

MONTHLY NEWS REPORT SUMMER EDITION 2022



E-Newsletter Issue 9/2022
with Andy Bailey, Quinton
at Quinton, Open Gardens
Saturday, 9 July 2022

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NEWS REPORT SUMMER EDITION 2022

Monthly Highlights

I hope you enjoy the summer edition of my News report. It is written in the knowledge that many of you will be away with family and friends and may need to just dig into the items that are of interest to you. At the same time, there are no Hackleton and Grange Park Parish Council meetings during August, which was why I sent out my August News Report early.

We are still seeking sponsors to support families and individuals fleeing the war in Ukraine. I said last month that I was seeking support for transport costs for Ukrainian families living across Hackleton and Grange Park. Well, I have just been advised that WNC are developing schemes with our local Transport Providers to provide support to our families living across West Northants, including our most rural areas. If you know of a Ukrainian Family looking for support with travel, then contact WNC as shown in my report and a member of the team will be in touch directly. In addition, Cogenhoe and Whiston Parish Council are providing short-term bus passes for those Ukrainian residents using the Cogenhoe Village Hopper.

WNC will be delivering a Refugee Employment Support Event in Partnership with DWP on Monday 15 August at Northampton Central Library. I have included further details in this news report.

I managed to secure a reduction in the speed of traffic on the A428. Northamptonshire Highways has now decided to reduce the speed limit to 50mph along the A428 from the Lakeside roundabout through to the county boundary. I raised several queries with Highways and requested the evidence that underpins their proposal, so that I could understand the basis for the specific recommendation. Since last month, I met with WNC Highways on 22 July to better understand the impact of the solution on the A428. I now have details of the Red Route profile and engineering report for the A428 (red Route 55). I am awaiting details from the Road Safety Manager regarding time scales for any works on the A428 and for the Head of Delivery to include the other route hygiene issues I have asked for. This is an important first step in seeking the overall improvement to the highway safety of the A428, and I look forward to continuing this conversation in the months ahead.

I have attended several community events this month, which has given me an opportunity to catch up with so many of you. I have enjoyed seeing your gardens in Quinton, Little Houghton and Yardley Hastings where all proceeds were in support of our fine historic village churches.

I have heard that there are several volunteers at Coffee@Carey, Hackleton ready to help support families with children during the summer holidays. They are going to be offering a selection of activities each week and a packed lunch every Wednesday that can be booked ahead of time and picked up at the coffee shop while you sit back and have a well-deserved cup of coffee/tea and rest. Happy Holidays.

I caught up with Judy Webster and other Hartwell residents this month and I attended the Patronal Festival, Choral Evensong at St Mary Magdalene Church, Castle Ashby. The proceeds were for the Northamptonshire Charity Eve, which has a long history of supporting women and families who are survivors of domestic violence and abuse through the charity, Nene Valley Christian Family Refuge, which was set up in 1982.

The Wildflowers are now in full bloom in Denton and despite the lack of rain recently are doing very well. It seems that one of the residents had watered the flowers in the centre of the village. Just prior to the Platinum Jubilee, the Denton Village Hall Community wanted to enhance their village environment by

introducing a flash of colour from wildflowers. I was able to fund the wildflower initiative aimed to support Denton's physical and mental wellbeing post COVID and provide educational support for their children, while simultaneously benefitting our local environment. The grant money was used to fund wildflower seeds, hire of machinery, bulbs and signs.

The WNC Place Scrutiny Committee is considering Active Travel in West Northamptonshire and I have raised the matter of Hackleton Parish Council's active travel requirements as set out in the Hackleton Parish Council Neighbourhood plan. I will keep you informed as to the outcome.

We are gathering views about our draft Gambling Act 2005-Statement of Licensing Policy 2022-2025. Please have your say before midnight Sunday 21 August.

We would like to hear about the WNC park you visit the most. The information you provide will help us to improve our parks and open spaces and to prioritise work plans. The survey should only take 5 minutes, and your responses are completely anonymous.

WNC is pursuing plans to relocate from its current Daventry base to offices elsewhere in the town as part of proposals towards addressing future financial challenges. The move is part of a planned review of all our existing buildings across the West Northants area, which, were inherited from the former county, district and borough authorities on 1 April last year.

Canvass forms have been emailed to more than 80,000 people across West Northamptonshire so that residents can check their voter details are up to date. Anyone who is not on the council's email database will receive a letter in the post in early August.

Examination of the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 continues as we prepare for a six-week public consultation on proposed changes. A Part 2 Local Plan for the Daventry Area was adopted in February 2020, while the Part 2 Local Plan for the South Northants Area was adopted in July the same year.

Residents are being asked to help shape extra guidance for land allocated for commercial development in the South Northamptonshire area. WNC Planning Policy Committee recently approved plans to seek people's views on a new draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for employment land allocations in the area, which would sit alongside the South Northamptonshire Local Plan Part 2. A six-week public consultation on the SPD opened on Thursday, 7 July, with residents encouraged to attend drop-in sessions taking place in Towcester and Old Stratford. People have until midnight on Thursday, 18 August 2022 to give their views.

The Planning Policy Committee agreed at its meeting on 28 June 2022 changes to the Spatial Options Plan Period. The spatial options consultation envisaged a plan period extending up to 2050 to reflect the anticipated spatial framework for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. In response to representations received and in the light of increased uncertainty regarding the production of a spatial framework for the Arc, the committee agreed to reduce the plan period to 2041. In addition, the timetable for the preparation of the WNSP was updated and this was addressed by a revised Local Development Scheme. It envisages the approval of a draft plan for public consultation by the end of the calendar year so that the Plan can be adopted by March 2024.

On 14 July 2022, I received notification of planning application WNS/2022/1399/SCR Screening Opinion for proposed solar farmland Northeast of Preston Deanery. Plans and relevant documents can be viewed on the Council's on-line planning register.

DLUHC have extended the 4-year support programme (2018-22) for a fifth year into 2022/23. The programme will continue to offer grants and Technical Support packages. If you're working on a neighbourhood plan or neighbourhood development order, you can apply for grant funding of up to £10,000. Further grant funding up to an additional £8000 is available to groups meeting certain criteria.

This year the village of Tiffield, near Towcester, was awarded a gold level and the prestigious title of Northamptonshire 'Best Village 2022' by Northamptonshire ACRE, along with a prize of £500 to be used for community projects.

The 3472 Billing Causeway No 5 bridge was reinstated as per the original design, on 3 August 2022.

Young people needing support with their Mental Health can use the Espresso Yourself Cafe drop-in services throughout Northamptonshire. You can find further details in this news report.

The government's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is running across England this year. HAF offers funded school holiday clubs including food for children and young people. The team delivering HAF Northants is Northamptonshire Sport. Using their understanding of activities and fun things to do in Northamptonshire (sport and more) they have handpicked a directory of enriching activities.

We will celebrate International Youth Day on 12 August with lots of activities delivered by Northampton Youth Forum and our partners. Come and join us from 12- 4pm at the Racecourse Northampton. The event will also offer the opportunity for discussions around creating a Youth Parliament for West Northamptonshire. Further Youth Parliament engagement sessions will take place at Daventry Council Chamber on Monday 15 August and at Towcester Council Chamber on Tuesday 16 August between 10 and 2pm.

Catch up on the National Trust Free Heritage Open Days at Canons Ashby on 11-12 September and Sulgrave Manor on 13 September 2022.

Savour your time with family and friends and catch up on the wonderful stories about our community once you get back. I look forward to contacting you all early in September and in this connection, I will send out my September News Report during the last week of August.

Enjoy your Summer Break.

All the Best, Steve

PARISH MEETINGS, VISITS AND CASEWORK

Follow up Meeting with Highways on 22 July to discuss reduction in A428 speed limit

I managed to secure a reduction in the speed of traffic on the A428. Northamptonshire Highways has now decided to reduce the speed limit to 50mph along the A428 from the Lakeside roundabout through to the county boundary. I raised several queries with Highways and requested the evidence that underpins their proposal, so that I could understand the basis for the specific recommendation. Since last month, I met with WNC Highways on 22 July to better understand the impact of the solution on the A428. I provided an agenda of points of concern including but not limited to: Changes to be implemented, Enforcement, Safer Routes to School, Access off the A428 to the villages, Strategic Freight Network and other matters. I now have details of the Red Route profile and an engineering report for the A428 (red Route 55). I am awaiting details from the Road Safety Manager regarding time scales for any works on the A428 and for the Head of Delivery to include the other route hygiene issues I have asked for. This is an important first step in seeking the overall improvement to the highway safety of the A428, and I look forward to continuing this conversation in the months ahead.



Pimm's Evening, Little Houghton

On Friday 15 July 2022, I spent a most enjoyable evening in Alison Arrowsmith's garden, Little Houghton with villagers and their family and friends. In order to 'kick off' their Open Gardens Weekend we had all been invited to enjoy a Pimm's Evening. All proceeds to go to the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Little Houghton.

So, from six until eight on a wonderful sunny evening we chatted amongst friends. We were able to admire the many flowerbeds and pots with hydrangeas ahead of the Open Gardens event the following day. The hydrangeas were dense, bushy, and provided a terrific mix of colour, all of which created a striking display. Thank you, Alison, for hosting the Pimm's Evening and opening your garden to visitors.



Little Houghton Open Gardens

I visited Little Houghton, Open Gardens on Saturday 16 July 2022. It was an exceptionally hot afternoon, around 26c. We parked at the Paddock opposite Little Houghton House and collected our map of the village, which gave us the location of the 10 Open Gardens. We entered the garden of Little Houghton House and appreciated its elegantly clipped topiary, and the sense of tradition that surrounds a period country house. It had a sense of symmetry and formality with a surrounding landscape, that was as important as the house itself, and as we turned the corner of the house, we saw the gardens open and start to frame wonderful views.



Afterwards we went to Open Garden No 3 where we were able to buy some plants. By this time, it was getting exceptionally hot and so we travelled back to the Church where they were serving delicious teas and cakes as well as cream teas. It was a cool oasis in



the centre of the village. We caught up with a few friends before venturing out again to the Village Hall to see the Model Railway-Exhibition. Finally, we walked over to the Old Woodyard and met with Alice who was manning another plant stall, where we bought some more plants. We saw the fruits of all her efforts in reclaiming

her garden and discovering a wealth of edible delights-raspberries, strawberries and apple trees. Then we captured a wonderful view of the church from her garden.

We missed out on the Gallone's Ice cream at garden No 8 as it was after 5 o'clock, which was the time for the 'Open Gardens' to close until tomorrow. Thank you to everyone that welcomed so many visitors to the village and allowed us to experience their gardens in full bloom.

Hackleton Active Travel

The Place Scrutiny Committee is considering Active Travel in West Northamptonshire and I have raised the matter with the Committee as there is a need for further investment in Hackleton to support their active travel requirements as set out in the Hackleton Parish Council Neighbourhood plan. I will keep you updated as matters progress.



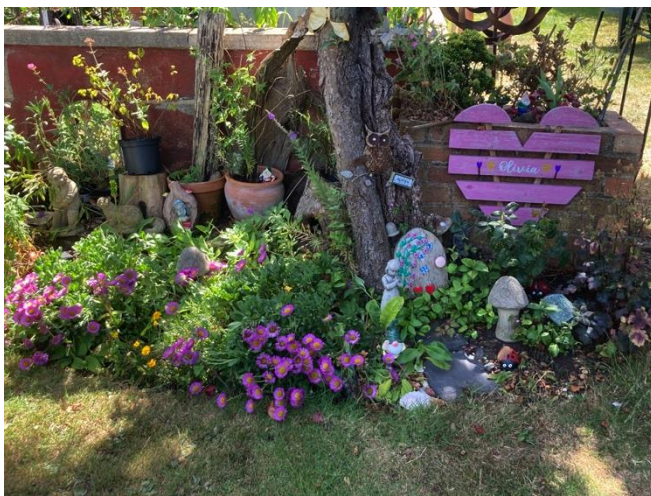
Quinton Open Gardens

On 9 July 2022, I went to the Quinton Open Gardens. There were 7 gardens open including the Old Rectory in aid of St John the Baptist Church, Quinton. As we had visited the Old Rectory recently on 24 June 2022, we decided to just visit the 6 village gardens. We started at Quinton Village Hall thinking we would be able to pick our programmes and get some refreshments before planning our route. However, we discovered that the programmes were being sold at each of the Open Gardens. Nevertheless, we caught up with Andy Bailey whilst sampling coffee and cake courtesy of the WI before setting off. We left the Village Hall and proceeded to our first garden, which was part of the Old Rectory Garden until



up

1963. Latterly their Rose Garden had received 5 firsts in the last 6 years of the Village Produce Show. Then after a chat with the owner we walked back past the village hall to our second garden. On the way we saw the historic village pump which had recently been renovated during the Quinton Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Then onto our second garden, where the owners say: "There has never been any real planning and some areas need more work, but it is our garden, and we love it." Well, we enjoyed our time in their garden too. Afterwards we went to Val's Garden. We enjoyed hearing about how her garden had evolved over the years and we experienced the



view from the allotment at the bottom of the garden. We bought some plants in support of 'Olivia's Smile' charity. Well done Val for all you have done and you do for the village and others. Do try to get some rest now and recuperate. "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." Audrey Hepburn. Finally, we went to Kathey's garden where we chatted and rested in the sunshine and played tombola in support of Church Funds and the Salvation Army. We had a most enjoyable day

meeting folks in Quinton including Revd Margaret Simmonds previously Associate Minister at St John the Baptist, Hillmorton in the Diocese of Coventry. Margaret has been appointed 'House for Duty' Priest at Hardingstone & Horton & Piddington & Quinton & Preston (the Living Brook Benefice), with responsibility for Piddington and Quinton churches. I attended her licencing service by John, Bishop of Brixworth, on 27 June 2022. She was visiting the Open Gardens, prior to her and her husband moving here.

Get Up and Go Cogenhoe

I was asked about exercise classes in Cogenhoe and unfortunately the existing one at the Village Hall was full. For those of you that are still interested, then the Parish Council is considering running a class on a Monday morning. Look out for the poster. To register your interest then please e-mail: clerk@cogenhoeandwhiston-pc.gov.uk

Coffee Morning at St John the Baptist Church, Hartwell

I visited the Coffee Morning at St John the Baptist Church, Hartwell on 21 July 2022. It was great to catch up with Judy Webster and several other Hartwell residents. Judy brought me up to date with some of the local events and I heard more about the history of the church, which can be found in the Hartwell Parish Appraisal, 2,000 on the Hartwell Parish Council web site. Thank you for meeting with me today. I enjoyed it very much and look forward to catching up with all of you again soon.



Update on the SEGRO Logistics Park, Rail Freight Contract

I have been asked for an update on the SEGRO Logistics Park, Rail Freight Contract.

Last month, Maritime Transport (Maritime) agreed terms with SEGRO to become the rail operator at SEGRO Logistics Park, Northampton. The deal, which includes the long-term lease of a new, 17-acre intermodal rail terminal and wider management role for Maritime, covering the rail infrastructure on the Logistics Park, will provide occupiers at Northampton and in the East Midlands with low carbon freight connections from UK container ports and other inland rail terminals with capacity for up to 16 daily trains, when fully operational.



The 775m long, open access, strategic rail freight interchange, capable of receiving the largest container freight trains with storage capacity for almost 2,500 TEU (20 ft equivalent containers) and parking for over 125 trucks, will be delivered by SEGRO as part of the infrastructure for SEGRO Logistics Park Northampton, from its logistics hub located four miles from Northampton and adjacent to Junction 15 of the M1.



The development, which is currently in the early stages of construction, will deliver 5 million sq. ft of modern warehouse space, on completion. Supporting the rail terminal operation, Maritime will be making additional investments at the site, including the construction of a high specification, 4-storey office with welfare facilities, new container handling equipment and provisions for electric truck and car charging infrastructure.

In a separate agreement, SEGRO and Maritime have agreed terms to extend the rail facility at SEGRO Logistics Park East Midlands Gateway, doubling the capacity of the terminal.

It is the first agreement signed since the designation of the East Midlands Freeport, UK's only inland freeport.

To the best of our knowledge SEGRO has yet to submit an application to vary the DCO to the Secretary of State for Transport. You can follow this on the Planning Inspectorate Website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/northampton-gateway-rail-freight-interchange/?ipcsection=overview>

SEGRO First tracks installed at their Logistics Park, Northampton

SEGRO have announced that the first tracks at their Logistics Park Northampton have been installed. They say that they are doing everything they can to get the terminal ready for operation. They estimate that the terminal will mean 76% fewer carbon emissions for every tonne of freight compared to road haulage.

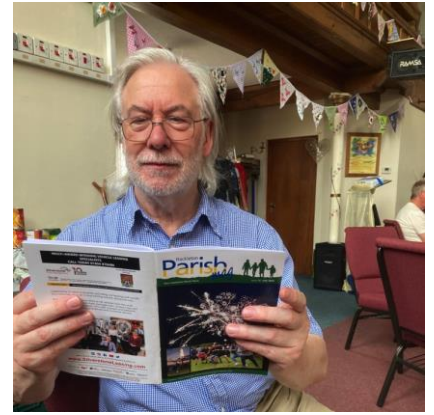
Coffee@Carey, Hackleton

On Wednesday 20 July, I popped in for a Coffee, Cake and a Catch up at Coffee@Carey, the village coffee shop set up in Carey Chapel in Hackleton. It was still very warm, but the temperature was not as bad as we had experienced earlier in the week. They had their Food Donation from


COFFEE@CAREY
FREE
SUMMER MEALS
FAMILY FOOD HAMPERS
IF YOU NEED A WEEKLY-OR ONE-OFF-HAMPER OF FOOD THIS SUMMER, PLEASE EMAIL: REVDJENNIE@GMAIL.COM
KID'S LUNCHES
OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE OFFERING TO MAKE A FREE PACKED LUNCH, EVERY WEDNESDAY, THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER. TO BOOK ONE OF THESE, PLEASE EMAIL: EMS.REED@GOOGLEMAIL.COM BY THE TUESDAY OF THE WEEK THE LUNCH IS REQUIRED
Coffee@Carey is open Monday-Wednesday, 10am-1pm, throughout the Summer Holidays
Find us at: Chapel Lane, Hackleton, NN7 2AH

Project 16:15 on display and they were very busy. I was on my way to sort out some casework in the ward.

I was delighted to hear that there are a few volunteers at Coffee@Carey ready to help support families with children during the summer holidays. They are going to be offering a selection of activities each week and a packed lunch every Wednesday that can be booked ahead of time and picked up at the coffee shop while you sit back and have a well-deserved cup of coffee/tea and rest while the children eat. Happy Holidays.



Patronal Festival, Castle Ashby

On Saturday 23 July 2022, I went to the Patronal Festival, Choral Evensong at St Mary Magdalene Church, Castle Ashby. The proceeds were for the Northamptonshire Charity Eve. Eve has a long history of supporting women and families who are survivors of domestic violence and abuse through the charity, Nene Valley Christian Family Refuge, which was set up in 1982. An invited Choir specially formed for the occasion directed by Stephen Meakins sang the Choral Evensong. The Service included Purcell's Introit 'Thou knowest Lord the secrets of our hearts.' I enjoyed

hearing the 473-year-old choral music tradition – established around 1549 – being performed live and to a very high standard in Castle Ashby.

Denton Wildflower project

On 29 July, I spent a most enjoyable time with Diane, Carole, Pat, John and others at St Margaret's Church, Denton Coffee Morning. I was sorry to hear that Sheila wasn't well and I hope that she gets better soon.



During our conversation, I found out that the

Wildflowers were now in full bloom and despite the lack of rain recently were doing very well. It seems that one of the residents had watered the flowers in the centre of the village.

Afterwards, I went to see the Wildflowers for myself. Just prior to the Platinum Jubilee, the Denton Village Hall Community wanted to enhance their village environment by introducing a flash of colour from wildflowers. By sowing wildflowers in the centre of the village and outside the school they said that it would enhance the environment, promote enjoyment and improve well-being. Research suggests that the thrill of seeing flowers growing in your village and knowing that it was you who made it



happen makes everyone just a little bit happier because of what they've done together. By using some of

my Councillor Covid Support Fund, I was able to fund the wildflower initiative aimed to support Denton's physical and mental wellbeing post COVID and provide educational support for their children, while simultaneously benefitting our local environment. The grant money was used to fund wildflower seeds, hire of machinery, bulbs and signs. Well done to Allison Samaloussi, Vice Chairman of the Denton Village Hall Committee for making it happen.

Castle Ashby Fun Dog Show

On 7 August, I visited the Castle Ashby Fun Dog Show and Church Fete. The various show classes started at 1.00pm. There were 7 classes including Best Rescue or Veteran, Prettiest Bitch, Dog with the Waggiest Tail, Best Child Handler, Most Handsome Dog, Best Biscuit Catcher, Dog the Judge would most like to take home and the Championship Class. Dog owners of all ages showed off their dogs with great pride. As a dog-loving nation, many village and town fetes now run dedicated fun dog shows within their own activities, and some



like Castle Ashby create a special Fun Dog Show event. It was a lovely spacious, doggy friendly venue with a large fenced in field and a large dog show ring.

It was great to meet up with so many friends again and to catch up with Susan who was selling

Strawberries and cream in aid of the Church in Castle Ashby. She gave me an update on the needs of the local Food Larders in Castle Ashby and Denton.



Afternoon Teas in August

Hackleton Village Hall were open today for Afternoon Tea. They hold them every Sunday during August from 2.00pm-5.00pm. As promised, I joined them on return from Castle Ashby and it was exceptionally busy. It's a great opportunity to meet up with friends and enjoy the fine English tradition of tea, scones and cake on a Sunday afternoon. Do support Hackleton Village Hall over the next three weeks.

Dress Agency Coffee@Carey

On 8 August, I visited Coffee@Carey, Hackleton's lovely community focused and volunteer run coffee shop. I was on my way to sort out some casework in the ward. They were running a pop-up Dress Agency, providing an opportunity for individuals to buy and sell



my

preloved clothing and fashionable accessories. It was very busy and 'nearly new' or 'second hand' dresses or outfits were being acquired. Why not support this new initiative by coming along on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of each week to buy something new and support the church?

REFUGEES IN NORTHANTS

More Sponsors needed to offer Homes for Ukraine



We are seeking more sponsors to support families and individuals fleeing the war in Ukraine. West Northamptonshire is an incredibly welcoming place, with many wonderful people who are willing to support those in need. We're extremely grateful for all the help so far, yet we could do with some additional help. The £350 per month thank-you payment is still on offer for sponsors who are successfully matched to Ukrainian guests.

We need some basic information to begin the process including:

- Name, address and contact details
- Who they would be able to accommodate (a family with children/couple/single female/single male)
- What accommodation they have available (including size and number of bedrooms)
- An indication of whether you have already registered your interest in becoming a sponsor on the government website.

Anyone who has space in their home, or an empty property that might be suitable can contact us at resettlement@westnorthants.gov.uk and we will provide full details of the scheme.

I have been seeking support for transport costs for Ukrainian families living across Hackleton and Grange Park. I have just been advised that WNC are developing schemes with our local Transport Providers to provide support to our families living across West Northants, including our most rural areas. If you know of a Ukrainian Family looking for support with travel, then contact Resettlement@westnorthants.gov.uk and a member of the team will be in touch directly.

Refugee Employment Support Event 15 August

West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) will be delivering a Refugee Employment Support event in partnership with DWP on Monday, 15 August at Northampton Central Library. The event will take



**Support for
Refugees
to Access
Employment**



**Monday
15 August
14:30 - 17:00**

In partnership with
Department for Work & Pensions

place between 2.30pm and 5pm and be attended by local employers and support providers including Futures for You and Travis Perkins. A variety of free help and support will be provided, as well as live vacancies together with English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support.

Other services available on the day include:

- 1) Professional translators to support customers with interviews
- 2) One to one career support
- 3) Help with employability skills
- 4) A childcare expert to discuss childcare options
- 5) Vacancies from local employers
- 6) A chance to discuss education and study options

The WNC Economy Team deliver our West Northamptonshire Employment Support Service to help every resident access free, quality support to secure local employment and enable local employers to fill their vacancies with the skilled local workforce.

The event follows ongoing work and support available to refugees in West Northamptonshire, whose communities have welcomed hundreds of individuals and families fleeing persecution from places including the Ukraine, Afghanistan and Syria. Recent data from the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) shows that West Northants has accepted 727 UK visa applications so far and is the 34th largest recipient of 150 Council areas.

If you are a local employer who would like to be involved in supporting refugees to access employment or would like the support of the WNC Economy Team, please contact economy@westnorthants.gov.uk.

All residents in West Northamptonshire can benefit from the WNC free Employment Support Service by accessing their website here. Also, businesses can access WNC's free business support from their website here: <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/free-business-support>

Contact Information

West Northamptonshire Council Communications Team
communications@westnorthants.gov.uk

CONSULTATIONS

Upper Nene Valley

This is a survey undertaken in partnership with North Northamptonshire Council, Bedford Borough Council and the Beds, Cambs and Northants Wildlife Trust. We are currently



undertaking a project to understand how people use the Nene Valley for recreation, so we can understand the impact on the important wildlife habitats in the area. As part of this an online survey has been developed. If you go out into the valley to walk, run, cycle, fish, birdwatch, row or indeed undertake any other activity it would help us for you to be involved in the survey. You should only complete the survey once and can do so at any time. The survey will be open until December 2022 and it should take less than 10 minutes to complete.

<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=164399705185>

Draft Gambling Act 2005-Statement of Licensing Policy

We are gathering views about our draft Gambling Act 2005-Statement of Licensing Policy 2022-2025.

Please have your say before midnight Sunday 21 August at <http://ow.ly/F1gY50JHwBm>



West Northamptonshire Parks Visitors Feedback Survey

West Northants Council manages over 190 parks and open spaces, the majority being situated within Northampton Town. This feedback survey is about 24 of these parks.

Abington Park, Becketts Park, Bradlaugh Fields, Brixworth Country Park, Daventry Country Park, Delapre Park, Hunsbury Hill Park, The Racecourse, Upton Country Park, Watermeadows, Borough Hill, Brackmills Country Park, Penn Valley Country Park, Dallington Park, Eastfield Park, Errington Park, Grangewood Park, Great Billing Park, Lodge Farm Park, Millers Meadow, Southfields Park, Thornton Park, Thorplands Park and Victoria Park



Parks and open spaces provide vital opportunities for recreation, contributing to the physical and mental health of the people of West Northamptonshire as well as being important for habitats, supporting local wildlife and biodiversity.

We would like to hear about the park you visit the most. The information you provide will

help us to improve our parks and open spaces and to prioritise work plans. The survey should only take 5 minutes, and your responses are completely anonymous. Please complete one questionnaire for the park you visit the most but if you'd like to comment on more than one park, please answer separately for each one. Please tell us your views by completing the online feedback survey using the link below.

<https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/.../wnc-parks.../>

Our contact details are as follows:

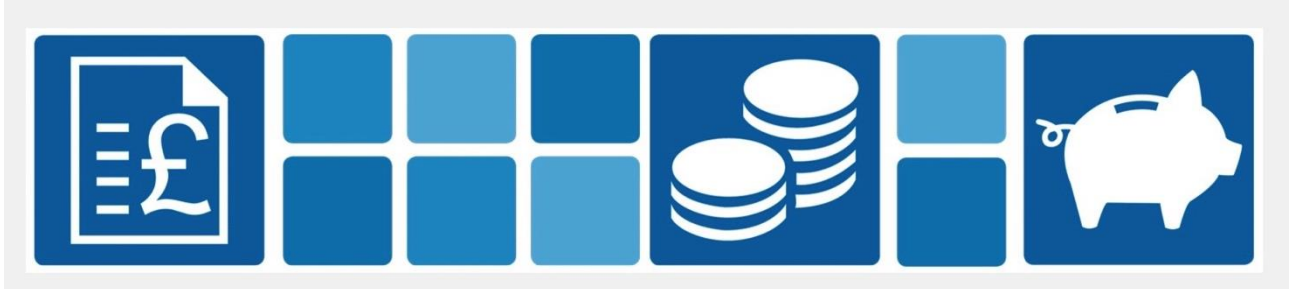
Email address: parks.ddc@westnorthants.gov.uk; Environment, Countryside and Parks Team, West Northamptonshire Council, Lodge Road, Daventry, NN11 4FP; Telephone: 0300 126 7000

Dormant Assets Scheme

The Government has launched a public consultation on what social and environmental causes should benefit from more than £700 million of dormant assets funding in England.

Currently, dormant assets funding in England is required to be spent on three causes: youth, financial inclusion and social investment. As the national recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic continues, as well as cost of living pressures, the Government believes that now is the right time to review whether these remain the right causes for where funding from dormant assets can be allocated.

It comes as the Dormant Assets Scheme was recently expanded from bank accounts to include the insurance and pensions, investment and wealth management, and securities sectors, estimated to unlock



around £880 million for good causes across the UK, £738 million of which will be made available for England over time.

The Dormant Assets Scheme is led by the financial services industry and backed by the government with the aim of reuniting people with these financial assets. Where this is not possible, the Scheme unlocks this money for social and environmental initiatives across the UK.

In England, the scheme has already channelled £110 million to breaking down barriers to employment for disadvantaged young people and £100 million to increasing access to fair and affordable financial products and services for vulnerable individuals. This is on top of £485 million of much-needed funding for both charities and social enterprises since the scheme's inception.

Now, individuals, communities, and industry participants can have their say on what causes matter most to them. One option under consideration for views is a community wealth fund proposal that would see pots of money distributed over long periods of time in local communities in England, with decisions made by residents to make a difference where it is most needed.

The consultation is now open for responses

<https://www.gov.uk/.../consultation-on-the-english...>

It will close on Sunday 09 October

FINANCE AND TRANSFORMATION

WNC Building Rationalisation in Daventry

WNC is pursuing plans to relocate from its current Daventry base to offices elsewhere in the town as part of proposals towards addressing future financial challenges. The move is part of a planned review of all our



existing buildings across the West Northants area, which, were inherited from the former county, district and borough authorities on 1 April last year. WNC currently operates from 35-year-old offices at Lodge Road, Daventry (left) that, were previously the old headquarters of Daventry District Council. Plans to close the office and relocate to new, smaller premises in the town by the end of the current financial year are the first steps of an office rationalisation programme the Council has committed to delivering, to achieve much-needed savings built into its budgets over

the next three years. As a new unitary authority, the buildings review also looks at opportunities for bringing together services from the old councils more effectively and enabling staff to work more flexibly within their local communities. Plans to make savings from building rationalisation form part of the

Council's budget, with savings of £250k this year, rising to £750k over the next three years. Work is now under way to identify options for alternative premises in Daventry, so that residents can continue to access the same service locally, with the relocation set to take place by April next year. Council staff are being kept informed and engaged as the plans continue to take shape.

REGULATORY SERVICES

Don't lose your right to vote at future elections

Canvass forms have been emailed to more than 80,000 people across West Northamptonshire so that residents can check their voter details are up to date. The annual canvass, which must be carried out by law, allows our Council to ensure that information on the electoral register is current and accurate. Adults must be on the register in order to vote in elections and referendums, while it is also used for jury service selection and to provide credit checks, such as when applying for a mortgage.



West Northamptonshire Council-branded emails have this week been sent out to residents who have provided their email addresses to us for this purpose. The emails, which come from electoralservices@westnorthants.gov.uk contain step-by-step instructions on how to check, confirm and/or change their details online. Anyone who is not on the council's email database will receive a letter in the post in early August. Residents are also reminded to stay alert when it

comes to phishing, scam or spam emails. The council will never ask people for their bank or other personal details via email. If in doubt, contact the helpline on 0300 126 7000. While people must be on the Electoral Register to be able to vote, the canvass communication is not a registration form to vote. To register to vote, go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. Find out more information about our Annual Canvass: <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/elections.../annual-canvass>

Changes to Elections Act

An update on the timetable for putting in place changes to the Elections Act has been released by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities recently. The new Act brings in several changes to the way we vote, as well as to campaigning and the rules on campaign spending and funding. WNC elections team is working with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in order to ensure these changes are put in place in West Northamptonshire, and was recently advised of several updates to the implementation plan, which are summarised below:

1) The introduction of voter identification has been moved from December 2022 to January 2023. This requires voters to present some form of photo ID at polling stations in order to receive their ballot paper. Voter Card application service is expected to go live in January 2023 and will be first used in any elections from May 2023.



2) Postal Vote Handling and Secrecy measures will now be put in place after May 2023. These rules, which will place added restrictions on who can hand in completed postal votes, will most likely come into force in Autumn 2023.

3) A new Voter Card, or Electoral identification Document, could include added security features. This will be based on market testing and input from government experts, balanced with the need for a secure document that can be quickly produced and dispatched in potentially high volumes. More information will be available in due course.

4) The Voter Card application deadline will be six working days ahead of a poll. This will enable central production and delivery management, removing pressure on local authorities in the immediate lead-up to a poll.

More information about the changes being brought in as part of the new Election Act can be found on the Electoral Commission website

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/.../elections-act>

PLANNING MATTERS

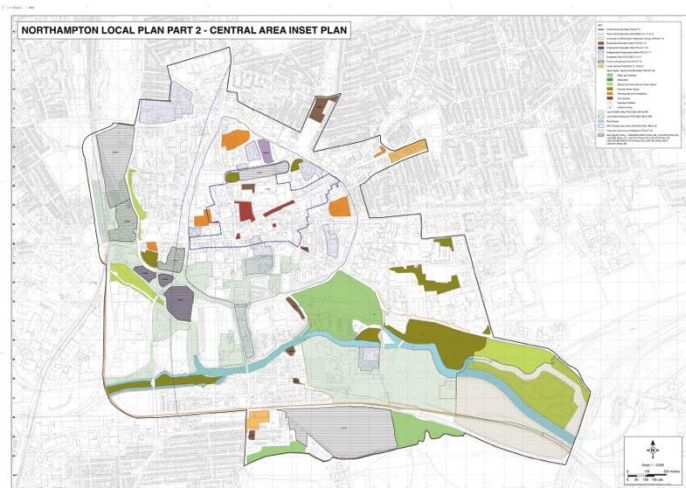
Planning Appeals

Since my appointment, I have kept you informed as to the progress of the major Appeals in South Northamptonshire. The update for this month is as follows:

- Hartwell, land North of Ashton Road-Dismissed
- Blisworth, land South of Station Road-Dismissed
- Blakesley Hill, Greens Norton-Dismissed
- Greens Norton, land off Mill Lane-Withdrawn
- Milton Malsor, land East of Lower Lane-Dismissed
- Blisworth, land off Northampton Road -Dismissed.
- Yardley Gobion, land at Asana Lodge Appeal-Inquiry 8 February 2022 for 3 days-Cancelled
- Yardley Gobion, land East of Northampton Road-Allowed.

Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Modifications Consultation

Having been through several stages of public consultation previously, the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 is being examined by Government-appointed inspectors who have stated that, subject to certain main modifications to the Plan being made, they would be able to find the Plan sound. They have asked WNC to put their proposed main modifications out to public consultation and they will take representations into account in writing their report about the Plan. The Northampton Local Plan Part 2 will, when adopted, replace all remaining saved policies from the Northampton Local Plan 1997 and replace all policies in the Northampton Central Area Action Plan 2013. It will include policies about development for housing, employment, supporting growth, design and the built and natural environments. These policies will inform the consideration of planning applications.



This consultation closes at midnight on 18 August 2022.

Have your say: Please visit the West Northamptonshire Consultation Hub for further information about the consultation and how to have your say. If you have any questions or enquiries about the consultation, please contact: PlanningPolicy.NBC@westnorthants.gov.uk

A Part 2 Local Plan for the Daventry Area was adopted in February 2020, while the Part 2 Local Plan for the South Northants Area was adopted in July the same year.



Maria Philpott, Principal Planning Officer leaving WNC

On 19 July 2022, I said goodbye to Maria Philpott, Chartered Town Planner & PG Dip Historic Conservation MRTPI. I have known Maria since she joined South Northamptonshire Council as a Planning Officer in February 2006. She has 20+ year's experience in Development Management and is qualified in Historic Environment Conservation with a passion for all things Heritage related. She is leaving her Principle Planning Officer post to join the private sector as an Associate in both Planning and Heritage. It will help her to gain more heritage experience with a view to obtaining IHBC membership in due course.

It's Maria's goal to have dual experience across both sectors and membership of both professional bodies. I have no doubt she will achieve great things and I look forward to hearing more about what she does next. Her skill and experience will be missed by

WNC. She is diligent, determined, and has a great work ethic. I have no doubt that she will be a valuable addition no matter where she goes. Please join me in wishing her, the very best of luck.

Six Week Consultation for SPD on Commercial Development Sites

Residents are being asked to help shape extra guidance for land allocated for commercial development in the South Northamptonshire area. Members of West Northamptonshire Council's (WNC) Planning Policy Committee recently approved plans to seek people's views on a new draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for employment land allocations in the area, which would sit alongside the South Northamptonshire Local Plan Part 2 to help inform decision-making on planning applications. The draft SPD aims to provide greater detail and certainty to the public and developers by setting out overarching design principles for the future development of the employment sites identified in the Local Plan, including guidance relating to size, scale and density of buildings.

A six-week public consultation on the SPD opened on Thursday, 7 July, with residents encouraged to attend drop-in sessions taking place in Towcester and Old Stratford. People have until midnight on Thursday, 18 August 2022 to give their views – to take part, visit the consultation hub on the Council's website or view the draft documents at the WNC offices and library in Towcester, as well as libraries in Brackley,



Deanshanger and Roade. As well as being able to view the SPD documents online, residents can view them at the WNC offices and the library at The Forum, Moat Lane in Towcester NN12 6AD, and libraries in Brackley, Deanshanger and Roade.

Full URL for the SPD Consultation Hub <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/.../sn-employment.../>

Solar Farm, Land North East of Preston Deanery

WNS/2022/1399/SCR Screening
Opinion for proposed solar farm
Land Northeast of Preston
Deanery

On 14 July 2022, I received
notification of the above planning
application.

The Case Officer is Tom Ansell

Telephone: 01327 322248

Email:



ELDNAR
Planning · Valuations · Rural Consultancy

**PROPOSED SOLAR FARM –
TOWN AND COUNTRY
PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT)
REGULATIONS 2017 –
REGULATION 6 – REQUEST FOR
SCREENING OPINION**

Construction of a Solar Farm together with all
associated works, equipment and necessary
infrastructure, on land to the north east of Preston
Deanery, Grid Ref SP792573

tom.ansell@westnorthants.gov.uk

Plans and relevant documents can be viewed on the Council's on-
line planning register.

T: 0300 0543339
E: enquiries@eldnar.co.uk
www.eldnar.co.uk
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West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan, Spatial Options Consultation

The council is preparing a new local plan, known as the West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan (WNSP), to review and replace the strategic policies in the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS) (Local Plan Part 1), which was adopted in December 2014. A consultation on potential spatial options was undertaken between October and December 2021 and at the Planning Policy Committee 28 June 2022, when the Committee considered a report which provided a summary of the responses received to the consultation.

The spatial options consultation envisaged a plan period extending up to 2050 to reflect the time period covered by the anticipated spatial framework for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. In response to representations received and in the light of increased uncertainty regarding the production of a spatial framework for the Arc, the committee agreed to reduce the plan period for the WNSP to 2041. In addition, the timetable for the preparation of the WNSP was updated and this was addressed by a revised Local Development Scheme. It envisages the approval of a draft plan for public consultation by the end of the calendar year to enable completion of further technical work and further member engagement. The Plan is expected to be adopted by March 2024.

Status of Neighbourhood Plans



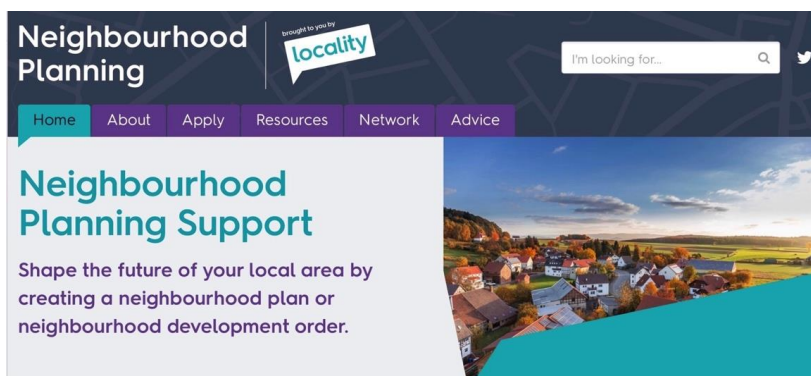
It seems the death of neighbourhood planning implied by 2020's Planning White Paper – has been exaggerated. The Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill currently passing through Parliament contains a number of proposals to reaffirm the status of neighbourhood plans (and 'priority statements') in decision making, which rural communities should celebrate.

None are more important than the proposed narrowing of the scope and the supposed simplification and speeding up of the process of making Local Plans. Long overdue, and hardly the first time these proposals have been made, but planning authorities being willing to do 'less with less' has got to be an important part of that new system. Across

rural areas it is often the cold policy hand of the Local Plan with its site allocations and often 'one-size-fits-all' district wide policies that has discouraged neighbourhood planning. Left to focus on strategic spatial policy only, the space should be created for innovative, place making neighbourhood plans in towns and villages looking at their own visions to 2050 and beyond.

And the challenges facing rural communities are becoming more complex to think through and to address. The RTPI's recent 'Rural Planning in the 2020s' report points to the combined economic, social and environmental effects of Brexit, Covid, climate change and demographic change on rural areas with some stark messages. Rural communities more than ever need to be able to have a real say in controlling their destinies.

Neighbourhood Planning Grant Funding – Locality



DLUHC have extended the 4-year support programme (2018-22) for a fifth year into 2022/23. The programme will continue to offer grants and Technical Support packages. If you're working on a neighbourhood plan or neighbourhood development order, you can apply for grant funding of up to £10,000. Further grant funding up to an additional £8000 is available to

groups meeting certain criteria.

ENVIRONMENT

Northants Litter Wombles Creating Litter Education & Awareness

The Northants Litter Wombles are a volunteer group of over 3,000 members set up in 2021 to combat the amount of litter in our beautiful county and they believe that the answer to reducing and preventing litter today and in the future is through DIRECT ACTION & EDUCATION.

For more information, or to book a presentation for your school or organisation, please contact Kevin Potter, their Lead Womble on the project by e-mail kevin.potter@northantswombles.co.uk

Northants Litter Wombles



Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

West Northamptonshire Council is taking the lead on fresh plans to halt the decline of local habitats, joining up with local partners to produce a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). At their recent meeting, members of the Council's Cabinet agreed to progress proposals for the new strategy which will set out plans to restore local natural habitats. It will be evidence-based, locally led and collaborative. The idea is to bring together a plan that public, private, and voluntary sectors can all help to inform and deliver. This will provide a locally owned foundation to developing and underpinning a national Nature Recovery Network. The longer-term restoration of earmarked natural habitats across West Northants will



enable species to thrive as trees are planted and peatlands restored. This will ultimately mitigate flood and fire risks and create green spaces for local people to enjoy.

The Council has received £16,000 towards the preparation of its strategy, with more on its way to cover what is estimated to be two years' work leading up to publication.

The strategy is part of a national vision, which informed the Environment Act 2021. On a local level WNC will continue to participate in all-Northamptonshire nature arrangements, especially the Local Nature Partnership, giving stakeholders efficient means of engagement.

<https://www.gov.uk/.../nature.../nature-recovery-network>

New Sustainability Team

With our ambitious goal of the council being net zero for CO2 emissions by 2030, we're backing up that commitment with the appointment of two new project officers to our Sustainability Team. Felicity Parker and Eugene Tom now complete the team, working alongside our Sustainability Officer Joely Slinn and Sustainability Manager Martin Wilson.

Good work has already been carried out through workshops with Cabinet Members, Directors, and Assistant Directors in which they discussed the pathway to net zero through each directorate, to shape a sustainability workplan and what the next steps should be. We've also made good progress on gathering data to establish a baseline for Council emissions which will provide key information on where our efforts should be directed and will be a yardstick against which to measure our success. Future work will look at the emissions for the whole of the area ahead of



the longer-term goal for West Northants to be net zero by 2045. Sustainability is a vital thread that runs through everything we do as a council and will be at the heart of every service, so that economic, social and environmental sustainability are key to everything we do. Felicity is working on fuel poverty and energy efficiency in the home, while Eugene focuses on the communications plan and engaging with stakeholders to bring the community along with us. The team will be exhibiting at the ACRE Grow Green Together conference in September and you can follow them on twitter via @SustainableWN.

Consultation on Food Waste Reporting

Improved food waste reporting by large food businesses in England – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Government wants to know what you think of their options for improving food surplus and waste reporting by large food businesses in England.

They are seeking views on the following:

- 1) Options for improving food waste reporting
- 2) Types of businesses in scope
- 3) Material in scope to be reported
- 4) The reporting process which businesses in scope will need to follow for any regulation



5) Costs and impacts of any regulation enforcement of any regulations
This consultation closes on 5 September 2022.
<https://www.gov.uk/.../improved-food-waste-reporting-by...>

RURAL SERVICES NETWORK (RSN)

RSN National Rural Conference 19-23 September

As the WNC Member Representative on the RSN, I have a booking for the National Rural Conference, which is taking place over the week of 19th September-23rd September online. The conference is free for members of the Rural Services Network.

The high number of bookings so far, shows how important the topic of REDUCING RURAL INEQUALITIES AND IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES is for those of us working in delivering services to rural communities. The week will feature a range of 2-hour seminar style sessions each morning and then 3 focussed hour sessions during some afternoons. The agenda for the week is as follows:

- Monday 19th September (AM) - Rural Transport
- Monday 19th September (PM) - Rural Cost of Living Crisis
- Tuesday 20th September (AM) - Rural Regeneration
- Tuesday 20th September (PM) - An Audience with Lord Benyon
- Wednesday 21st September (AM) - Rural Health, Care and Wellbeing
- Wednesday 21st September (PM) - Reducing rural inequalities and improving opportunities with RSN
- Thursday 22nd September (AM) - Rural Affordable Housing
- Friday 23rd September (AM) - Rural Net Zero



Tiffield awarded prestigious title of Northamptonshire 'Best Village 2022' by ACRE



The ACRE Northamptonshire Village Awards at the Hunsbury Hill centre on Monday (July 11).

A Northamptonshire rural charity has revealed its village of the year for 2022 after a vigorous judging process across the county. The annual Northamptonshire Village Awards (NVAs), run by Northamptonshire Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE), celebrate how inclusive and sustainable a village is.

More than 65 villagers and guests gathered on Monday (July 11) for an award ceremony at the Hunsbury Hill Centre to hear the results.

Elaine O'Leary CEO of Northamptonshire ACRE and a judge for the NVA said: "The wonderful quality of the communities we

visited meant that the judges had great difficulty in deciding on the level of award for each village." "It was a pleasure to meet a wide cross-section of villagers and to see the range of opportunities and initiatives

that are generated in our rural communities. We want to compliment every village that participated and thank them all for making the judges visits so informative and enjoyable.”

This year the village of Tiffield, near Towcester, was awarded a gold level certificate and the prestigious title of Northamptonshire ‘Best Village 2022’ along with a prize of £500 to be used for community projects. The judges stated: “Tiffield is a thriving village with a great community spirit. There are some excellent green spaces and the judges were particularly impressed with the way the local pub, The George, has become such a wonderful community hub for the village, hosting many clubs and activities and even a small community shop.” “The villagers were enthusiastic and passionate about their activities and supportive of others and they have built excellent relationships with nearby villages particularly through the use of its excellent community minibus.”

Each entrant is awarded either a bronze, silver or gold level certificate along with a small cash prize, courtesy of Campaigning for the Countryside (CPRE) Northamptonshire, who sponsored this year’s event. There was also a separate award for the ‘Most Creative Use of a Communal Space’, sponsored by Norris and Fisher Insurance Brokers, which was shared by Orlingbury, for its “amazing” churchyard, and Nether Heyford, for its excellent allotments and community orchard. Both groups received £100 each to be spent on community projects. The villagers also awarded a special mention and £50 to Wappenham for its “creative” installation of superfast broadband.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Introduction to Adult Safeguarding Training

There have been recent conversations at Northamptonshire Adults Safeguarding Board (NSAB) Delivery Board and Learning and Development Sub Group meetings in respect of safeguarding training for the Voluntary and Community Sector.

NSAB used to offer free e-learning courses, which included Safeguarding Adults however this was not renewed due to lack of uptake. They have since received a number of queries in respect of where



organisations can access safeguarding training. In light of this, a basic, Introduction to Safeguarding Adults training was offered during the NSAB Week of Learning, June 2022, and this session was recorded and is now available to access via the NSAB Website.

At the Learning and Development Sub Group in July, members agreed to share this training with the Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly for onward sharing with members to gain feedback as to whether the session meets their training

requirements.

In this respect, they would be really grateful if the training could be shared with others and for us to ask whether this meets the training needs and requirements for your organisation. Please note, this session is a baseline, introduction to the topic only. NSAB would be grateful to hear of any feedback made if at all possible please.

The Introduction to Safeguarding Adults training can be accessed via this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RrrYcFrX-v0...>

There were four other sessions held during the Week of Learning which were also recorded and these can also be accessed via the NSAB website. Please also share this link with others if you feel this is suitable.

Young People and Mental Health

As well as physical health and activity it's really important to talk about mental health. Our young people have dealt with a series of changes for over two years - to their education, leisure time, to their ability to socialise with their peers or see extended family. Many have shown amazing resilience, but others have understandably struggled and may need additional support over the summer holidays.

For youngsters aged 11-18 needing support with their mental health drop-in services are available across Northamptonshire through the Espresso Yourself Cafes. They provide a listening ear for young people who find themselves needing support with services including support and advice, wellbeing activities and peer support. Young people can book an appointment by calling the numbers provided or just drop in during the opening times. For those who cannot attend remote options are available too.

- Monday and Friday 4pm - 8pm the lowdown, 3 Kingswell Street, Northampton, NN1 1PP - 01604 634385
- Tuesday 4pm - 8pm Youth Works at Corby Mind, 18 Argyll St, Corby, NN17 1RU - 01536 518339
- Wednesday 4pm - 8pm CHAT Youth Counselling, Souster Youth Building, 30 Market Road, Thrapston, NN14 4JU - 01832 274422
- Thursday 4pm - 8pm Youth Works, 97 Rockingham Rd, Kettering, NN16 9HX - 01536 518339
- Saturday 10am - 2pm Service Six, 15 Sassoon Mews, Wellingborough NN8 3LT - 01933 277520
- Saturday 12pm - 4pm Time 2 Talk, The Abbey, Market Square, Daventry, NN11 4XG - 01327 706706

There is also a drop in for 19–25-year-olds offering a confidential, non-judgemental space for young people to gain mental health advice, coping strategies and support. This support is either face-to-face at the lowdown, 3 Kingswell Street, Northampton NN1 1PP or young people in Northamptonshire can connect remotely via video call or phone. Drop in between 4-8pm on Mondays or call 01604 634385 to book an appointment.



We also support our young Northamptonshire residents who are going out with friends this summer, heading to festivals with their mates, or on holiday with them. Aquarius, who run our drug and alcohol services for children and young people in Northamptonshire (from 10-18 years) is running a special summer campaign where they're sharing advice and guidance about staying safe, so young people can find out information about different types of drugs, what their influence is on the body, and about who to go to for support. The campaign, running on their social media channels Aquarius Young People Instagram, Aquarius Twitter and Aquarius Facebook is aimed at providing advice so that young people know what to do if they find themselves in a situation this Summer, so they know who to call for help calling 999 in an emergency and how to support mates if they're in danger. There are also Aquarius Summer Guides on

Getting Help, Staying Safe and Taking Drugs as well as a Summer Top Tips Guide.

Their Young People Services in Northamptonshire – NGAGE also provides a free and confidential space to talk if youngsters have questions about the impact of alcohol or drugs, or if they're worried about a family

member or carers substance use. NGAGE covers the whole county, and has dedicated workers for Northampton, Kettering, Corby, Daventry, Wellingborough, South Northamptonshire and East Northamptonshire. As well as ensuring our young people have access to information and support around drugs and alcohol we must also talk about water safety.

We know that young people in Northamptonshire have been out and about having fun in water, particularly during the recent heatwave. Sadly accidents, often fatal, happen in water at this time of year and they often involve young people. That's why we're asking parents to please supervise their children in and around water and to make sure they know the risks.

It can be great fun to cool off in water, however structures such as bridges, locks and flood channels, as well as reservoirs and quarries, should be avoided. Unexpectedly cold water or strong currents can catch even experienced swimmers off guard so we're asking again that parents and guardians make sure that their youngsters are aware of the RNLI's Float to Live so they know what to do if they get into difficulty in the water. Watching the video has already saved lives.

Northamptonshire Carers

Thank you Jenny Osborne, Carers Partnership & Services Co-ordinator at Northamptonshire Carers for giving me the following information about Northamptonshire Carers and how on a county-wide basis they support Carers and others living in the community. A network of groups for Carers to include Support Groups, Cafes, Drop in's, Lunch Clubs across the county

- 1) Groups for the ICAN Service (Integrated Care Across Northamptonshire) such as Heart Failure, Diabetic & COPD Groups (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
- 2) SPRING Project, Social Prescribing in Northamptonshire
- 3) Carers Assessments, commissioned service from the local authorities that have sub contracted their legal responsibility to Northamptonshire carers to provide Carers Assessment. This was via a tender process
- 4) Carers Partnership Meetings, which are Carers Services planning meetings set against the Carers Strategy priorities for the county as well as having a monitoring role to ensure the services are meeting a need.
- 5) Carers Support Line, open to carers for Information, advice & guidance as well as emotional support and a listening ear
- 6) Young Carers Service for young carers aged 5 – 18 years to include school liaising work etc.
- 7) Sitting & Befriending services via our Community Champions
- 8) Regulated care service giving Carers much needed help and support



I shall be meeting Jenny early September to discuss their services in more detail. In the meantime if you need any support please make contact with them on 01933 677907 or via the website www.northamptonshire-carers.org

The following support is provided in the vicinity of Hackleton and Grange Park:

- 1) Monthly Carers Drop In at Blisworth Baptist Church, 3rd Tuesday of the month 10am – 11.45am – next one is 20th September
- 2) Twice monthly Drop In at the 169 Wellbeing Café in Towcester, 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month 12 noon – 1pm

- 3) Monthly Lunch Club – Northampton, Queen Eleanor PH between 12 noon and 2pm on the 2nd Thursday – next one 8th September
- 4) Monthly Lunch Club – South Northants, Greens Norton Community Centre between 12 noon and 1.45pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month – next one 15th September
- 5) Twice monthly Carers Groups based within Cynthia Spencer for people looking after a loved one with life limiting conditions or who are in the Palliative Care stage, such as Huntingdon's, MND,
- 6) Carers Drop In at Roade in the Village Hall on Monday 5th September between 10am and 12 noon

All groups are listed on the website 'What's On Page. They are always looking to work with others on one off events etc. so if you have anything in mind you would like to work on or host please let me know.

EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Northamptonshire Adult Learning Services

Northamptonshire Adult Learning Service's Autumn 2022 programme is available to book online with a mixture of online and face to face courses

<http://ow.ly/A0TF50JWvTb>

All courses are booked on a first come first serve basis. There are lots of interesting courses to choose from including Photography, Cookery, Pottery and Language courses.

New Vice Chancellor University of Northampton

Its newly appointed Vice-Chancellor, Professor Anne-Marie Kilday, has today joined the University of Northampton (UON). Speaking on



her first day, Professor Kilday said:

"Northampton is a fantastic global university in the heart of the UK. I am looking forward to meeting the dedicated and brilliant staff and students who contribute so much to the University, to the wonderful town of Northampton and to wider society, through their teaching, research and civic partnerships."

Before joining UON, Professor Kilday held a senior leadership role as Pro Vice Chancellor for Student Experience and University Community at Oxford Brookes University, having previously held the post of Pro Vice Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Transfer and Impact

in 2012. This followed twelve years of progressing through various promotions from Principal Lecturer through to Dean, from initially joining Oxford Brookes as a Lecturer in Early Modern History. She is a Professor of Criminal History and has submitted to every Research Excellence Framework since the start of her career – with plans to continue as she joins the University. Professor Kilday succeeds former Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer Professor Nick Petford DSc DL, who after 12 years at the helm, stepped down from the post last Friday (29 July).



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www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/adultlearning September 2022 - March 2023

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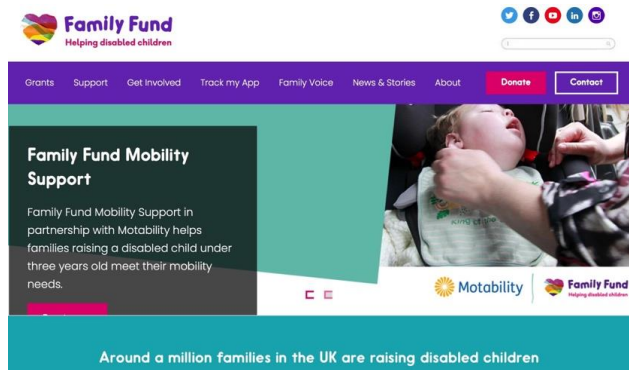
Family Fund

The Family Fund helps families across the UK who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under.

You can apply to Family Fund subject to a number of criteria which include that you are the parent or carer of a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under and that you have evidence of entitlement to one of the following: Universal Credit, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Incapacity Benefit, Employment Support Allowance, Housing Benefit and Pension Credit.

See the website for more details.

<https://www.familyfund.org.uk/>



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GRANT FUNDING

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

On 12 July, WNC Cabinet considered the progress to draw down the allocation of £5.4m from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the required next steps to finalise and submit the Investment Plan. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF or the Fund) is a central pillar of the UK government's ambitious Levelling Up agenda and a significant component of its support for places across the UK. It provides £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment by March 2025 and replaces ESIF funding.



West Northamptonshire Council has been allocated £5,426,224.00 for a three-year period up until March 2025. This fund is flexible and can be used for both revenue and capital, with minimum requirements of capital funding for each financial year.

There are three investment priorities, which align with the Levelling Up Missions: Communities and Place; Supporting Local Business; People and Skills.

West Northamptonshire Council must develop and submit an Investment Plan outlining which of the 41 recommended interventions will be allocated funding by 1st August 2022. West Northamptonshire Council must engage with the community, including stakeholders and Members of Parliament to input into the development of the Investment Plan. This has been done, including inviting all West Northamptonshire Councillors to input into an online consultation.

Cabinet noted the following:

1. The progress of developing the WNC UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Investment Plan, including data analysis, review of feedback from the Member engagement, focus group workshops and online survey consultations
2. That an Investment Plan to secure this funding must be developed, including which interventions will be funded per annum

3. That under existing delegated powers, officers would submit the UKSPF Investment Plan by 1st August 2022 to the DLUHC and update Cabinet in September

Link for UK Prosperity Fund:

<https://westnorthants.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s7029/UK%20Shared%20Prosperity%20Fund%20UKSPF%20-%20Appendix%201.pdf>

Traders will have an undisturbed Christmas



Traders will have an undisturbed Christmas after the decision was taken not to start work on the redevelopment of Northampton's Market Square until the new year. Once complete, the work will deliver a major new water feature, additional trees, new paving and public seating, redesigned market stalls and a new lighting scheme.

Relocation of the market to Commercial Street is necessary as construction work,

additional traffic, noise, dust and disturbance make it impractical to keep it on the square during the redevelopment.

WNC has listened to the traders – both from the market and surrounding businesses and they have decided that work should start after Christmas. This will give everyone some stability at one of their busiest times of year, before WNC commences work on the extensive redevelopment of Market Square.

The new-look Market Square will be available for use for a variety of events, as well as being a catalyst in attracting new businesses and opportunities to the town.

A number of potential options for moving the market were considered, including a variety of locations in Abington Street, Wood Hill, the Grosvenor Shopping centre.

Commercial Street was the only option, which allowed the entire market to remain together as splitting it up would have resulted in lower footfall to the separate sites, which the council believes would impact on its long-term sustainability. The council will continue to help promote the market in the lead-up to and after its move to Commercial Street next year.

Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Improvement Grant Fund

A new £3 million fund to upgrade and renovate England's village halls has been announced by the Government to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Over a three-year period, the Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Improvement Grant Fund will provide money for projects such as installing wifi, extending buildings and modernising facilities. The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) said village halls are at the heart of rural life, hosting fitness classes, community groups and post office services, and the grant will allow them to attract more people by creating more contemporary spaces. A total of 125 village halls will receive money from the fund, which Defra said will be a "lasting legacy" from the Jubilee for rural communities. Rural affairs minister Lord Benyon said: "Village halls are the centrepiece of rural life and funding their renovation to mark the Jubilee is a fitting tribute to The Queen's Service. "In a changing world, they are important facilities for community groups, social clubs and local services. "This funding will ensure they are central to the fabric of our villages for many more years to come." Defra said the grant



will build on the success of schemes to commemorate both Queen Victoria and King George and “demonstrate that almost 200 years on, we continue to build on the legacy of the monarchy, both past and present”.

Margaret Clark, chairwoman of the Rural Coalition, said: “Village halls support important services and facilities and offer places to meet which would not otherwise be available to many rural communities. “In doing so, they have a crucial role to play in helping levelling up in rural areas.”

David Emerson, chairman of Action with Communities in Rural England said village halls have been at the heart of rural communities for over a century, adding: “These unique volunteer run halls do so much to support the well-being of local residents, as well as helping to sustain the many livelihoods which depend on use of these important buildings.” He said the announcement “is especially appropriate in the week that thousands of halls across the country are hosting local celebrations of the Royal Jubilee”.

Details on how the funding will be administered will be announced later.

Community Ownership Fund – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities



The government is providing £150 million over 4 years to support community groups in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of being lost. Voluntary and community groups can bid for match funding to acquire important assets and run them for the benefit of the local community. The Fund will run until 2024/25 and there will be at least 8 bidding rounds in total. The Community Ownership Fund launched the updated prospectus on 27 May 2022 with the first bidding window commencing 10

June 2022 for expressions of interest. The closing date for full applications to this bidding window is 19 August 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/.../community-ownership-fund-prospectus>

More Community Larders in Northamptonshire

The larders are opening in time for the school holidays so children have access to food even when schools are closed. An additional three community larders will open in Northamptonshire as the charity behind them partners with the Hope Centre. TowFood was born out of the Covid-19 pandemic when volunteers came together to deliver 44,000 food boxes to those most in need. In 2021, the organisation opened its first community larder - where surplus food is sold at affordable prices - in Towcester. Since then it has expanded and opened larders in Castle Ashby and Denton, as well as delivering to villages where there are no shops and where there are particularly vulnerable people who cannot get to a main town for shopping. The charity is now preparing to launch three more larders in Brixworth, Daventry and Woodford Halse.



Miranda Wixon from TowFood and Alex Copeland from the Hope Centre, Northampton.

It is also beginning a partnership with the Hope Centre to offer more “wrap around” support for mental health, as well as other services. Volunteer and founder of TowFood Miranda Wixon said:

“We wanted to move into other rural areas that aren’t getting sustainable food so we are working with community groups to be able to access surplus food to supply communities. “Larders are community hubs, safe spaces where people can go. Everyone can come -

they don't have to prove in any way that they're in hardship."

Following the British Grand Prix in Silverstone, the volunteers rescued 7.5 tonnes of surplus food. They are rescuing food that would otherwise be sent to landfill. Their volunteers are out every single night, in every food outlet collecting food and making sure it's kept in a good condition. They have an amazing cohort of volunteers and people who want to help. Memberships for the larders cost £10 per year or shopping from £5 per week or £17.50 a month for 10 items a week. Visit the TowFood website to find out more including locations and times.

Empowering Local Communities and Under 18 Better Starts grants – Asda Foundation

U18 Better Starts is an Asda Foundation grant for local groups aimed at supporting a broad range of activities for children under the age of 18 which contribute towards transforming communities and improving children's lives.

Empowering Local Communities is an Asda Foundation grant for local groups aimed at supporting a broad range of activities, which contribute towards transforming communities and improving lives. Groups supporting refugees arriving to the UK are also welcome to apply under this grant.

The Foundation state that they know the rising cost of living is having a big impact on communities and these grants are open to groups helping to address this issue.

The application window for both grants is 30th May – 19th August



Community Transport Grants – Motability

Through this new grant programme Motability aim to help charities and organisations to make an immediate impact for disabled people, by awarding funding to develop, expand and improve community transport options. The programme is focussed on:

- Funding support for staff or volunteer training and costs.
- Funding to increase the number of vehicles available in the community to help organisations support disabled people.
- Funding local, regional, or national initiatives to increase awareness of community transport and influence its inclusion in transport strategy and policy.
- Funding to schemes, programmes and initiatives that already exist, and who provide best practice solutions, but need further support to remain operational or scale up the service they can provide to help more disabled people.

Charities and organisations working in the community transport sector can apply for grants from £100,000 to £4 million at any point over the next three years until March 2025.



Community Shares Booster – Power to Change

Delivered by the Community Shares Unit and funded by Power to Change, Community Shares Booster supports community businesses in the process of setting up and launching a community share offer that can demonstrate high levels of community impact, innovation and engagement.



The programme provides:

- Development grants averaging £5,000 to prepare a community share offer; financial planning, governance support, marketing costs and being awarded the Community Shares Standard Mark
- Match equity investment– typically matching pound for pound up to £25,000 providing that the minimum share offer target is achieved
- Ongoing support and advice as an active investor in community businesses

<https://www.powertochange.org.uk/.../community-shares.../#>

Sara Homer, BID, SEO Finalist in Northamptonshire Logistics Awards

Congratulations to Brackmills BID CEO Sara Homer, who has been unveiled as a finalist in the Northamptonshire Logistics Awards 2022. Sara Homer first joined the BID Board nearly 10 years ago, volunteering her time to help steer and shape Brackmills, to support logistics as well as other businesses on the estate. Sara has led on an array of initiatives – just a few include:

- Crime reduction – the recruitment of a dedicated PCSO and a security firm to cover key dates such as bank holidays. An investment in state-of-the-art CCTV and ANPR cameras. Crime is now at an all-time low.
- Traffic and travel – Logistics businesses have expressed frustration with road humps, congestion and more. Sara has secured match funding to fund extensive infrastructure improvements.
- Business support events – training and support to help businesses grow
- Charity events, as chosen by businesses – using the estate and our logistics businesses to leverage more support and make an impact locally
- Competitions – the Forklift Drivers Competition
- Awards – encouraging and enabling the BID to sponsor the Northants Logistics Awards and encouraging estate businesses to enter, sponsor and attend.



Explore West Northamptonshire

We are introducing a new mobile app encouraging people to explore West Northamptonshire and find out what's on offer. The app will showcase everything that makes West Northants such a quality place, right in the palms of people's hands, enabling them to:

- Gain access to a huge variety of local deals, offers and discounts
- Explore what's going on in the area with a live events calendar and easy-to-access information about local attractions
- Find hidden gems and purchase their favourite products
- Fuel their spirit to explore the market towns and rich heritage right on their doorstep
- Grow the local economy by supporting independent businesses and attractions, benefiting everyone in the community.



Keeping people connected to the places they live, work and visit is a fantastic way to ensure that local businesses and attractions grow and thrive. West Northants has the perfect combination of rural and

urban offers and ExploreWN is going to showcase the many reasons to visit. We are dedicated to supporting local employers and growing our economy, and ExploreWN is going to be a strong tool to deliver this. ExploreWN is also the perfect platform to showcase our area's rich cultural heritage, along with the many, many things to enjoy and discover. It will allow people to plan family days out and explore the wealth of attractions from museums, art galleries and theatres to grand stately homes. Find out more and download the app on our website. Businesses and local attractions can also still sign up to feature on the app.

Access to Finance: Start Up to Scale Up Workshop

Organiser: SEMLEP Growth Hub, Silverstone Technology Cluster, British Business Bank

Venue: Silverstone Innovation Centre

Date & Time: 15 Sep 2022 - 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Contact Email: samantha.hunter@semlep.com

Save the date and book your place in our third event of our 2022 Access to Finance Series, in partnership with British Business Bank and SEMLEP Growth Hub. This "Access to Finance: Start Up to Scale Up" workshop is targeted at SMEs as well as businesses looking to grow in today's turbulent economic environment.

This event will feature round table discussions around both start-up and scale-up/exit funding, with leading experts who can share their practical experience and advice. More details will be announced in due course.

We will have two panels of industry experts and businesses who can share their practical experience and we are thrilled to announce we will be joined by the following:

- Julian Lucas, Business Partnership Officer – University of Bedfordshire
- Roderick Beer, Managing Director – UK Business Angels Association
- Charles Williams, Investment Director – Growthdeck Ltd
- Martin Spiller, Senior Lecturer in Entrepreneurship – Cranfield University
- Paul Smith, Business Advisor – University of Northampton

This is a hybrid event held at Silverstone Innovation Centre, so please ensure you register for the appropriate ticket.

<https://www.semlepgrowthhub.com/access-to-finance-%EF.../...>



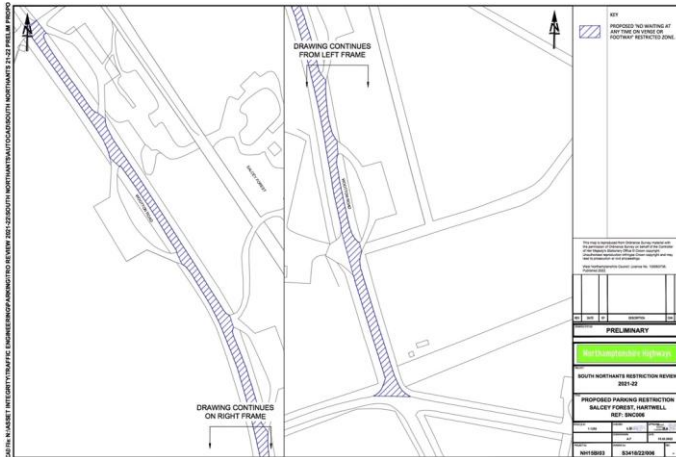
TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

Proposed No Waiting At Any Time Zone

Salcey Forest, Hartwell – In its entirety from the junction with Forest Road, Hartwell for 592 metres northwards.

West Northamptonshire Council propose to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to amend "The Northamptonshire County Council (South Northamptonshire District) Waiting and Loading Restrictions and On-Street Parking Places. A COPY of the proposed Order, together with plans showing the exact lengths of roads to which it relates and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be inspected on the Council's website at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk (search traffic regulation orders) and may also inspected at Northamptonshire Highways, Brixworth Depot, Old

Harborough Road, Brixworth, Northants, NN6 9BX at a time and date specified by appointment only by calling 01604 883445.



OBJECTIONS to the proposed Orders, stating the grounds on which they are made should be sent in writing to the Traffic Orders Section, Northamptonshire Highways, Highways Depot, Old Harborough Road, Brixworth, NN6 9BX or by email; parkingenquiries@kierwsp.co.uk by 12th August 2022.

Dated this 22nd day of July 2022

PROPOSED NO WAITING AT ANY TIME ZONE Salcey Forest, Hartwell – In its entirety from the junction with Forest Road, Hartwell for 592 metres northwards.

Billing Causeway Bridge Repairs

The 3472 Billing Causeway No 5 repairs started on 27 June and were completed by 3 August 2022.

National Highways Public Consultation re A5 Towcester

Residents across West Northamptonshire are invited to join National Highways public consultation events throughout August and September to find out more about the proposed improvement works along the A5 in Towcester. They are an opportunity to find out more about their proposals and share your views. During the events the project team will outline the proposed options to improve Towcester town centre and answer any questions you may have. The proposed work will include improving:

- Road safety
- Parking
- Traffic volumes
- Public spaces
- Signage
- Consultation events

Drop-in events will be held on the following dates.

Please just turn up:

- Wednesday 31 August, from 10am to 7pm at the Sawpits Centre, Towcester (NN12 6FT)
- Monday 5 September, midday until 7pm at Waitrose Car Park, Richmond Rd, Towcester (NN12 6HZ)
- Tuesday 6 September, 9am to 2pm at Aldi car park, Old Greens Norton Rd, Towcester (NN12 8AX)



National Highways will also be holding online events on Wednesday 17 August and Wednesday 24 August from 7pm to 8.30pm via Microsoft Teams. If you'd like to attend an online session please email: a5towcester@jacobs.com and you will be provided with details of how to attend

POLICE FIRE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

Major Bleed Control Training

As part of Northamptonshire Police Week of Action against serious violence, Meditech Global will deliver a session of major bleed control training on Mon, 15 August at 2pm at Rectory Farm Community Centre, Northampton. Register at <http://ow.ly/vMxq50K8rOo>



Traveller Community served a Section 61 at Village Park in Kislingbury

A traveller community of more than 20 caravans pitched at a village park near Northampton have received an enforcement notice by police. The travellers arrived at the football pitch at Kislingbury Sports & Social Club at about 8pm on Wednesday 6 July). Northamptonshire Police (NP) said they were aware and were told by travellers that they would be leaving on Friday 8 July.



However, the travellers were still there at midday on 8 July. Police served a section 61 to the group which means they must leave by 2pm or enforcement action would be taken. The police do not have the power to stop travellers from setting up an encampment. The landowner would need to serve an eviction notice. A Kislingbury resident said the camp had caused disruption to the activities of the cricket club and the bowls club, which use the sports and social club.

New Cold Calling Zone

A new 'No Cold Calling Zone' has been set up in a residential street in Woodford Halse, thanks to our Trading Standards Team working with local police and residents. A no cold calling zone is a designated area where the residents declare they will no longer accept traders calling at their homes without an appointment.

They are clearly signposted, sending a clear message to uninvited callers that they are not welcome. There



is strict criteria for where zones can be located. They must be small areas – for example individual streets or sheltered housing areas - where there are higher than average levels of doorstep crime and many of the residents are elderly or vulnerable. This is the 38th such zone to be designated in West Northamptonshire. If you wish to find out more about No Cold Calling zones or request a No Cold Calling sticker, please contact WNC Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

CULTURE, HERITAGE & SPORT

Towcester Centre for Leisure wins National Club/Centre of the Year

The ukactive Awards recognise and celebrate excellence and innovation across health, wellbeing, and fitness in the UK.

This year's awards ceremony took place in person for the first time since 2019 and was held on Thursday, June 30, at Birmingham's ICC. In recognition of its post-COVID-19 recovery, Towcester Centre for Leisure



was named Regional Club/Centre of the Year for the Midlands and also won the coveted National Club/Centre of the Year. Commended for its focus on customers, staff, and community engagement, the centre underwent over £1m of extensive refurbishments working in partnership with West Northamptonshire Council and Parkwood Leisure during closures as a result of the pandemic. The refurbishment project included a new multipurpose

studio and spinning room extension, increased gym space, upgraded shower and changing facilities and renovations to the spa.

Queen's Green Canopy Initiative from October onwards



Communities and individuals can still get involved in commemorating the Platinum Jubilee year by planting a tree for the Queen's Green Canopy initiative from October onwards.

From Scout and Girlguiding groups to parish councils, businesses and schools – thousands of people across the UK have already come together to plant trees for the Jubilee, with many benefiting from the Woodland Trust's free sapling offer. Now town and parish councils and schools taking part in the Queen's Green Canopy can also get a free commemorative plaque from West Northamptonshire Council and the Woodland Trust is once again offering free trees to schools and community groups.

In West Northamptonshire, a total of 5,686 trees were planted during the last official planting season between October 2021 and March this year. One of those trees was planted at Silverstone race circuit in May, on the

same day as an English Oak was planted in Indianapolis, as part of a cross-Atlantic twinning arrangement which sees Northamptonshire twinned with the U.S city, as both locations have a strong focus on the motorsports industry. A unique planting event took place in the village of Winwick in Daventry, when the parish council planted 50 trees and a time capsule, which will be buried for 100 years. Village residents provided details of everyone living in their household, along with photos of their families, memories of village events and other local memorabilia.

Once planted, don't forget to record your tree on the Queen's Green Canopy interactive map, together with a photo. Your tree will be part of a legacy which will make Northamptonshire an even more beautiful county for future generations, so happy planting!

How you can get involved

The new tree planting season gets underway again this October and The Woodland Trust is once again offering free trees to schools and community groups. To request a pack for delivery in November, please visit The Woodland Trust website

Town and parish councils and schools planting a tree for the Jubilee can also get a free commemorative plaque (one per organisation, on a first come first serve basis) from West Northamptonshire Council, by emailing queensjubilee@westnorthants.gov.uk.

Find out more information about the work taking place locally in support of the Queen's Green Canopy project. More information is also available on the Queen's Green Canopy website

The Indianapolis Connection



A painting depicting nine historic Northamptonshire locations has gone on display at the Central Library in Indianapolis, as part of the twinning association between our county and the Indiana state capital. Sulgrave Manor, The Boat Inn at Stoke Bruerne, Althorpe House, Ashby St Ledgers and Brixworth Church are among the locations depicted in the painting by US-based artist Alex Neckopulos. Her work also includes nods to Northampton's famous shoe industry, and our rich motorsport heritage. You can find out more about the painting and the

exhibition on the Indianapolis - Northamptonshire County Sister City Facebook Page.

HAF Northants

The government's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is running across England this year. HAF offers funded school holiday clubs including food for children and young people. Here in Northamptonshire the Holiday Activities and Food programme is known as - HAF Northants. The team delivering HAF Northants is Northamptonshire Sport. Using their understanding of activities and fun things to do in Northamptonshire (sport and more) they have handpicked a directory of enriching activities. <https://www.holidayactivities.org>



International Youth Day 12 August

We will celebrate International Youth Day on 12 August with lots of activities delivered by Northampton Youth Forum and our partners. Come and join us from 12- 4pm at the Racecourse Northampton to:

- find out what's happening for young people
- have a say on things that matter to you
- enjoy music, games, sports and have fun

Follow the event thread at <https://fb.me/e/2NvNiS9ne>
[#northamptonyouth](https://twitter.com/northamptonyouth) [#youthday](https://twitter.com/youthday)



A range of information and advice, entertainment and activities will be available throughout the day, as the Youth Forum promotes this year's theme of Intergenerational solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages. Activities and discussions will take place between midday and 4pm, giving attendees the chance to get involved in a range of events including three by three basketball, outdoor games and a 'Lemon Pop,' or creative self-development workshop. The event will also offer the opportunity for discussions around creating a Youth Parliament for West Northamptonshire. Further Youth Parliament engagement sessions will take place at Daventry Council Chamber on Monday 15 August and at Towcester Council Chamber on Tuesday 16 August between 10 and 2pm.

Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Silver Award



Less than a year after achieving bronze status in the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS), we have been awarded silver status. The ERS silver award is the second step in a constant improvement programme, which makes it easier for reservists to find flexible employers and improves employment pathways between the forces and the private and public sectors. Having had a start afresh as a brand-new council and after the initial bronze award in December 2021 which recognised WNC's openness to employing reservists, veterans and anyone connected to the forces, the council has since put in place policies which allow reservists to carry out their military commitments. As a signatory to the Armed Forces Covenant, this council is

committed to supporting members of the armed forces community – those currently serving, reservists, veterans and family members. I believe our rapid progression to the next stage of the ERS shows that this council is leading its community and I would urge all employers in West Northants to join us in the scheme and help deliver on the shared duty of care to members of the armed forces community. 2022 marks the ninth year of the Awards scheme. In addition to 44 Silver winners, the East Midlands region also had a record 18 Gold Awards this year. To achieve gold status in the ERS the council must show it has committed to taking on those leaving the services via the Careers Transitions Programme and have registered for the Forces Family Portal. WNC offers a range of support for serving personnel, veterans and their families, which could include support with finance, housing and employment and education. For more information, visit the Armed Forces Covenant website.

<https://www.afcnorthamptonshire.co.uk/Pages/home.aspx>

Canons Ashby Free Open Day 11-12 September

Canons Ashby - National Trust will open its door for free on 11-12 September as part of Heritage Open Days. Visit the medieval church and enjoy recorded music to transport you to the magic and myths of Camelot. Take a pew, close your eyes, and listen to excerpts of King Arthur, by Purcell and John Dryden, in the fantastic acoustics of the priory church.

More information of #HODs: <http://ow.ly/nCFG50K6mJH>



Sulgrave Manor, Free Open Day 13 September



Enjoy free entry to Sulgrave Manor - George Washington's ancestral home on Tuesday 13 September.

Come and look around where the first President of the United States made his home in the county.

No booking required.

More information of HODs: <http://ow.ly/7UTS50K9yeB>

The Hockey Men's World Cup 2026

The Hockey Men's World Cup could be coming to West Northamptonshire in 2026 if a national bid to host the event proves successful. England Hockey and Hockey Wales confirmed details of their bid this week and hope 2026 will be the biggest Men's Hockey World Cup so far, with 300,000 tickets available and a final

set to take place at the iconic Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. And the bid promises a third of matches will take place at venues outside London, including the Stadium at Franklin's Gardens. Franklins Gardens is well known for rugby, but with five lady's teams, seven men's teams, a mixed team and a host of junior teams, the Northampton Saints hockey club is also the biggest hockey club in the county and one of the biggest in the Midlands. We also have a wealth of other top hockey clubs in and around the county.



You only need to look at the massive success of the ladies' euros venues such as Wigan & Leigh, and Rotherham showing the bigger stadiums and the world how to engage with communities and opening the possibility for everyone to play ladies' football. This is something Northampton is keen to emulate with hockey. We know with our great stadium and help from our hockey clubs we can show our communities that hockey is for everyone, at any age, from any background. The

council's corporate priority for improving life chances includes providing healthy opportunities for all and to increase the aspirations for our young people to follow any path no matter where they're from. The hockey community and sports fans across the UK (and beyond) are being invited to show their support and excitement for the event and can Back the Bid on the England Hockey website. The initial bid submission was made in May and the FIH are scheduled to make a final decision in November of this year. The last men's Hockey World Cup in England took place in 1986, while in 2018 London hosted the Vitality Hockey Women's World Cup, at the time the biggest standalone female sporting event the country had ever seen.

Sport4Fitness CIC Fernie Fields

Up to 1,600 adults and children with special educational needs and disabilities will have proper access to join in sports and activities thanks to a funding award from West Northamptonshire Council. The council has announced it is awarding a £40,000 Changing Places Grant to Sport4Fitness at Fernie Fields in Northampton which will go towards a new bespoke changing places facility. Sport4Fitness is a Community Interest Company providing multi-sport activities to children and young people with disabilities and special needs as well as supporting their parents, carers and siblings. Their ethos is their activities can be 'achieved by everyone and affordable to all.'

The tailored facility is for those with multiple and complex disabilities and specially designed to meet the



needs of people for whom 'standard' accessible toilets are insufficient. It will be built to the recognised standards of what is known as a Changing Place Toilet (CPT). These include a ceiling hoist capable of moving a large adult, shower, disability toilet, sink, changing table and sufficient space for up to three adult carers to be able to assist and where necessary.

The Fernie Fields site is widely used and open seven days a week. Providing further funding can be raised, the facility will hopefully be ready by March 2023. The full cost of the building work and installation of the toilet is estimated to be to be £90,000. Sport4Fitness has raised a total of £18,000 towards the work so far and are looking to raise the remaining £32,000 through continued fundraising activities.

The cost of the wider project including landscaping, storage, access paths, parking and fit out will be £120,000. Sport4Fitness currently has additional pledges of support and are continuing their fundraising efforts.