

PARISH NEWSLETTER

25 March 2022 | Issue 3



NWL News

Council Tax Freeze For 13th Year

North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) has frozen its portion of the council tax bill for a 13th consecutive year, recognising the financial challenges many have faced in a tough year. A Band D property will pay £158.58 to NWLDC in the next year – exactly the same as a household in this band paid back in 2009 for the services the district council provides.

Additional Garden Waste Service

NWLDC's Cabinet has agreed some key changes to the garden waste service. There is now an annual charge of £45.00 to have an additional garden waste bin emptied. Your first garden waste bin will continue to be emptied free of charge. Residents who would like to join the additional garden waste service from 1 June can register their interest [here](#).

Commemorative Benches

As communities come together to remember the many lives lost over the last two years, [commemorative rainbow benches and cherry trees](#) are popping up across the district.



As part of the [National Day of Reflection](#) on Wed 23 March, North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) invited all town and parish councils and parish meetings to place commemorative benches and trees for reflection.

The items are being installed in more than 40 areas across the district to provide a focal point to enable communities to reflect on the lives of the people who have been lost during the last two years.

Training

The recent **New Code of Conduct training** has been well attended and very well received. The training was delivered by [Bethan Evans Governance Training & Consultancy](#). If you have missed the three training sessions already delivered, there is still time to register for the final virtual event on Thurs 21 April by emailing [Member Services](#). The team would particularly like to encourage clerks to attend this training to update your knowledge.

There is still time to book on to the following online training sessions:

- Environmental Crime, Tues 29 March, 5.30pm
- Public Spaces Protection Orders, Wed 27 April, 5.30pm

Please email [Community Focus](#) to book.



Meet the Community Focus Team

With new team members having recently joined us, it's a good time for a refresh of who is in the team and where we sit within the council.

Chris Brown retired in December 2020 and his post was not replaced. The Community Focus team has now moved to sit under the Leisure Services team and our new manager is Jason Knight, whom many of you will already know. You can contact the team by [email](#).

Emma Trahearn
Community Focus Team Leader



Emma leads the Community Focus team.

Community Focus Officers

Zara Barnes
Coalville and surrounding areas



Catherine Ridgway
Ashby, Measham & Moira

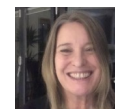


Gillian Squires
Northern Parishes



Community Focus officers support town and parish councils, build links with the VCSE community, engage with local community projects and ensure parishes are linked in to strategic projects such as HS2.

Jessica Lloyd-Davies
Community Focus Support Officer



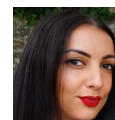
Jess leads on the Free Tree Scheme and runs all the grant schemes.

Helen Crouch
Food Poverty Officer



Helen works with the district to address food and fuel poverty.

Amy Flint, Administration Support Officer



Amy provides administrative support to both the Community Focus and Community Safety teams.

Pick Your Own Street

The Environmental Protection team is inviting people to recruit up to ten volunteers from their street to join in the Great British Spring Clean on Sat 9 & Sun 10 April. All equipment will be provided and the waste will be collected



from the end of your street. To take part please sign up by emailing [Environmental Protection](mailto:EnvironmentalProtection@leicestershire.gov.uk) or telephone 01530 454545 by Fri 1 April.

Ask VAL

Can you help Voluntary Action LeicesterShire promote their 'Ask VAL' event? This Advice Guidance and Solutions session is designed to connect with local VCSE (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise) organisations, local community stakeholders and key partners.

The event will be held on Tues 26 April, 5.30-8.00pm at Castle Donington Community Hub. [Book here.](#)

Castle Donington **Ask VAL** VCSE Advice Guidance and Solutions

26 April 2022 | 5:30pm - 8pm

These sessions, have been designed to bring VAL's services to Leicestershire communities. An opportunity to connect with local VCSE sector organisations, local community stakeholders and key partners to share knowledge, and work collaboratively.

Virtual Job Fair

Following the success of the last virtual job fair, local businesses are invited to advertise any vacancies they may have at the next [virtual fair](#), which will run from 10.00am on Tues 19 April until midnight on Mon 2 May. Jobs will be advertised for 14 days and it is totally free for businesses. Job seekers can then look at all of the vacancies in one place at a time that suits them over the two week period.

Can you help promote this to local businesses in your area? Businesses can sign up at: <https://leicesteremploymenthub.co.uk/virtual-event-form/>

Grants



Queen's Platinum Jubilee Grant

There is still time to apply for this grant to help your community celebrate this historic occasion. The deadline for applications is Thurs 14 April.

Parish councils, community groups and schools can apply for grants up to £250 to help pay for things such as entertainment, bunting, party materials or food and drink over the four-day Bank Holiday Jubilee weekend in June.



HS2

Leicestershire County Council's (LCC's) HS2 team has updated that there is no further news on the [forward programme for HS2 through Leicestershire](#). The Department for Transport (DfT) has emailed to advise that they are 'at the early planning stage'.

LCC continues to hold parish council 'drop-in' sessions on the first Tuesday of each month. If you would like to join the next session on Tues 5 April, please [email the HS2 team](#).



East Midlands Freepoint

The [East Midlands Freepoint](#) has secured formal Government approval for its plans to offer businesses locating in the Freepoint special incentives. Any proposed development will be subject to following the due planning process.

The Freepoint has three main locations:

- East Midlands Airport and Gateway Industrial Cluster ('EMAGIC')
- East Midlands Intermodal Park ('EMIP') and
- the Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station Redevelopment Site

For further details [visit the EMF website](#).

Local Policing



Leicestershire Police
Protecting our communities

Beat surgeries

You can check out what beat surgeries are planned over the coming months by logging onto [Your area | Leicestershire Police \(leics.police.uk\)](#) and entering your postcode or town/village to bring up details for your dedicated neighbourhood team. Then click on 'Meetings and Events' to find out dates and venues for local beat surgeries.

Did you know you can report crime and incidents using the online portal? Visit [Home | Leicestershire Police \(leics.police.uk\)](#) and click on REPORT. In an emergency dial 999.

PSPO for Ashby

A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) has been introduced for Ashby to give the police the power to confiscate alcohol or psychoactive substances including nitrous oxide, khat and spice, if there are concerns around antisocial behaviour.

The PSPO covers the town centre, Hood Park and Bath Grounds. Refusing to hand over alcohol or psychoactive substances when requested could result in a £100 fine.

Star Council Awards

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has announced that it will be re-running the [Star Councils Awards](#) this year to recognise the achievements of the local (parish and town) council sector.

The five award categories this year are:

- Clerk of the Year
- County Association Project of the Year
- Young Councillor of the Year
- Councillor of the Year
- Council of the Year (public vote)

The nomination period ends on 27 May 2022, and the winners will be announced at an online ceremony later this year. Will your council be submitting a nomination or two?