UFTON NEWS

June 2025 Diary

Tues	3	Food Bin Ufton Parish Council 8 pm Village Hall
Tues	10	All bins
Tues	17	Food Bin
Sat	21	Coffee Morning, Jigsaw/Book swap VH 10am – 12 noon All welcome
Tues	24	Food bin, Blue and Green Bins
Weds	25	Village Hall Meeting 7 pm VH
Tues	1	Food, and Black bin

Coffee morning, Book/ Jigsaw Swap.

Saturday 21st June 2025 in the Village Hall 10 am to 12 noon
Everyone welcome.

Box Caterpillar

Box Caterpillar has been found in some of the box hedging in people's gardens within the village. The box caterpillar eat the leaves of the plant and can devastate box hedging quickly. The Caterpillar also spreads very quickly.
It can be treated by using a spray made by Topbuxus or if the plant is small you can pick the caterpillars off by hand, but they are difficult
to see.

Defibrillator Cabinet

The village defibrillator has a brand-new shiny cabinet.



The Parish Council replaced the cabinet as the previous one was past its sell by date.
The new one is well insulated and has a heater to ensure the defibrillator does not deteriorate unnecessarily.

Ufton Parish Council

A couple of months ago we included an article in the Newsletter about the role and activity of Parish Council. We have been asked if we will make this a regular item, which we are very happy to do.
Last time we explained the role of the Parish Council. In the future there may be some changes to this as the Government is currently looking at the structure of local government. The major changes will be at District and County levels, but there may be some knock-on effects at Parish level. In a nutshell the two levels of District and County are likely to be merged into one. There is currently debate in the County with some advocating a single County wide Council incorporating all the District Councils. Others advocate that the current County Council should be split into North Warwickshire and South Warwickshire, each of which will include the relevant District Councils. At the end of the day the Government will decide.

The meeting held on Tuesday 1st April included:

- The need for a Village Clean up as weeds, hedges and grass start to grow again. We held one last year which was successful and made a difference to the appearance of the Village. We agreed that one should be held on 10th May and that a flyer should be sent around the village to invite people to participate.
- An update on the South Warwickshire Local Plan. You may recall this identified the area between Ufton and the Fosse Way as a possible site for a new settlement! First thanks to everyone who responded – it does make a difference. We will not hear anything for a few months as they received so many comments, but they will be producing a summary of all feedback received. However, we will continue to make representations whenever we can pointing out that this cannot be a sensible location, given

the solar farm they have already approved and the steep hill!

- Village Hall and HS2 Community Fund. Cllr Looney advised that Cllr Tayler along with the Chairperson of the Village Hall Committee had met with HS2 Officers re the village hall applying for a grant to refurbishment. Funds are available and HS2 are more than willing to help the Village Hall Committee to apply. This will be taken forward by the VH Committee and the Parish Council have offered their support.

The meeting on 6th May was slightly different in that it also included the Annual Parish Council Meeting. The first part involved electing the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for the coming year (Mike Looney and Ian Crowther were re-elected), dates for meetings during the year agreed and several administrative tasks completed.
This was followed by the normal meeting where the main points of discussion were:

- Welcoming back our County Councillor, Chris Kettle, following his re-election (by seven votes!) at the recent local elections.
- Noting the planning applications made for Balliol in Ufton Fields and at 2 St Michaels Close.
- An update on the Radford Solar Farm planning application. We have been supporting Radford Parish Council with their objection, based largely on our experience with our objection last year. We attended the Warwick DC planning committee on 20th May and are very pleased to report that they turned down the application by eight votes to one! This is far from the end of the story as the Company will no doubt appeal to the Government's Planning Inspectorate.
- Planning for the Ufton Tidy Up that was subsequently held on 10th May. Flyers had been sent out, coffee etc. arranged in the Village Hall. We were fortunate to have a fine day and think we made quite a difference. Thank you to the three villagers who supported the Parish Council. We will be repeating the event in the early summer to ensure we keep the village looking its best.
- Discussion of the "white gates" to be installed at entrances and exits from the village (on A425 and Ufton Fields) by the County Council. These are not actually gates – you may have seen them at Radford Semele, Offchurch and other villages. Ufton should have them too, but a catalogue of mishaps has delayed them. They are promised within the next 2 months.
- We discussed concerns about speeding through the village and determined that we will approach the police to support us in setting up a Community Speedwatch Group. Everyone who has volunteered their time to help will be receiving a letter advising them about the next steps. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered, we hope this will make a difference to the village.

Please remember that anyone in the village is welcome to attend the Parish Council meetings. Alternatively, you can always raise any issue that you would like us to discuss with any of the Council members.

Save the Date (5th & 6th July 2025)

Everyone welcome! (and well-behaved dogs on leads please!)

On Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th of July 11am-5pm we will be having Cream Teas in the garden of The Old Bakehouse, Ufton Fields, Ufton, Leamington Spa, CV339NZ
All proceeds from the cream teas will be going to a local children's charity called The Friendship Project for Children.

The Friendship Project is a Warwickshire-wide charity that matches children and young people (who are in need, for a variety of reasons) with volunteers, for friendship and fun. The child may be caring for a sick parent or be limited to where they can go on holiday because of a disabled sibling or other family member. For some children, even playing in the park or going to the cinema are a rare treat. Having some time out from often difficult home situations really does improve the child's self-esteem and self-worth. Our volunteers report that they too enjoy spending time with their Younger Friend knowing that they are really making a difference to a child's life. For more information
https://friendshipproject.co.uk/

Carl Gallagher of Light by Night Photography will be exhibiting astronomy photography as part of the Open Studio trail.
https://www.lightbynightphotography.co.uk/

Village Hall Meeting
Wednesday 25th June
7 pm Village Hall

This meeting is to discuss the future of the Village Hall.
Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

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