25 to 08/01/25. The accounts showed we have received no income but during the quarter seven payments had been made totalling £3,266.03. The opening balance on 23/10/2024 was £22,956.21 and the closing balance on 08/01/2025 is £19,690.18.
8	Parish Council Precept 2025/26 Jo Wilkinson had prepared two proposals for the Parish Precept for 2025/26 and had highlighted the risks and issues with each proposal. Option 1 was to increase all items outside of the PC control by 3% which was the rate of inflation. This would increase the precept by £52.69 which was a 1.22% increase on last year. Option 2 was to keep the precept figure the same as 2024/25 with the difference coming from the General Fund. After discussion Option 1 was agreed by a majority vote. The precept figure of £4373.35 will be sent to Stratford District Council.

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Village Hall Report

Dominic Sant, Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee was an apology for this meeting but sent the written report below.

Village Hall Update 01/01/25

Happy New Year from the Village Hall committee to all villagers and all the Hall users.

We are looking forward to a brighter 2025. The last quarter of 2024 was a busy few months with bookings up and the hall breaking even for the first time in a while.

On Sunday, 10 November, we had a great afternoon of Bingo, with our fab caller, Michael Neville, shouting out the numbers. It was lovely to see the hall packed with all ages, and we raised £676.80 for hall funds. Thank you to all who baked the delicious cakes, volunteered their time to help run the event and to all those who came along. Bingo will be back in 2025.

On Friday, 6 December, 40 villagers attended the festive Pop Up Pub. Many thanks to Helen Baker, Hazel Jones and Eric Kingdom for all their hard work setting up the hall with lights and trees - it looked great. £100 to hall funds were raised from the night. We also completed the first stage of our drainage work, which moves flood water away from the hall entrance and stops it from rising in the entrance area. Further work is required to help prevent surface water from the fields running down the hill and inundating the hall area. This will be completed in 2025.

The Village Hall would also like to thank Pillerton Priors Parish Council for purchasing a Pickleball set. We would like to establish a regular Pickleball and Badminton club for villagers to enjoy both activities in the Village Hall. We need volunteers to help put this event on. Ideally, we would run the event weekly one evening and if you would like to help or just come along please can you email your interest to bookings@pillertonpriorsvillagehall.org.uk

The hall still needs more villagers to help with the running and upkeep. You can help in one of 3 ways:

1. Attend a village hall meeting: support the current committee or consider joining yourself, offer your expertise to support them practically or administratively on just one aspect of the current activities, or help with fundraising. The hall is an asset for everyone in the village, and the responsibility should not fall on a few battling to keep it viable.
2. Regular/ ad-hoc bookings: Do you know an activity or class who are looking for a regular hall space? Please encourage them to book here. More regular bookings will help towards running costs. Ad-hoc bookings are also encouraged. The hall is there to be booked and used.
<https://www.pillertonpriorsvillagehall.org.uk/venue-hire/how-to-book> and email bookings@pillertonpriorsvillagehall.org.uk
3. Set up a regular donation: consider setting up a small amount periodically as a standing order as a charitable donation. We know it is not always convenient to attend village fundraising events, and although everyone is always welcome, you can still support by donating. Every little helps! If you want to donate please let us know - bookings@pillertonpriorsvillagehall.org.uk - and we can give you bank account details.

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	We have three upcoming events supporting the Village Hall in the next few months. We hope to see you there. Saturday 18 January – Village Breakfast at Pillerton Village Hall. Doors open at 8.30 am for villagers to buy and enjoy breakfast with their neighbours. The last orders are at 10.30 am. It is a cash-only event, with tea, coffee and juice available. We would be very grateful if any villagers could volunteer their time to help run this event. Please email bookings@pillertonpriorsvillagehall.org.uk so we can work out the numbers who can help. Saturday 1 March - Save the date as our Quiz night is back at the hall. More details to follow Friday 7 March – Pop-Up Pub 7-10pm. Please come along to meet friends and neighbours. It is £2 per person on the door, and it is a BYO event. Expenditure requests from the Village Hall Management Committee Jo Wilkinson reported on two expenditure requests from the Village Hall from the CIL/Section 106 Funds that the PC administer. Installation of a new external car park light £922.50 and the repositioning of the main hall heaters from space away from the windows £692.40. These were both approved.
10	Parish Plan / Housing Needs It was reported to the last meeting that we had received the headline information that the majority of respondents seem to be generally supportive of the idea of affordable homes for local people, located within the village. The full report has been received from WRCC but says very little apart from noting that three households wish to downsize while remaining in the village.
11	South Warwickshire Local Plan Dave McWhirter produced the briefing note below regarding the joint plan being developed between Stratford and Warwick District Councils. This was included in the residents email dated 08/01/2025. What follows is an edited version of a draft plan which may well have an impact on life in this village. The actual draft plan is over 250 pages long and the Parish Council have looked at it and drawn out the two parts we believe may have the most direct impact. That said, the plan contains proposed policies on a range of matters such as future housing plans, employment, transport, climate change. The full plan can be found on the South Warwickshire Local Plan/ Stratford District Council website. https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/ The two parts we encourage residents to study and comment on are at the end of this summary document. One covers small scale development – villages such as ours. The other covers sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople – an issue that raised a huge amount of local comment last year. Please do not restrict yourself to these two policy areas, have a look at the range of policies listed on pages 19-21 of the draft plan and select those that are important enough to you to trigger a comment. Summary for South Warwickshire Local Plan consultation. This Preferred Options consultation is the third stage in preparing the South Warwickshire Local Plan – a new Plan for Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick Districts, following the Scoping and Call for Sites consultation in 2021 and Issues and Options consultation in 2023. The new Local Plan will affect the way we live, work, visit and play plan in South Warwickshire

to 2050. As well as working collaboratively on this Plan, both Councils are also preparing other plans on specific topics relevant to their District. Those plans are entirely separate to this South Warwickshire Local Plan. It is proposed that this Part 1 of the South Warwickshire Local Plan will set out the overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of places within South Warwickshire, and make sufficient provision for housing, employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development, along with infrastructure, community facilities, conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation. Primarily, the Local Plan sets out how we will grow the South Warwickshire economy and create jobs through delivery of the net zero carbon agenda. It will ensure that the necessary infrastructure and the right type and number of homes are delivered to support the level of jobs we want to see across South Warwickshire to 2050. The adoption of this overarching Part 1 would then enable other 'Part 2' planning policy documents to come forward and set out detailed policies for specific areas, neighbourhoods or types of development. This could include allocating sites and the provision of infrastructure at a local level, establishing design principles and setting out other more detailed planning policies.

Call for Sites

A targeted 'call for sites' is running simultaneously with this consultation. This call for sites is only for sites that meet at least one of the purposes below:

- A site that falls within or adjacent to one of the 12 proposed New Settlement Locations
- A Gypsy and Traveller Site
- A site for commercial or community-led renewable energy generation
- We are not accepting any other sites at this time. Sites submitted previously through one of the earlier call for sites do not need to be submitted again, unless your site relates to one of the three proposed uses listed above, and you are seeking to change the boundary, or proposed use.

Stratford-on-Avon District and Warwick District Councils are seeking the views of residents, businesses, developers, infrastructure providers, community groups and all other stakeholders on this 'preferred options' document. We are still the early stages of the process (stage 3 of 8), and further public consultation will follow. This consultation sets out the "Preferred Options" identified by both Councils following earlier consultations on the Scoping and Call for Sites and Issues and Options documents, as well as further evidenced work. Consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Local Plan Regulations and each Council's Statement of Community Involvement. Once Part 1 is fully adopted, it will replace the existing strategic policies, and some of the detailed policies contained within the Stratford-on-Avon District Council Core Strategy and Warwick District Councils Local Plan.

Structure of the Preferred Options Consultation

This "Preferred Options" Document follows on from the previous two consultations. It addresses a number of topics, and then presents the preferred approach to addressing them. The consultation document contains 11 draft policies, 49 draft policy directions, 24 Strategic Growth Locations (SGL's) and 12 potential new settlement locations. The district councils seek your views on the content of the draft policy directions, draft policies and which of the strategic growth locations should be considered for development. We would also like to you identify the most suitable and deliverable location for potential new settlements.

The period for identifying your preferred options and submitting any comments is between Friday 10th January and Friday 7th March 2025. Comments received after the deadline will not be considered.

Draft Policy Direction 3- Small Scale Development, Settlement Boundaries and Infill Development

The SWLP will identify Built Up Area Boundaries (BUABs) for settlements in South Warwickshire. This will include:

- Reviewing, and where appropriate updating, existing adopted boundaries in the current Stratford District Core Strategy, Warwick District Local Plan, and Neighbourhood Development Plans;
- Identifying a suitable size threshold above which settlements should have a BUAB;
- Drafting boundaries for those settlements above the size threshold which do not currently have an adopted or draft BUAB.

The SWLP will review whether a revised settlement hierarchy classification is required to replace the current classifications in the Stratford District Core Strategy and Warwick District Local Plan. The SWLP will support Neighbourhood Development Plans as an appropriate mechanism for making housing and employment allocations in smaller settlements. Consideration will be given to the need for the SWLP to identify a number of small sites in order to ensure provision of a 5-year housing land supply and meet the requirement in the NPPF for at least 10% of the housing requirement to be accommodated on sites no larger than one hectare

Draft Policy Direction-11- Meeting the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies, Travellers, Travelling Showpeople and Boat Dwellers

To maintain an appropriate supply of sites to meet the accommodation needs of Gypsy, Traveller, Travelling Showpeople and Boat Dwellers as identified in the Accommodation Assessment the following Policy approaches are considered appropriate. Policies will be set that:

- Safeguard all existing, authorised permanent Gypsy and Traveller sites and Travelling Showpeople Yards. In doing so, this will ensure that these locations are protected and not lost to other purposes over time.
- Proposals for an alternative use of a safeguarded site or yard should only be considered, if as part of any such proposal an alternative replacement site or yard has been identified and developed to provide facilities of an equivalent or improved standard (including its location).
- Protect New Sites and Yards. All new lawful Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites and yards, or any extensions to lawful sites and yards shall also be safeguarded.
- Provide for Future Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation need. The Local Plan will require the provision of pitches and plots on large scale development sites (of over 500 homes) to meet the identified need as set out in the latest GTAA accommodation assessment (or any subsequent update). In doing so, this will enable the provision of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation at sustainable 90 locations with good access to a range of facilities. This approach will require appropriate developments to incorporate small-scale traveller sites. It is believed that small scale sites will better integrate with emerging localities and communities.
- In conjunction with this approach, consideration will be given to the potential re- use of the Leamington Football Club site at Harbury Lane, Leamington Spa for Gypsy and Traveller site needs (subject to the future re-location of the Football Club and the availability of the current site).
- A criterion-based policy will be provided for the assessment of applications and any possible applications that may come forward on non-allocated sites. This policy will

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	require the consideration of the following matters: - That sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally, have appropriate access to schools and health services and provide a settled base that reduces the need for long distance travel. Dave responded to questions The previous Travelling Showperson application had brought the Priors and Hersey communities together with their universal rejection of the application. The District Council had received over 300 letters objecting to the application. However Stratford and Warwick state they have an unmet need so would be looking for suitable sites. Sites should have good connectivity to health and road networks which the Pillerton site did not have but that does not mean the applicant will not try again. The call for housing sites had received four potential sites in the Parish, two near The Oaks on Banbury Road, One at Ashfield on the Kineton Road and one near the Village Hall. None of these are suitable for major developments but could provide small scale development. All four sites are outside the Built Up Area Boundary that was approved in our approved Parish Plan. The PC would like to protect the boundary but SDC may authorise development that is currently outside. The sites are available to view on the interactive map on the South Warwickshire Local Plan website where there is also the option to submit comments.
12	Planning Application update on live application at the last meeting
12.1	24/02077/FUL Proposed demolition of existing residential and ancillary buildings and the erection of a new single storey 3 bedroom dwelling at Nolands Farm for Mr Connolly. Permission with Conditions granted 06/11/2024.
12.2	24/02253/LDE We have erected wooden play equipment in our garden, it consists of a slide, some swings, a sandpit, and a platform with a play house on top. It is for use by our children. We also wish to put up a roughly 8-9ft by 10-11ft greenhouse in our garden. It is for use as a hobby, not commercial growing. Neither the play equipment or the greenhouse is/would be visible from outside of our property, it would be hidden by our house from the front (apart from a small gap to our neighbours property), high hedges on both sides of the garden and our own field behind the property as well as large oak trees at the end of the garden. I don't believe either of these would normally require planning permission, but our house is curtilage listed due to its proximity to Stamford Hall Farm. At The Granary, Stamford Hall Farm for Mrs Kerry Hughes. Application Withdrawn 12/11/2024.
12.3	24/02441/FUL and 24/02442/LBC Single Storey Oak Framed Extension to Side at Stamford Pastures for Mr Stackhouse. Application Withdrawn 13/11/2024.
13	Planning Applications received since the last meeting
13.1	24/02762/OUT and 24/02763/OUT Outline applications with all matters reserved except for access, for the erection of one self-build/custom build dwelling, formation of vehicular access from A422 Banbury Road, and all associated works at Garden Land West Of Cadbold Farmhouse (Plots 1 and 2) for Mr and Mrs Weaver. 24/02762/OUT Permission with Conditions granted 19/12/2024. 24/02763/OUT Outline Planning Permission Permitted 19/12/2024.
13.2	24/03131/LDE Erection of 2 storey quadruple garage with accommodation to first floor partially in roof void at Keepers, Banbury Road for Mr & Mrs Burton. Comments by 10/01/2025.
13.3	24/02898/FUL Retrospective planning permission for wooden climbing, slide, sandpit, playhouse and swing set at The Granary, Stamford Hall Farm for Mrs Hughes. Comments by 28/01/2025.

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14	Open Forum
14.1	Footpaths Michael Nevill reported that the village footpaths had been checked. Two locations will be reported to WCC. The end of the drive by Stamford Hall is impassable and the bridge over the ditch towards Oxhill is broken.
14.2	Local Government Review A question was asked on how residents can keep updated on the review. It is noted that WALC will be representing most Town and Parish Councils but it was felt that consultations with local councillors would be welcomed. Cllr Seccombe will keep parishes informed.
14.3	Neighbourhood Watch A question was raised regarding Neighbourhood Watch in the village. The village lead was not at the meeting but there is a WhatsApp group called "Keep em peeled alerts" that residents can apply to be included. It was reported that Keepers had been broken into on 30/12/24. They had received good support from the Rural Crime Team. It was noted that unlike other local Safer Neighbourhood Teams, Shipston do not appear to publicise their activities. Cllr Seccombe would mention this to Philip Seccombe, the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner.
15	Date and Time of Next Meeting The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting which will be followed by the 215 th Parish Council Meeting. These will be held on 21 st May 2025, commencing 7.00pm in the Village Hall. The date will be advertised on the Facebook groups, PC email distribution list and the village noticeboard.
16	The Meeting was closed at 9.06pm and Ian thanked everyone for their attendance.

Chair: Ian Greenall

Minutes: Sue Greenall

Date Signed: