

## A STRONG LOCAL VOICE

- determined to get the best deal for our area

### Working for her community

Susan is the Chair of several organisations in Alcester, including Alcester's Town Hall and the Roman Museum.

She is also the Chair of Litter Free Alcester, which organises the Big Spring Clean and the Alcester Youth project, which raises funds for youth facilities.

Susan is a Trustee of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and a Trustee of Act on Energy - an energy efficiency charity.



County Council elections will be held in May and I am delighted to have been chosen by the Liberal Democrats to be the candidate for the Alcester County Division.

As we recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, we need strong voices for our community with energy and enthusiasm to help drive forward positive change. I believe that our

communities deserve better and if elected in May, my priority will be working with our local communities and improving services and facilities.

The pandemic has shown the power of community and local decision making, rather than centralised control. Strong independent councils are essential to deliver local services.

This is a local election for a council which provides vital services such as education support services, care for the elderly and children, fire stations, waste disposal and roads and transport strategies. We need attention paid to economic recovery, highways and footpaths, social services, community facilities, and climate change.

**Susan Juned**



### An effective District Councillor

Susan is the current Leader of the main Opposition Group at Stratford on Avon District Council. She leads a group of 12 councillors.

She is the Vice Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which checks the performance of the Council.

Last year she led a working group that advised the council on ways to tackle climate change effectively. She was able to use her professional expertise in energy efficiency, climate change, resource efficiency and biodiversity.

### 6<sup>th</sup> May - Your Choice!

The Government has chosen to hold the elections for Warwickshire County Council on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Communications will be challenging, but we will offer a strong and viable alternative at this election.

Leaflets will be delivered safely and we hope to meet as many residents as possible following all the Government Covid-19 guidelines.

Our contact details are over the page. Please contact us if you have any questions.



### Susan's top three priorities:

- **Fairer** - We need a recovery that is fair. During the pandemic we've seen our communities come together, with people volunteering for a huge range of tasks. From health provision to food poverty, everyone who needs help must be treated fairly. We also need to help our small businesses, villages, high streets and community groups.
- **Caring** - The County Council must do more to support mental health and care services. There has to be joined up working between the NHS and the county council's care services, to provide effective and affordable solutions.
- **Greener** - There is no Planet B. Liberal Democrat councillors have been at the forefront in promoting the green agenda on both our county and district councils. Not just for ourselves, but for our children and grandchildren.

**Demanding better!**

# Leading on recovery

## Empty buildings owned by Warwickshire County Council in Alcester



The old St Nicholas Centre in Moorfields Road

It is five years since the library was moved into Globe House. The old library building remains empty - waiting to be sold or let. Meanwhile, the council is making financial cuts to services.

## Big changes lie ahead

The Government is encouraging 'unitary' councils across the country rather than the current two tier County and District system. Warwickshire County Council has already proposed a one council County Council covering the whole of Warwickshire, which would remove all the district councils.

Stratford on Avon District Council and Warwick District Council are sharing services and considering a full merger. If this preferred option is accepted by Government, it will lead to a South Warwickshire unitary council in 2024. A detailed report has considered that considerable savings will be made.

A full consultation will be needed before changes are accepted. It is important that residents' views are fully considered. It is also important that services for residents remain accessible and are efficient, effective and deliverable.

All our Parish Councils must be consulted and kept informed on any changes being proposed.

**The next two years will require experienced councillors who have the ability to demand the very best from our councils at this time of change.**

### Clarification that the invitation to a large vaccination centre was an extra choice.

In January 2021 Susan contacted the local NHS organisers, a local GP and wrote to the Guardian newspaper after concerns were raised about the national NHS vaccination invitation letter.

Residents who were over 80, but could no longer drive or were shielding, were worried about arranging lifts to Birmingham.

A change to the over 65s vaccine messaging made it clear that travelling to a large vaccination centre was a choice and that people would also be invited by their local vaccination centre.

### Continued support for people facing hardship in Warwickshire

If you are facing hardship, residents can contact the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme team

Phone: 01926 359182 or 0800 408 1448 or you can visit: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme)

### Play Areas, Cycle Ways and Open Spaces

Our children need good quality play areas and open spaces for their wellbeing and health. The pandemic has shown us just how much we all value green spaces, woodlands, the ability to exercise and have good quality leisure facilities. Local councils need to work with their communities to provide valued space.



## Local issues

Over the past year I have been dealing with the following local problems.

- Pavement and highway repairs
- Drainage problems
- Flood prevention
- Affordable housing
- Litter and fly tipping
- Support for community owned facilities
- Domestic abuse
- Tenancy problems
- Planning and development
- Planning Enforcement
- Economic Development
- Local Transport
- Parking and Parking Permits
- Welfare and local hardship

I have found it frustrating when the solutions to a problem fall across two councils.

As a County Councillor my main aim will be to do much more to ensure that the District Council and County Council work together to deal with the problems residents regularly bring to me.

## Your Concerns

Contact us to tell us of your concerns.

Take our survey or contact us directly

[www.stratfordlibdems.org.uk/survey](http://www.stratfordlibdems.org.uk/survey)

## How to contact us:

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