

Executive Directors' foreword

As you may be aware the Council is going through a period of change. At the end of March the Council implemented a Senior Management restructuring which resulted with the departure of the Council's long standing Chief Executive Paul Lankester, and the appointment of us as Executive Directors.

The restructuring of the Management Team was in response to the current financial position for the Council following reductions in funding from central government. The exercise will deliver on-going savings in excess of £100,000 annually which is being used to preserve front line services.

As the Council no longer has a position of Chief Executive, the management of the authority is now a shared responsibility between the two Executive Directors of the Council, ourselves Dave Webb and David Buckland. Both of us will be making a conscious effort to engage with our parishes and partners to ensure that together we deliver for our communities.

In relation to the overall financial position of the Council, over the next three years the government has already indicated that they will be terminating the Revenue Support Grant to the Council and are consulting on significant changes to the New Homes Bonus scheme which again will have implications for the Council. If such forecast reductions in funding are delivered this would seriously impact on the Council's ability to deliver the current range of services.

The Council has been proactive in meeting the challenges of austerity and is in a strong position to meet these reductions, however, the scale of these further reductions is requiring us to take stock and undertake a 'Strategic Review' of the Council. The review is being conducted by a cross party working group which will make recommendations for the Council's Cabinet to consider. The initial phase of the Strategic Review will be undertaken over the next six months, its first challenge is to determine the vision for the shape of Council services over the next 10-15 years.

Whilst these are still early days it is planned that there initially the Council will take time to identify the future vision for service delivery of the Council in this new climate. The Council will also be exploring innovative ways of funding the budget along with developing new partnerships to ensure we remain efficient. During the Strategic Review process the Council will be consulting on developing proposals with residents, businesses, town/parish councils and all identified stakeholders.

The final recommendations from the review are expected in the next 18 months; however, we will keep you informed of progress and if you have a particular interest in any of the work streams above please contact David Buckland (david.buckland@stratford-dc.gov.uk).



Dave Webb

David Buckland

This is an exciting period for the Council, whilst we are concentrating on the future we are still committed to our overall vision:

'Stratford-on-Avon District will be recognised as a place of opportunity and economic prosperity in order to provide a better quality of life for all who live, work and visit.'

As well as this, it's been a busy month following the Police and Crime Commissioner elections and the new appointments following our Annual Council meeting – all detailed with the new structure later in this e-newsletter.

The deadline for the next issue of Parish & Partners Briefing is Monday 22 August with publication in September.

That's all for now and the Council looks forward to continuing its work with you into the future.

Best wishes

Handwritten signatures of Dave Webb and David Buckland in black ink.



Parish and Partners Briefing

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Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Management Arrangements June 2016

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Business, Enterprise and Tourism
Communications
PA Team
Policy Team
Safeguarding
Transformation Team



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Health and Wellbeing
Human Resources
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Land Charges
Legal Services
Licensing



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Central Administration
(including s106/CIL monitoring)
(excluding Land Charges)
Housing Services
(including Social Inclusion)
Planning Applications
and Enforcement



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Environmental Health
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Council Tax Reduction Scheme
Housing Benefits
ICT



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Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Cabinet Structure
and Contact Details
May 2016



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Policy, Governance and the Budget
Council Structure and Appointments
Planning and Housing Policy
Local Authority Liaison and Strategic External Relationships



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Cllr Stephen Thirlwell

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Consultation
Contact Centre, kiosks and access
Human Resources
ICT
Member Development & Training



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Land Charges
and Legal Services
Licensing



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Benefits
Revenues



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and Treasury Management
Health and Safety
Internal Audit
Maintenance
and Construction Management



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Community
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Housing Services
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Safeguarding



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Planning Enforcement
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Performance Management



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Environmental Health
and Building Control
Health and Wellbeing
Open Spaces, Leisure Services
and Grounds Maintenance
Public Conveniences
Refuse Collection
and Recycling
Street Cleaning

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Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Results

Philip Seccombe was elected the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire following the elections on 5 May.

Results were as follows:

Number of valid first preference votes for each candidate	
Nicola Davies (Lib Dem)	11,509 (10.58%)
Robin Harris (UKIP)	14,553 (13.38%)
Julie Jackson (Lab)	27,725 (25.5%)
Philip Seccombe (Cons)	33,895 (31.17%)
Ben Twomey (Ind)	9,076 (8.35%)
David Whitehouse (Ind)	11,983 (11.02%)

Votes Cast	111,900
Votes Rejected	3,145
Electorate for Warwickshire	418, 686
Overall Turnout	26.73%

Second round, second preference votes for top two candidates

Julie Jackson (Lab)	7,383
Philip Seccombe (Cons)	9,313

Total votes	
Julie Jackson (Lab)	35,108
Philip Seccombe (Cons)	43,208 Elected



Congratulating the new PCC, Mr Ball said: "I'm pleased to see the election result and that from a strong list of candidates, the electorate has chosen Philip Seccombe to succeed me as Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire. I have no doubt that he will find the job as rewarding and enjoyable as I have and I wish him the very best for the next four years.

Much as I inherited a strong platform from the former Police Authority when I took office, I am leaving Philip similarly strong foundations from which he can develop the next Police and Crime Plan. Warwickshire Police is recognised nationally for its ground-breaking Alliance with West Mercia Police, it has bucked the national trend with more officers in post than when I took office and greater numbers on the frontline. There has also been national recognition of its prudent financial management, which means it is better placed than many forces to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

The landscape of policing will continue to change substantially over the next four years with an even greater emphasis on cybercrime, the safeguarding of children and other vulnerable members of the community and the need to keep technological pace with an ever-changing world, as well as what is likely to be a wider remit within the criminal justice arena. Much of the groundwork for this

has already been laid and Philip will greatly benefit from the strong leadership of Chief Constable Martin Jelley and his senior management team at Warwickshire Police in delivering this.

While I am sad to be stepping away from this role, I know that I can do so leaving a force that is in good shape and which continues to be in safe and capable hands."

Warwickshire Police Chief Constable Martin Jelley said: "I am pleased to welcome Philip Seccombe as the next Police and Crime Commissioner. I look forward to working constructively with him to deliver the Police and Crime Plan and ensuring Warwickshire remains a safe place to live, work and visit where vulnerable members of society are protected from harm."

Philip Seccombe formally took up his role on Thursday 12 May.

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Venture House for all your business needs

Venture House the District Council's new business centre opened its doors in April. Located at Avenue Farm Industrial Estate just off the Birmingham Road in Stratford-upon-Avon, the centre aims to create a friendly business family community environment that supports and develops new and small businesses, helping them to grow and move on.

Venture House provides 2,500 square feet of business space over two floors offering hot-desking, co-working space, self-contained offices, reception meet & greet, broadband, WiFi, business support, photocopying, on-site parking, cycle shed, indoor & outdoor chill-out zones, refreshment facilities, meeting space, small conferencing facilities, competitive rates and flexible easy in easy out terms.

The centre particularly welcomes home based business in rural areas who often feel isolated or distracted, to access a flexible friendly informal working environment. Taking a hot desk space at Venture House, allows businesses to explore and share ideas with like-minded people, make new contacts and grow business.

A Hot desk consists of a desk space, access to WiFi & Broadband, lockers, business support, on-site parking and secure cycle shed.



No need to book just pop in, you can either take up a desk space or have a look round.

For more information please visit www.venturehousestratford.co.uk or call: 01789 207500.

We look forward to welcoming you to Venture House



Long Compton Neighbourhood Development Plan adopted

The Long Compton Neighbourhood Development Plan is the first to be made in the District and is the culmination of over three years work by the Parish Council, neighbourhood plan steering group and the local community.



Stratford District Council Members unanimously decided to 'make' (adopt) the Long Compton Neighbourhood Development Plan under Section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) at the District's full Council meeting on 25 April 2016.

The Long Compton Neighbourhood Development Plan now forms part of the Development Plan for Stratford-on-Avon District and will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications within the Parish of Long Compton.

Heat Networks Schemes

Stratford-on-Avon District Heat Mapping and Energy Masterplanning Study

Heat is the biggest single reason we use energy in our society. We use more energy for heating than for transport or the generation of electricity. The UK spends £32 billion a year on heating, and it accounts for a third of the UK greenhouse emissions.

The Department of Energy and Climate Change has established a Heat Networks Delivery Unit (HNDU), as part of the Government's strategy towards the decarbonisation and transformation of UK heat generation.

The HNDU has currently provided funding to 118 Local Authorities, to support them to identify and evaluate opportunities to develop new heating and cooling networks. Heat network schemes (also known as district heating) provide multiple of buildings or dwellings with heat and hot water from a central boiler or local energy centre. The system can provide heating or cooling which is transferred from the energy centre through a network of highly insulated pipes carrying the water to each building.

Heat networks schemes provide a number of potential benefits to communities and businesses, including inward investment, new jobs, low carbon heat and reduction in fuel poverty.

Stratford-on-Avon District has been successful in securing HNDU funding to explore potential opportunities for heat networks schemes in the district.

The Council has commissioned Sustainable Energy Limited consultants, in association with Carbon Trust, to undertake a heat mapping and energy master planning study.

The study has focused on Stratford-upon-Avon town and the proposed new settlements at Gaydon / Lighthorne Heath and Long Marston, as the density and mix of uses in these locations are more likely to result in potential opportunities for heat network schemes. The final report will be available in August.

For further information, please contact Fiona Blundell on 01789 260333.

Affordable home ownership scheme

Shared Ownership is a Government scheme to help people get on the property ladder. Ownership is shared with a local housing association and you usually can buy between 25% to 75% share of a home and then pay the rent on the remaining share with only a smaller deposit of the share you buy required than if you were to buy outright.

Who is eligible?

- People who can't afford to buy a home on the open market in Stratford-on-Avon District.
- Households with a household income of less than £80,000 a year.
- First time buyers and, in some cases, home owners who are assessed as having a housing need can qualify.
- People who are 18 years of age or older.
- People who satisfy the specific local connection criteria.

It may be suitable for you if...

- You can't afford a large deposit on a property and then maintain a mortgage on the remaining cost.
- You anticipate staying in the same house for the longer term.
- You are renting your current home - once everything is set up, your monthly payments could be similar to the rent for a similar home.
- Your earnings/savings may increase in future enough to buy the whole of the property. (Please note that not all properties can be bought outright)

For more information about Shared Ownership, visit www.stratford.gov.uk/sharedownership

To talk to someone about whether shared ownership is right for you, contact the District Council's Housing Advice team on 01789 260861/2/4 or email housingadviceteam@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Get ready to Z-App fraud

Residents can now use the Stratford-on-Avon Fraud Reporter to report any instance where they suspect fraud is being committed in relation to Council Tax, Business Rates, Corruption, Payments, Insurance, Employment, Grants or any other suspicion, completely confidentially.

The App is free to download and is designed to be easy to use and is available for both Apple and Android devices.

To download the App, simply visit the App Store or Google Play or visit the Council website at www.stratford.gov.uk

Fraud can still be reported on the Fraud Hotline by calling 01789 260486 – Housing Benefit Fraud can be reported to the Department of Work and Pensions directly on 0800 854 440.



Information on Dementia

Stratford District Council has produced a leaflet detailing all the dementia cafes, day care and other activity groups which are available across the district for those living with dementia.

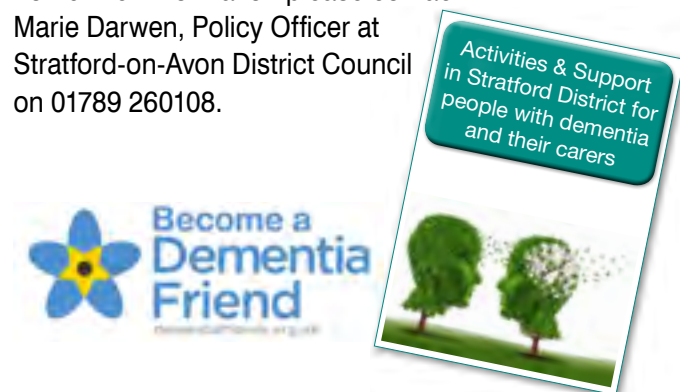
The leaflet also gives information on support groups available for carers.

Many organisations, which support people with dementia or their carers have their own leaflet but this is the first time that all the services in the district have been detailed in one place.

The leaflet has been distributed to all GP surgeries, so anyone receiving a diagnosis can pick up the leaflet and find out what local activities and support is available.

The leaflet can also be found on the District Council's website at www.stratford.gov.uk/healthcare/dementia-friendly

For further information please contact Marie Darwen, Policy Officer at Stratford-on-Avon District Council on 01789 260108.



Audio trail launched at Welcombe Hills

A NEW audio trail for walkers has been launched at Welcome Hills and Clopton Park Nature Reserve.

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust worked with the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and Warwick-based Playbox Theatre to create an audio trail.

The ten track trail – which can be downloadable for free – has been created through a programme of youth-led workshops run by the Playbox theatre and Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and has been funded by the Heritage Lottery.

The trail takes listeners on a journey through ten historical topics that relate to the site and brand new interpretation boards, funded by Stratford District Council

Those taking to the hills on the outskirts of Stratford will have the chance to find out about the Tudor landscape as Shakespeare would have known it, including the distinctive ridge and furrow landscape – the result on ancient farming techniques.

There will also be a chance to learn more about the Clopton family; the 19th century Obelisk; what is known of the mysterious swimming pool; and speculate if Margaret's Well really did provide the Bard with the inspiration for Ophelia's death in Hamlet.

Visit www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk for further details.

Need HELP... with the survey for your Plan?

A personalised consultation service is available, totally independent from the Parish, Town or Neighbourhood Plan process in your area.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Consultation & Insight Unit offers you:-

- > Pick and Mix flexible approach
- > Survey design from draft questionnaire to final report
- > Low cost one-stop shop for all your market research needs
- > Data processing via an unconnected, unbiased third party
- > Anonymity assured
- > Work carried out to Market Research Society guidelines

Satisfied clients include Parish Councils from both within and outside Stratford-on-Avon District.




Feedback received includes:

"Just wanted to say a big thank you for doing a cracking job on our village survey"

"Again thanks to you and your staff for a professional job – and lots of patience!"

Get professional assistance for your consultation

Contact Simon Purfield on

 **01789 260118**

 **simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk**

 **www.stratford.gov.uk**



Birthday beacons lit across the district

BEACONS were lit across Stratford district on Thursday, 21st April, to mark the Queen's 90th birthday.

The Mayor of Stratford, Cllr Tessa Bates, and Stratford District Council chairman, Cllr Mike Gittus, were at Monument Field, on the Welcombe Hills where the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Timothy Cox — the Queen's representative in the county — lit Stratford's official beacon.

A large crowd enjoyed fireworks at the Stratford-upon-Avon beacon which also welcomed visitors from towns across the world which are also called Stratford. The visitors were here for the Shakespeare celebrations on Saturday 23rd April

Shipston, Wellesbourne, Burton Dassett Hills and Quinton all saw beacons lit to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday.



Saturday 23rd July Free event Ken Kennett Centre and Hodgsons Green



**Rejuvenation of
the Ken Kennett Centre**
have your say and get involved
Free activities for all the family
and free refreshments.

**For more information
please contact Lorraine Clifford-Parker
email:ldclifford@msn.com**



Health and Wellbeing in Alcester

Alcester Town Council is working in partnership with Warwickshire County Council to develop a new, ground-breaking pilot project focused on:

- Improving the health and wellbeing of older people
- Providing strong, local community leadership
- Supporting communities and individuals to help themselves
- Supporting communities to play a greater role in designing and delivering locally based services tailored to meet specific needs.

This initiative is needed because by 2017 the demographics of Alcester will change:

- The number of over 65s will be up by 23%
- Over 75s by 66%
- Over 85s by 184%

To safeguard the health and wellbeing of its older population, the Town Council has taken a major step in declaring itself a Health and Wellbeing Council and has established a Board made up of representatives from a number of agencies and organisations from the third and public sectors which will see the following outcomes achieved:

- Older residents have good levels of mental and physical health
- Individuals are able to remain independent for longer
- Reduced social isolation and loneliness
- Increase social integration and opportunities for social connections
- Reduced health inequalities
- Reduction in non-elective hospital admissions
- Reduction in admissions to residential and nursing care

A 2-year pilot funded by the County Council's Transformation Fund will enable Alcester Town Council to employ a specialist co-ordinator who will encourage people aged over 55 to become more actively involved in their local community which, in turn, will improve their health, independence and wellbeing as well as preventing the need for referral to acute health and social care for longer. This specialist co-ordinator will also help residents to negotiate the sometimes complex pathways to accessing preventative care more quickly/effectively.

This project will test this new way of working and could be rolled out to other towns and villages across the county.



Studley Health and Wellbeing

Evidence published in 2014 shows that life expectancy in adult residents of Studley Parish is lower than several other areas of Stratford district and the percentage of Studley's children in Year 6 who are obese or overweight is 50.5%, which is a shocking figure, given the district average is 30.3%.

Studley are embarking on their own Health and Wellbeing initiative and are working in partnership with the Parish Council, County Council, NHS, Studley High School, Citizens Advice, Public Health and other agencies to tackle some of these important issues affecting its residents.

The newly-formed Health and Wellbeing Board will run some training workshops, delivered by Citizens Advice, to those frontline workers and volunteers who visit Studley residents in their homes to provide tools and tips on raising awareness of important issues that affect people in their everyday lives. Discussions are also taking place to install a 'fitness trail' on the green area to the rear of the High School. This space will be open to the whole community.

Another ambition is to create a series of measured 'walking routes' around Studley and to integrate them with the Heritage Walks already suggested through the work of the Studley Improvement Partnership.

Bringing faster broadband to our rural areas - Project Update May 2016

282 cabinets live to date

Over 49,000 properties able to connect to the fibre network

BT crowdfunding for community fibre partnerships

Did you know that BT has a dedicated team focused on helping communities understand how BT can help bring fibre to communities, as well as to support groups to bring faster broadband to parts of the UK not covered by existing rollout plans.

To date BT have worked with hundreds of different groups and a new co-funding model helps bring high speed fibre broadband to hard-to-reach communities, as well as smaller business parks. This means that wherever fibre broadband is deployed, everyone can upgrade to the service via any provider, bringing plenty of choice to consumers and local businesses.

BT can work with you to find out if a community project could be right for your area and provide you with the tools to understand and establish local demand. One of these ways is via an innovative partnership that BT have set up with a crowdfunding organisation called Spacehive to help hard-to-reach communities via a package of co-funding and support. Spacehive is a crowdfunding platform that brings civic spaces to life.

Crowdfunding is a way to raise money, awareness and support for a project, from the people around you. It's a means of funding that allows individuals to make their ideas a reality with the power of the crowd. It is based on the idea that a number of people can split the cost of something – in this case broadband infrastructure, with multiple people contributing an amount, rather than any one person footing the whole bill. An added bonus is that there is no VAT for residential community partnerships!



For further information and community fibre case studies visit www.communityfibre.bt.com

The rollout is progressing well

It is incredible to think that it is just two years since we started connecting the first premises to faster fibre. Since then, Openreach engineers have installed around 282 new road-side cabinets, making fibre available to more than 49,000 homes and businesses.

Those areas that are now able to achieve superfast speeds are being updated to dark green on our maps, with areas that are connected to the fibre network but unable to achieve full superfast (24Mbps) coloured in light green. This may take a little time as our data team are working flat-out on other work! Don't forget, however, that the maps are generated using postcodes and that telecoms infrastructure doesn't follow postcodes. Therefore for the most accurate assessment of your connectivity you need to enter a BT landline number into the BT DSL checker: <http://www.dslchecker.bt.com>

As we near the end of Contract 1 many of the areas that were previously coloured purple on the map, meaning that they required more intervention than a standard fibre cabinet, are now also turning green. These include many properties that were previously connected directly to the exchange. By installing new copper as well as fibre cabinets many of these lines are now able to achieve superfast speeds. So, especially if you were previously on an Exchange Only line, it is worth checking to see if you can now upgrade to the new services.

Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/CSWSuperfastBroadband>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com#!/cswbroadband>

Newsletter - BroadbandNews@cswbroadband.org.uk

All enquiries - Broadband@cswbroadband.org.uk





Stratford-on-Avon District Council meetings

Date	Time	Meeting	Venue
Wednesday 6 July	6.15pm	Planning (West)	Elizabeth House
Wednesday 13 July	6.00pm	Planning (East)	Kineton High School
Monday 18 July	2.00pm	The Cabinet	Elizabeth House
Monday 25 July	2.00pm	Council	Elizabeth House
Wednesday 27 July	6.15pm	Planning (West)	Elizabeth House
Wednesday 3 August	6.00pm	Planning (East)	Kineton High School
Wednesday 17 August	6.15pm	Planning (West)	Elizabeth House
Wednesday 24 August	6.00pm	Planning (East)	Kineton High School
Monday 5 September	2.00pm	The Cabinet	Elizabeth House
Wednesday 7 September	6.15pm	Planning (West)	Elizabeth House
Wednesday 14 September	6.00pm	Planning (East)	Kineton High School
Wednesday 28 September	6.15pm	Planning (West)	Elizabeth House



You are able to watch the live webcasts of Council, Cabinet and Planning meetings or view recordings later whenever you want at <http://council.webcast.vualto.com/stratford-council/live-webcast/>

Community Forum Meetings



Community Forums are an interactive event enabling residents to learn about issues big and small affecting their area, get answers to questions and influence local decision-making. Anyone with a question about a local issue can go along and put it to officers from a range of organisations.

Date	Forum	Venue
Tuesday 6 September	Shipston / Stour	Quinton & Admington Village Hall
Thursday 15 September	Wellesbourne / Kineton	Newbold Pacey & Ashorne Village Hall
Tuesday 20 September	Alcester / Bidford	Bidford Parish Council
Wednesday 21 September	Southam / Feldon	Harbury Rugby Football Club (TBC)
Thursday 22 September	Arden / Stratford	Wootton Wawen Village Hall
Thursday 29 September	Stratford Town	Stratford District Council

NEED A DESK SPACE THIS SUMMER?

Try five **FREE** days Hotdesking!
Then buy five days for £60.00 & get an additional five days **FREE!**

Valid from 7 June until 9 September, 2016

...so if you work from home, feel isolated or distracted & just need a desk space providing:

- ➔ Flexible working in a business friendly community
- ➔ Space to get on with your work whilst the children are at home over the summer break
- ➔ Free business advice & support
- ➔ Chill Zone & great coffee!
- ➔ Free parking

Just turn up or book in advance
A warm welcome awaits at Venture House!

Venture House Business Centre
Avenue Farm Industrial Estate
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CV37 0HR

info@venturehousestratford.co.uk
Tel : 01789 207500

GROWTH DEALS | **Warwickshire County Council** | **CYED** | **Coventry & Warwickshire Combined Authority**

Greetings from Venture House

SUMMER OFFER
Hot deal on desk space

Wish you were here...

Venture HOUSE - STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
The business centre that inspires...