

District Councillor report Lighthorne Parish Council Meeting 11th April 2023

Voters urged to check they're ready before it's too late

With only 3 weeks to go until the voter registration deadline for local elections on 4 May, anyone wanting to vote must make sure they are election ready. The deadline to register to vote is midnight on 17 April. Voters can apply online at: [Register to vote – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) – it takes just five minutes. Voters have a range of options – they can vote in person, by post or by appointing someone they trust to vote in their place, known as a proxy vote. The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on 18 April. The deadline to apply for a proxy vote is a week later, 5pm on 25 April.

This May, for the first time, voters will need to show photo ID to vote at a polling station. This is a new requirement, introduced by the UK Government's Elections Act. Full details, including a list of acceptable photo ID are available on the Council's website: [Voter ID at Polling Stations | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

If you do not have one of the accepted types of ID, you can apply for free ID at: [Apply for photo ID to vote \(called a 'Voter Authority Certificate'\) – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-to-vote). You must apply by 5pm on 25 April, to be able to use the Voter Authority Certificate for the elections on 4 May.

Energy Bills Support Scheme Alternative Funding

Stratford District Council have made the first payments under this scheme. There are 559 applications being paid totalling £20,400 and the money will be paid into the accounts provided by residents.

If any residents contact the Parish Council regarding this scheme, the guidance and application can only be claimed via this link:

www.gov.uk/apply-energy-bill-support-if-not-automatic

Sophie Hilleary, High Sheriff of Warwickshire 2023

At a formal inauguration on Maundy Thursday 6 April, Sophie Hilleary became Warwickshire's 689th High Sheriff and will serve the County for the 2023/24 Shrieval year.

Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4083/introducing-the-high-sheriff-of-warwickshire-2023-24-sophie-hilleary>

Chris Mills Kineton Ward