UFTON NEWS

February 2026 Diary

Tues	3	Food, Green and Blue Bins Ufton Parish Council Mtg 8pm Village Hall
Tues	10	Food Bin
Tues	17	Food, Blue, Green and Grey Bins
Sat	21	Coffee Morning 10 am – 12 noon Village Hall
Tues	24	Food Bin

Tues 3rd March Food, Blue and Green Bin

Coffee morning, Saturday 21st February 4th January 2026

Ufton Village Hall 10 am to 12 noon.
Come and enjoy\ a cup of tea or coffee and catch up with villagers.
Everyone is welcome.

January Parish Council Meeting

The first meeting of 2026 took place on 6th January. We will not go through all the routine business, but the main areas of discussion were as follows:

Susan Ostrander, our District Counsellor's, report covered the position on local government re-organisation. The two proposals to be put to governments are that the current district councils will be abolished and absorbed into a Unitary County Council covering all of Warwickshire (supported by the County Council). Alternatively, 2 new Unitary Councils will be formed for North Warwickshire and South Warwickshire. The current County organization will cease to exist, and its functions will be absorbed into the 2 new organisations, together with all of the district council activities in each area. (supported by the District Councils). Government will decide between these 2 proposals.

Susan also explained the difficulties faced by both Stratford and Warwick District Councils as a result of government changing the rules on the amount of land district councils must have available for housebuilding in the next 5 years. The changes mean that the huge amount of new housebuilding we have seen in recent years does not count. As a result, the amount of land currently available falls below the requirement. This has serious implications as it effectively makes it much easier for developers to get planning permission for anything. They are already seeing very speculative proposals being submitted that would normally be refused. This does not affect Ufton at present, but there are 2 such proposals in Harbury. Stratford District Council is working to address the new requirement as quickly as possible.

It is the time of year when we have to prepare our budget for 2026/27 financial year and to determine the precept that will be included for the Parish Council in Council Tax. Major items of expenditure for which the PC is responsible include the street lighting in the village (maintenance and electricity). We determined that the precept will again stay at the level for the current year and we will absorb the increased costs from reserves.

The Appeal against the refusal of Planning Permission for the Radford Semele Solar Farm (adjacent to the Fosse Way) was due to be held in Leamington on the 4th and 5th February. We determined that we would apply to speak to convey the sentiments of the vast majority of villagers that the Appeal should be refused. Since the meeting we have learned that the Appeal has been postponed.

We have also been trying to find out exactly what the plans are for the "Middle Farm" solar farm on our side of the Fosse Way. This has been taken over by Centrica, and we have now made contact with them. There may be some funding available for community projects, and we discussed ideas for Ufton, including improving pavements and refurbishing

the stocks. We would welcome any ideas anybody has for projects in the village.

The saga on moving our website has nearly reached its end. The old website is back online and will be available for a year to enable material to be transferred off it to the new one. This can currently be seen by entering Hugofox Ufton into a browser. Our clerk, Jackie is chasing up being able to access it as Ufton-pc@gov.uk.

The results of the traffic monitoring through the village were discussed. (You may have seen the wires across the road). In summary, over 12 days 54,000 vehicles passed through the village in each direction! Of the total 108,000 vehicles, 3715 were travelling at between 36 and 40mph and 581 exceeded 40mph. Our County Councillor, Chris Kettle, has discussed the results with the new Police Inspector for Safer Neighbourhoods.

The meeting finished by receiving a Cllr John Tayler's resignation. John has served on the Council for more than 25 years, many as Chair. He was thanked for the tremendous contribution he has made. He was thanked formally in the meeting and then informally afterwards in the White Hart. This does mean that there is a vacancy on the Council and this will be advertised accordingly.

Ufton Community Speed Watch

Ufton now has its very own Speed Watch Group. Fellow residents have volunteered to stand together at the side of the road in an effort to slow down the traffic through the village.

Results so far have been impressive!!

We conduct our sessions at different times and different days to deter would be speeders.

Give us a wave if you are passing 😊

The Parish Council new website can be viewed at https://www.hugofox.com/community/ufton-parish-council-20964/home

Ufton Parish Council/ News Editorial/Advertising
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Village Website www.uftonvillage.com/ (

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