

FOCUS



Cllr Andrew Milton at Castle Farm Skate Park

Standing up for the Next Generation

In late 2025 LibDems at the County Council won unanimous support for a new strategy to reduce the levels of child poverty in the county. But, in February 2026, when Councillors had to agree a budget for 2026/27, the Reform UK and Conservative groups tried to cut the annual grants to youth centres which we wanted to protect. Eventually, after 12 hours of debate over two days, it was agreed to raise the County Council part of Council Tax by 4.44%, which includes the youth centre grants - this is a big win for the Next Generation!

“ Speaking at the County Council, Lib Dem Cllr Richard Dickson (right) said 'The Council's Reform leader has said he has his 'boots to the necks' of civil servants. The people we serve deserve better.' ”



No children in B&Bs last Christmas

After questions from LibDem Cllr Kate Dickson last autumn, Warwick District Council worked hard to ensure that at Christmas there were no children in B&Bs in the district and the overall number of children in Temporary Accommodation was down by 39%.

Cllr Dickson continues to press for improvements in housing for our most vulnerable residents.

A new skate park

At the recent District Council budget meeting, LibDem Cllr Andrew Milton won agreement to invest £150,000 as a capital grant towards the total cost of a new skate park in Kenilworth to replace the old one at Castle Farm which was opened more than 20 years ago. We're now working with the skateboarders to raise the rest of the money needed.

Contact Your Lib Dem Team

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LOCAL NEWS & ACTION

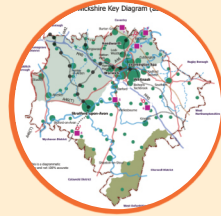
Local Government Reorganisation

Visit <https://bit.ly/4tTBGSL> to complete the government's online consultation on Local Government Reorganisation proposals in Warwickshire. It closes 26th March 2026.



New draft Local Plan Update

The deadline for the new draft South Warwickshire Local Plan to go to the Planning Inspector is December 2026. The next public consultation will be in June-July 2026.



Potholes Patrol

LibDem Councillors have been active reporting and chasing up on potholes this winter. 29 have been reported in St John's ward in the 3 months ended January 2026.



Community Infrastructure Update



Because the District Council has less than 5 years housing land supply, we're vulnerable to speculative housing applications.

Building of the new swimming pools is nearly complete. They should open this summer. We keep asking the District Council for a Plan B to avoid carparking chaos in Abbey Fields.

Frustratingly, progress by the County Council is very slow on the vital new £6m special needs facilities at St John's Primary School. We're chasing hard to resolve planning problems.

We're pushing the Green-Labour District Council administration to end the slow progress with housing plans for the old 6th Form site on Rouncil Lane (above).

Thanks to the 1,000+ residents who signed the petition calling for new road safety plans near Kenilworth Gate. The response from the County Council is so far disappointing, but we're still pushing for more action.

Watch out in late March-April for roadworks for five months for a new roundabout at Stansfield Grove.

WHY HAVE COMPLAINTS RISEN MORE THAN 500%?



New restrictions by Reform UK on the flags flown at Shire Hall in Warwick has been one of many recent controversies.

According to a Freedom Of Information request the number of complaints against County Councillors has risen by more than 500% in the current financial year compared to the year ended March 2025. There were nine formal complaints made against County Councillors in the last financial year. Since the 2025 local elections the number of complaints has increased fivefold, most of them made by ordinary residents. By far the most complaints have been against Reform UK councillors even though only 33% of the Councillors are from Reform UK.

The Council's elected leadership should explain what they're doing to reduce the need for so many complaints.

Liberal Democrats

Working hard all year round - not just at election time