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## **FOREWARD**

*Points of Light* is a collection of case studies highlighting the work that local (parish and town) councils are undertaking to support their communities. Each case study features a summary of the work carried out alongside electorate, precept and expenditure figures of the local councils involved.

The case studies have been compiled to promote good practice and raise awareness of the diverse range of services local councils are facilitating. Running a post office, providing a changing places toilet, employing a youth skills manager, launching a community alcohol partnership and declaring a climate emergency are just some of the examples of activity contained in this edition.

Research for *Points of Light* has come from a range of sources, including articles from *LCR* magazine, Council Spotlight, entries to NALC's Star Council Awards and local news stories.

NALC hopes this guide inspires all local councils to take that extra step to support their community and aides understanding of what they do.

## **ART AND CULTURE**

### **Bourton-on-the Water Parish Council, Gloucestershire**

Electorate: 3,098

Precept: £150,957

Expenditure: £305,121

Promotes and supports local art and artists. Artists from Bourton and The Cotswolds are invited to apply to have their work displayed in the Windrush Room of the George Moore Community Centre. Prospective applicants are asked to submit three electronic images of their work, a link to their website (if they have one) and a personal statement for consideration by a panel comprising of two local artists, a local councillor and the clerk. The council accepts any 2D artwork, including paintings, prints, photographs and collages. All artwork is displayed for up to a year. Local residents are invited to view it on the second and fourth Fridays of each month and at other times when the Windrush Room is not hired out.

## **CANALS AND RIVERS**

### **Swanage Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 7,937

Precept: £718,030

Expenditure: £2,945,735

Manages Swanage Boat Park. The Boat Park is a useful point for boat owners to launch their boats and watch the Swanage fishing fleet moor up their boats at the end of the day. The council offers daily, annual and seasonal passes for the launch and storage of boats. Prices for launching a boat start from £21 for a daily pass, with discounts offered to holders of a Swanage Residents Parking Permit. Storage fees range from £130 for a boat or trailer up to 13ft during winter, to £1,140,000 for an for a boat or trailer up to 29ft.

### **Tewkesbury Town Council, Gloucestershire**

Electorate: 8,474

Precept: £301,288

Expenditure: £300,014

Rents out and maintains a series of moorings along the River Tewkesbury. In an area adjacent to St Mary's Road the council maintains a set of four private moorings. At the Back of Avon two moorings are available for private hire during the winter and a further ten moorings are available for hire all year round.

## **CAR PARKS**

### **Sleaford Town Council, Lincolnshire**

Electorate: 15,014

Precept: £648,554

Expenditure: £640,782

Owens and manages Eastgate Car Park. The council has worked to improve the experience for car park users, recently installing new payment machines which take credit and debit cards and offering one hour's free parking. This has proved very popular, with data showing that in the six months to September 2019, 42,000 free one hour tickets were issued and 28,000 parking tickets were paid for by debit or credit card. The council also provides 27 annual parking permits for people who live and work in Sleaford.

Sleaford Town Council is now finalising plans for a major refurbishment of the carpark. This will include resurfacing, drainage repairs and relining, as well as increasing the size of parking spaces and changing the layout of the carpark to create a better flow of vehicles.

## **COMMUNITY AWARDS**

### **Brigg Town Council, ERNLCCA**

Electorate: 4,414

Precept: £118,319

Expenditure: £159,798

Presents a number of civic awards. The Joseph J. Magrath OBE Award for Public Voluntary Service recognises public voluntary service which benefits the town. This can include valuable service within a local organisation, service to the old and infirm, service to the cultural life of the community, service within sport and leisure organisations, courageous actions, or actions which have increased the standing of the town. The winner is presented with the Joseph J. Magrath OBE Memorial Rose Bowl at the Annual Civic Charity Dinner. The Civic Award is given to the owner of the land or property best considered to have improved the appearance of the town. The award is judged by the council and the owner presented with a plaque and certificate at the Annual Civic Charity Dinner.

All front gardens visible from the roadside are entered for consideration for the Best Kept Garden award, with a shortlist drawn up by an independent judge. The owner of the winning garden receives the Louis T. Jarratt Memorial Rose Bowl at the Annual Town Mayor's Appeal Coffee Morning. The Prize Allotment Award is made to the owner of the allotment deemed to best meet a number of criteria, including having well stocked plots with crops free from obvious signs of excessive damage and plants which are vigorous, sturdy and free from obvious signs of excessive damage and have overall an appearance which is neat and pleasing. Awards are also given for the best house hanging basket, best business

display and best school display. Results are announced and prizes presented by the Town Mayor at the Annual Town Mayor's Appeal Coffee Morning.

### **Huncote Parish Council, Leicestershire**

Electorate: 1,523

Precept: £58,082

Expenditure: £50,906

Organises the annual Huncote Environment Awards. Categories include the Community Award, Best Kept Front Garden and Environment Award. The Community Award is presented to an individual who has given up their time voluntarily to the benefit of others in the community. The Best Kept Front Garden Award is considered by members of the council, who together with principal authority councilors, do a walk around and keep an eye on front gardens throughout the year.

For the Environmental Award local residents are encouraged to put forward nominations by leaving a message on the council's Facebook page, sending a tweet, emailing the clerk or writing to the council. Environmental developments of any size or type carried out in the parish in the last 12 months are eligible to be put forward for consideration. Examples of environmental developments listed by the council include turning a jungle garden into an allotment, establishing a wildflower garden, installation of solar panels and improvements in the street scene such as installation of hanging baskets. The winner is presented with a cup and a £25 gift voucher, with the runner up receiving a £10 gift voucher. All awards are given out at the community association community day, to which shortlisted nominees are invited to attend.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

### **Bidford-On-Avon Parish Council, Warwickshire**

Electorate: 4,738

Precept: £272,165

Expenditure: £345,187

Runs the Bidford Rural Cinema in partnership with the Crawford Memorial Hall Committee. Film screenings take place twice monthly, with the council aiming to ensure that one film a month is child friendly. Tickets cost £2.50 and refreshments, sponsored by Warner's Budgens, are also reasonably priced. The council works tirelessly to ensure that films are offered as soon as theatrical rights are released. Upcoming screenings planned include *Judy*, *The Good Liar* and *Le Mans '66*.

### **Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council, Kent**

Electorate: 5,080

Precept: £206,399

Expenditure: £214,923

Holds a popup café and information hub in partnership with Rural Kent Action with Communities. Local residents are invited to have tea and cake in the village hall once a month. A range of organisations also attend to provide information and/or give talks. Previously this has included Neighbourhood Watch, Fire Services, Scam Avoidance and ladies from the Women's Institute, who also donate fresh cakes. Residents can find out an array of information, including how to keep safe in the household and be fire safety aware, who to contact if they need advice about caring for a relative and how to identify scams and what to do. Information regarding citizens advice and where residents can access it, dementia support and volunteering schemes is also provided. The café presents a perfect opportunity for residents to raise issues they wouldn't normally do in a relaxed safe environment and is proving increasingly popular. All donations collected at the Pop Up Café go to towards The Make Lunch event, a project run by the local church to provide hot meals for local school children from low income households during school holidays.

### **Gnosall Parish Council, Staffordshire**

Electorate: 4,107

Precept: £71,575

Expenditure: £31,877

Holds a biannual festival celebrating village activities and talent. The festival, known as GFest, began as a small scale enterprise but has since evolved into a significant showcase for local artists and craftspeople and a focus for all sorts of creative events. In 2019 GFest lasted nine days and incorporated a Canal Festival alongside a diverse programme of events including the Made in Gnosall craft fair, a family bike ride, classical concert and heritage group open day. The festival attracts both local residents and those living further afield and has become a well loved and popular feature of village life. Support for the festival is also provided by Visit Stafford, Cuttlestones Auctioneers and Valuers, as well as many local businesses and volunteers. Each time the festival is held a portion of money raised is made available for local organisations to apply for as grant funding. In 2019 this totaled £3,442.

### **Godalming Town Council, Surrey**

Electorate: 16,557

Precept: £643,778

Expenditure: £951,047

Co-ordinates and facilitates Godalming Staycation, a week long programme of activities and events taking place in the town each summer. The council reaches out to local clubs, groups, organisations and businesses and works with them to provide activities and taster sessions. The council then coordinates the activities into a week-long programme with a range of activities for all age groups and interests. Where space in one of the council's community centres is needed to deliver an activity or event, hire charges are waived. In 2019 the wide ranging

programme included drumming workshops, a fun run, 2 cycle rides, dancing, brass band lessons, bowling, canoeing, sewing and craft activities, singing and a photographic workshop. The council also supports the Staycation Live Music event by providing insurance and premises licenses for regulated entertainment and looks after waste management.

### **Hadlow Parish Council, Kent**

Electorate: 3,024

Precept: £117,759

Expenditure: £170,161

Holds a community breakfast one Sunday a month. For £4 per adult and £2 per child, residents can come along and enjoy a full English breakfast and a chat in the old school hall. The date is often chosen to coincide with other activities in the village. In the past this has included the community litter pick and community minibus driver training, with participants receiving breakfast beforehand.

### **Hexham Town Council, Northumberland**

Electorate: 9,036

Precept: £324,000

Expenditure: £437,896

Took over organisation of Hexham's Annual Remembrance Day Parade and Service of Remembrance following an approach from the Hexham branch of the Royal British Legion. Each year the council remembers the men and women of Hexham and elsewhere who have died in conflict in the First World War, Second World War and the wars and conflicts that have taken place since. In 2019 the parade saw a contingent including the 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery, members of the 5th Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, Northumbria Army Cadet Force (Hexham Detachment), members of the Royal Air Force Association, the Royal British Legion and ex-service personnel march to the town's war memorial, where the Hexham Brass Band played a selection of popular wartime tunes. This was followed by a Service of Remembrance at Hexham Abbey featuring popular psalms, hymns, recitals and wreath laying.

### **Little Paxton Parish Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

Electorate: 3,267

Precept: £119,832

Expenditure: £143,281

Organises the annual Paxfest village fete and Fun Dog Show. This year's fete will have a 'back to the 1940's' theme and will include a 1940's fashion competition and miniature 1940's theme on a plate competition. There will also be a range of entertainment, including stalls, magic shows, live music, a mobile farm, mini zoo and donkey rides. The Fun Dog Show will run alongside the fete and will have 15 classes and a championship class. Dog owners can register to enter on the day by paying £1.50 per dog, per class.

## **Romsey Town Council, Hampshire**

Electorate: 11,875

Precept: £281,882

Expenditure: £350,839

Runs the Romsey Community Cinema. Film screenings take place at 3:30pm and 7:00pm every other Monday in the Court Room of Romsey Town Hall. Tickets cost £6.50 and can be purchased online and in the council office. Refreshments are available to buy and all cinema goers are offered complimentary biscuits.

Upcoming screenings planned include *Little Women*, *Parasite* and *The Personal History of David Copperfield*.

## **Saxilby with Ingleby Parish Council, Lincolnshire**

Electorate: 3,362

Precept: £185,400

Expenditure: £390,662

Organises an annual Christmas lights switch on and fireworks display. In 2019 the itinerary included refreshments and lanterns at St Botolph's Church Hall followed by a carol service at St Botolph's Church, lantern procession from the church to the village Christmas tree, Christmas lights switch on and carols, stalls, indoor soft play for children, a fireworks display and Pavilion Bar disco. Sponsorship for the event was provided by Taylor Wimpey and a number of local businesses.

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

### **Charlton Parish Council, Worcestershire**

Electorate: 494

Precept: £13,400

Expenditure: £11,973

Represented on the local partners and communities together (PACT) panel. PACT's terms of reference are to act on behalf of the communities of Fladbury, Crophorne, Charlton, Wick and Bricklehampton, to support liaison with West Mercia Police to discuss policing issues that have been highlighted in the community and to provide a forum for discussion of wider community issues and an opportunity to network with neighbouring parishes. Panel meetings are organised jointly by the safer neighbourhood policing teams, local councillors and partners and bring together key stakeholders within the community, including local and principal authority councillors and the police. Locally agreed priorities are taken on by the panel to tackle during the coming months, with all actions and results reported back at the next meeting, where future priorities are set. The 2018-2019 annual report set out the priorities for that year as: finding ways to minimise anti-social behaviour in recreational areas and promoting awareness in the community linked to reporting crime and knowledge of the local safer neighbourhood team.

### **Little Eaton Parish Council, Derbyshire**

Electorate: 1,969

Precept: £16,538

Expenditure: £73,125

Has a subgroup dedicated to identifying highways issues. The Little Eaton Community Speedwatch Group focuses in particular on problems relating to speed and volume of traffic travelling through the village. The group meets quarterly to co-ordinate the location and date for the next speedwatch. Members of the public are invited to attend both the group meetings and speedwatch sessions.

### **Walton Parish Council, Yorkshire (Wakefield)**

Electorate: 2,592

Precept: £36,695

Expenditure: £49,370

Pays for extra police support under an initiative called The Safe Scheme. A dedicated police team address problems raised by the council on behalf of residents and responds to concerns expressed by individuals. A representative of West Yorkshire Police also attends each council meeting to report on crime in the village and the steps taken to address it.

### **Witham Town Council, Essex**

Electorate: 18,856

Precept: £557,278

Expenditure: £581,321

Became the first local council in Essex to 'go live' with the Community Special Constables Scheme. The scheme, launched in June 2018 following the signing of an agreement between Witham Town Council and Essex Police, sees the council cover the expenses of up to five volunteer police officers who are based in the town. The volunteer officers spend a minimum of sixteen hours each month in Witham targeting and disrupting anti-social behaviour, responding to community concerns and carrying out high visibility foot patrols in the town. The development forms part of the council's four point attack on crime and anti-social behaviour, including recruitment of local special constables, extension and link up of CCTV throughout Witham, helping residents to self-help with advice and information and promotion of resident's associations across the town, alongside the existing neighbourhood watch scheme.

## **COMMUNITY VENUES**

### **Braunton Parish Council, Devon**

Electorate: 6,470

Precept: £120,282

Expenditure: £402,941

Opened a community work hub in the former Braunton Police Station. The building was purchased by the council to keep a police presence and provide a community work hub for small start-up businesses, home based and mobile workers. The police have retained an office within the building and the remainder has been turned into a community work hub consisting of four fully furnished modern offices and six affordable hot desks. There is also a social hub for meeting clients, exchanging information and networking. Office hire starts from £48 per week, hot desks can be booked for half a day at £5 or all day for £10. Prices include utilities, business rates and cleaning. Funding for the project came from the council and Devon Works Hubs.

### **Broughton Parish Council, Lancashire**

Electorate: 1,513

Precept: £18,000

Expenditure: £42,334

Purchased the Toll Bar Cottage with the aim of turning it into community rooms and a cafe. The council set out two phases for the work: renovation of the cottage to enable the café to open and building the extension and landscaping the gardens. As of early 2020 the council had received planning permission for change of use from a domestic dwelling to community rooms with café, external work to mitigate any further deterioration in the cottage had been completed and the structural engineer had completed work on the proposed extension. The next step will see the architect finish the specification and agree it with the building inspector. Once this is complete the council will put out for tender on the government contracts finder database. The council has also asked for appropriate trades people to get in touch with a quote for phase one of the work. To involve local residents in the project, the council held a meeting where those living near the cottage could view the plans and discuss them with councillors.

### **Penzance Town Council, Cornwall**

Electorate: 16,109

Precept: £1,389,218

Expenditure: £1,604,279

Operates an open air theatre in Penlee Park. The theatre seats around 300 people and plays host to a wide range of performances in the summer months, including circus, choir, bands, musicals, plays and films. Performances scheduled for the 2020 summer season include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Gin and Jazz in the*

*Park with Peaky Blinders Vintage Band and Mor Ha Kara - Cornish Tales in Classical Music.*

### **Radstock Town Council, Avon**

Electorate: 4,398

Precept: £262,697

Expenditure: £217,478

Took over the library building in Radstock following negotiations with Bath and North East Somerset Council. The building has since been re-designated as a community hub and provides a central point for residents to access services and facilities in the town, including Radstock Town Council, the library, children's services, public access IT, signposting for other services and meeting space for community groups. The council hopes a range of local organisations and stakeholders will have a presence on a scheduled drop in basis, including The Citizens Advice Bureau, Curo neighbourhood services, local police, the Job Centre, The Big Local and tourist information. Recently the community hub has played host to a stay and play music session for the under 5's, an employment training and wellbeing support drop in session and Love Radstock creative workshops.

### **Springfield Parish Council, Essex**

Electorate: 15,182

Precept: £382,997

Expenditure: £24,168

Owns and manages the Springfield Parish Centre, a local community hub. The centre consists of a main hall with full size stage, sound and lighting equipment which can accommodate up to 150 people and a further five smaller rooms for between 15 to 50 people. Any of the rooms can be rented out either by members of the public or local organisations, subject to availability, through the council. A number of activities and group meetings take place at the parish centre, including yoga, line dancing, children's ballet, badminton, Multiple Sclerosis Monday Club, Headway Essex Support Group and the Springfield Craft Club. The parish centre is also home to Tiddlywinks Pre School, Springfield Library and the Heaven Sent cafe.

### **Skegness Town Council, Lincolnshire**

Electorate: 15,510

Precept: £469,290

Expenditure: £505,589

Developed a business plan for a community building in Tower Gardens. The plan sets out the council's vision to transform a once derelict space into a much needed local amenity which will include a community hall, changing places toilet, tea room and council office. The council hopes that this will help create a cohesive, supportive and inclusive community that shares a common goal, making

Skegness an attractive place to live, work and visit. The plan was approved at a council meeting in March 2019, with work commencing in May of that year. Work was completed on time and within budget and the building handed over to the council in February 2020. To engage the community before the building was open, a name the building competition was held, with all residents of Skegness and Winthorpe encouraged to enter. The council financed the project with a loan from the public works loan board.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Alsager Town Council, Cheshire**

Electorate: 9,779

Precept: £385,465

Expenditure: £511,379

Runs the successful Wednesday Alsager Market. The market is open from 9:00am-15:00pm every Wednesday and has a diverse array of stalls, including fishmonger, lingerie, bedding, plants and flowers, fruit and veg and pet food. New stall holders are welcome and are invited to apply to the council for a pitch.

### **Westgate-on-Sea Town Council, Kent**

Electorate: 5,451

Precept: £136,906

Expenditure: £132,870

Chairs the Westgate Coastal Community Team. The team, which also includes representatives from the Westgate Heritage Centre, the Conservation Area Advisory Group and local schools and businesses, aims to regenerate Westgate-on-Sea as a thriving seaside resort and create a better environment for residents to live in. In the short term the team is looking to strengthen the community and increase footfall by improving the shopping environment and raising the profile of the town. A key part of this will be through organising events and Westgate-on-Sea Town Council has created an Events and Tourism Committee to aid with this. Longer term the team plans to expand the accommodation available for visitors and to develop a heritage strategy for the town.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT**

### **Bearpark Parish Council, County Durham**

Electorate: 1,579

Precept: £20,500

Expenditure: £16,907

Worked in partnership with Busy Bears Day Nursery and Durham County Council to educate young children on the importance of not littering. Bearpark Parish Council invited Durham County Council's civic pride team to attend the nursery and talk to the children about litter. The civic pride team read a story with a range

of props and explained to the children why they shouldn't litter and how to look after the environment. A litter pick then took place, with children from the nursery, together with members of Bearpark Parish Council and Bearpark Community Partnership all taking part.

### **Brightlingsea Town Council, Essex**

Electorate: 6,664

Precept: £172,729

Expenditure: £172,729

Agreed an environmental policy to enable the development of activities that will minimise negative effects on the environment and enhance and protect Brightlingsea's immediate environs. The council intends to improve its environmental performance and influence improvement in Brightlingsea in the following ways: use energy, natural resources and non-renewable resources efficiently and strive to minimise waste and pollution, inform Brightlingsea's residents of the council's environmental activities and respond and react to feedback, support individual behaviour change in Brightlingsea's residents, support local businesses in the adoption of low-impact practices and manage council land using environmentally-friendly practices that will promote biodiversity and protect habitats. The council has also made a commitment to take action in a number of specific areas, including water, planning authority local plans, climate change and energy conservation, waste, transport, biodiversity and green spaces, sustainable procurement and awareness lobbying and partnerships. In 2019 the council took part in the Royal Society of Biology's Biology Week by planting two locally grown native ash trees and a sweet chestnut tree. In doing so the council aimed to aid genetic diversity and counter global warming.

### **Buckingham Town Council, Buckinghamshire**

Electorate: 10,726

Precept: £852,777

Expenditure: £863,934

Declared a climate emergency as part of a commitment to becoming a more sustainable council. The council is determined to ensure that the declaration translates to real action that reduces carbon emissions at a local level and will be formulating a climate change action plan. So far the council has purchased an electric van for its Greenspaces team and installed photovoltaic panels on the roofs of the two community centres. To reduce the use of single use plastic the council has phased it out from all council run events and offices, provided recycling stations at all council events and encouraged staff to use reusable water bottles and coffee cups. The council is also seeking to change the behaviour of local residents and has produced a poster with nine tips to reduce plastic waste at home.

### **Burnham Parish Council, Buckinghamshire**

Electorate: 9,513

Precept: £538,000

Expenditure: £1,058,781

Leading a major project to improve the footpath between St Peter's Close and Opendale Road. The footpath had become the subject of many concerns over the years, including antisocial behaviour, drug taking, litter and fly tipping. An extensive programme of work to address these issues is now almost complete, including installing new street lights along the path, resurfacing the worst areas of the path, installing CCTV to deter fly-tipping and motorcyclists from using the path and repairing, resurfacing and improving access to St Peter's Playground. Funding for this work has come from the Veolia Environmental Trust, Buckinghamshire County Council, Burnham Health Promotion Trust, South Bucks District Council and the Tesco Bags of Help grant scheme.

### **Charlton Kings Parish Council, Gloucestershire**

Electorate: 9,056

Precept: £107,855

Expenditure: £88,104

Agreed an environmental vision which sets out how the council will move towards a more environmentally friendly way of working. The vision contains a number of commitments from the council to reduce greenhouse gases, including to ensure that new council buildings are carbon neutral or positive, retrofit existing buildings with energy positive technology, take energy supplies from a 100% renewable energy supplier and work with partners to provide infrastructure for electric transport options. The vision also sets out how the council will advise and support residents to become more environmentally friendly, how it will contribute to Cheltenham Borough Council's programme to be carbon neutral by 2030 and how it will manage natural and built environments in the knowledge of understanding the effects of climate change. The council intends to oversee its environmental improvement work through an Environment Working Party which will draw on expertise from the local community.

### **Colehill Parish Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 6,028

Precept: £116,660

Expenditure: £117,128

Owns several areas of woodland in Colehill. Triangle Wood is the largest area and is well used by dog walkers and children. Kyrchil Corner, Coombes Wood and Merrifield Corner, although smaller than Triangle Wood, all contribute to the amenity and wildlife of the area. The woodland is maintained by two local councillors and volunteers and conservation workdays are held there regularly

throughout the year. The trees are regularly inspected by an arboriculturalist, who highlights any tree work that is required.

### **Corfe Castle Parish Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 1,102

Precept: £30,264

Expenditure: £34,984

Developed an environment group webpage providing updates on the council's environmental agenda as well as useful external links and resources. Items currently on the webpage include tips from the National Trust on what residents can do in their gardens to reduce the impact of climate change, information about the Sustainable Swanage steering group and Litter Free Purbeck alliance, highlights from a visit to the Eco Sustainable Solutions plant in Dorchester and details of upcoming tree action days. The council has also formed an Environment Working Group to monitor, advise, engage, and promote environmental matters. The working group has developed an action plan which aims to set out how individuals, businesses and organisations can reduce the impact of their activities on the environment. The group is opening future meetings to the local community so they can work on environmental projects together and share information and ideas.

### **Elkesley Parish Council, Nottinghamshire**

Electorate: 600

Precept: £13,779

Expenditure: £45,594

Obtained grant funding from the Greenwood Team at Nottinghamshire County Council for the purchase of three trees. Three well established cherry trees were selected by the council and planted by volunteers in an area alongside a footpath. The council states that the trees will enhance the area, introducing natural colour and vertical interest.

### **Haslemere Town Council, Surrey**

Electorate: 12,879

Precept: £311,123

Expenditure: £287,259

Adopted a climate and biodiversity emergency motion to facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gases and conserve and promote biodiversity. As part of this the council has resolved to become a carbon neutral organisation by 2030, create a ring fenced environmental grants fund to encourage and enable reduction of greenhouse gas emission and to facilitate and encourage the community to reduce direct and indirect CO2 emissions and enhance biodiversity. The council has acknowledged that 'business as usual' is not an option moving forwards and has resolved to assess and adjust current activities and lead by example.

### **Helmdon Parish Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 723

Precept: £19,685

Expenditure: £24,178

Places a great importance on recycling. The council has a dedicated recycling webpage setting out the benefits of recycling for both the environment and local residents. The webpage also provides detailed instructions as to what can and can't be placed in recycling bins and garden waste bins and provides links to the websites of nearby household waste recycling centres. As part of efforts to increase recycling rates locally, the council has recruited a dedicated parish recycling warden. The warden's responsibilities include providing support for individuals who are uncertain about how to recycle, liaising with the principal authority and the Northampton Waste Partnership to identify problems with recycling services, raising awareness of recycling campaigns and changes to recycling services and engaging with local residents to encourage more recycling.

### **Keyworth Parish Council, Nottinghamshire**

Electorate: 5,456

Precept: £ 176,850

Expenditure: £220,151

Secured 100 tree saplings to distribute throughout the parish. The saplings are a variety of types, including Field Maple, Silver Birch, Grey Willow, Pedunculate Oak, Wild Cherry and Rowan. Residents who would be interested in obtaining a tree free of charge are invited to get in touch with the council. Other sources of free trees are also highlighted on the council website.

### **Morley Town Council, Yorkshire**

Electorate: 26,686

Precept: £204,379

Expenditure: £235,183

Supports Leeds City Council's schools clean air campaign. The campaign aims to encourage motorists to switch off their engines instead of leaving them idling outside schools. Following a productive meeting with the city council, Morley Town Council agreed to undertake a range of measures to assist with the campaign, including using banners, getting school children to monitor the air quality outside schools and educating motorists about the impact on children's' health of keeping engines idling. The council has also agreed to explore a programme that could include hedge and tree planting at schools to absorb and reduce carbon dioxide levels from vehicles.

### **Nunthorpe Parish Council, Cleveland**

Electorate: 4,072

Precept: £9,000

Expenditure: £9,553

Developed a tree policy in recognition of the human and environmental benefits of having a healthy tree population. The policy contains ten tree related activities the council has agreed to undertake on behalf of local residents, including monitor and respond to all proposals by Middlesbrough Council for rezoning of land which could entail removal of trees, monitor and respond to all planning applications to Middlesbrough Council which could entail removal of trees, to encourage Middlesbrough Council to require those seeking permission to fell trees to replace the trees with at least an equal number of mature trees in as close proximity as possible to the felled trees and to fund the planting of additional trees in Nunthorpe. The policy also sets out the importance of trees in an urban environment, the ownership of trees in Nunthorpe and how Middleborough Council manages trees on council owned land.

### **Rudby Parish Council, Yorkshire**

Electorate: 1,824

Precept: £31,754

Expenditure: £69,954

Supports *Trees for Tomorrow*, a community tree and hedge planting programme taking place across the parish. The council has identified potential sites for trees to be planted, the types of trees that could be planted and the planting schemes that could be used. The council has also established the best time of year for the trees to be planted and asked for volunteers from the community to help with planting. So far *Trees for Tomorrow* has successfully secured over 400 free saplings from the Woodland Trust and is in the process of agreeing a planting order list to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day.

### **Westerleigh Parish Council, Avon**

Electorate: 2,834

Precept: £78,654

Expenditure: £345,187

Funds a range of wildlife projects in partnership with the Avon Wildlife Trust. Two wildlife habitats have been implemented next to a solar farm to increase biodiversity. An education programme has been set up for primary school children to learn about the need for renewable energy and the impact on the environment, while those in secondary school learn scientific fieldwork techniques. A community engagement scheme includes a guided walk and talk at the project launch, two family events and opportunities for local residents to help with monitoring of habitats and species. The agreement with Avon Wildlife Trust also

includes management advice on liaising with the landowner to help improve the site for long term ecological benefit.

## **FLOOD MANAGEMENT**

### **Brockenhurst Parish Council, Hampshire**

Electorate: 2,863

Precept: £79,140

Expenditure: £106,934

Identifies ways of reducing the risk of flooding in the parish. The council has worked with various bodies to identify watercourses and drains particularly prone to blockages so that clearance in those areas can be prioritised. Residents can report faulty or blocked watercourses to Brockenhurst Parish Council or New Forest District Council. Brockenhurst Parish Council also clearly sets out responsibilities for residents who have a ditch or watercourse bordering their property on the council website.

### **Cricklade Town Council, Wiltshire**

Electorate: 3,220

Precept: £307,129

Expenditure: £298,856

Developed a flood plan to help guide Cricklade Flood wardens in the event of flooding in the town. The plan contains the duties of various authorities, Cricklade Flood Wardens and local residents in the event of a flood. The plan also details the actions that local residents should take when a flood alert, flood warning or severe flood warning is issued, provides useful contact information and highlights areas of the town most susceptible to flooding.

## **GRANTS AND FUNDING**

### **Faringdon Town Council, Oxfordshire**

Electorate: 5,790

Precept: £380,241

Expenditure: £422,125

Runs a youth grant funding scheme. Specialist, voluntary and community groups, whose work targets the needs of young people in Faringdon, are invited to apply to the council for grants of up to £2,000. Applicants must fill in a form setting out the project or activity they wish to apply for funding for and demonstrate the local need for it. Priority is given to initiatives which cover one or more of the following areas: tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, helping and supporting young people, assisting organisations to provide youth festivals, supporting school councils to invest in local projects, services that meet the needs of vulnerable young people and assisting young people to gain employment, education and training. Funding can cover the cost of specific projects, purchase

of equipment, facilitation of youth groups and youth programmes and can be put towards initiatives that tackle anti-social behaviour. Assistance in kind, such as use of rooms at free or reduced rent, can also be considered.

### **Hednesford Town Council, Staffordshire**

Electorate: 13,369

Precept: £137,500

Expenditure: £236,863

Runs an annual grant funding scheme for local community groups. Organisations that provide a benefit to the local community or enhance the image and identity of the parish of Hednesford can apply to the council for a grant. Grants are usually a maximum of £500, previous recipients have included Community First Responders and the Staffordshire Voluntary Car Scheme. In 2019 the council prioritised applications from organisations looking to tackle loneliness and isolation.

### **Kippax Parish Council, Yorkshire**

Electorate: 7,428

Precept: £96,845

Expenditure: £57,497

Approved a £25,000 grant to go towards the refurbishment of Kippax Leisure Centre. Work to be undertaken includes refurbishment of changing rooms, redecoration, new signage and improved frontage. In total £175,000 was raised for the work by Kippax Parish Council, councillors at Leeds City Council, local residents and leisure centre staff.

### **Knutsford Town Council, Cheshire**

Electorate: 10,647

Precept: £371,070

Expenditure: £751,967

Jointly administers the Millennium Bursary with the Knutsford Lions. Students from Knutsford or Toft in their second year of university are invited to apply for the £530 award, which can be used to assist with a specific project or dissertation. Applicants must fill out a form and submit a statement of no more than 200 words setting out how the money would benefit their studies. All applicants are then invited to an interview with a panel consisting of members of the council and the Knutsford Lions, who seek to better understand how the bursary can help the students with their studies.

### **Wootton Parish Council, Bedfordshire**

Electorate: 5,098

Precept: £208,670

Expenditure: £318,946

Receives money from Bedford Borough Council for glass recycled at a local recycling unit. All proceeds from this scheme are passed on by Wooton Parish Council to Wooton Poor's Land Charity, a local charity helping residents who are suffering from financial hardship.

## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

### **Chardstock Parish Council, Devon**

Electorate: 765

Precept: £15,750

Expenditure: £14,188

Arranged first aid training in conjunction with the installation of the defibrillator at the community hall and the imminent completion of the lighting project for the Devon Air Ambulance emergency night landing site. Sixteen volunteers attended a practical, hands on training session covering all aspects of basic first aid from CPR to wound dressing. The session was delivered by Joe Rice First Aid Training and the cost undrawn by the council.

### **Cowes Town Council, Isle of Wight**

Electorate: 8,263

Precept: £298,896

Expenditure: £263,799

Administers applications for free parking spaces for NHS patients. Four free parking spaces are provided by Northwood House Charitable Trust for patients travelling from the Isle of Wight to the mainland for NHS hospital appointments. Patients wishing to take advantage of the scheme are required to apply for a permit by calling Cowes Town Council or visiting the council offices during opening hours. Proof of appointment is required when applying and successful applicants must collect their permit from the council prior to the date of use.

### **Duffield Parish Council, Derbyshire**

Electorate: 4,009

Precept: £180,000

Expenditure: £199,948

Organises community walks in partnership with the local Neighbourhood Watch. Residents who want to get fresh air, meet new people or catch up with old friends and get some exercise are invited to take part in walks of up to 30 to 40 minutes. The walks take place three times a week and start from Wirksworth Corner.

### **Harpenden Town Council, Hertfordshire**

Electorate: 22,440

Precept: £1,019,630

Expenditure: £1,562,847

Works to make Harpenden dementia friendly. The council is committed to making Harpenden a place where those living with dementia are understood, respected and included. As part of this the council has set up a Memory Lane Café, providing an opportunity for people with dementia and their loved ones to gather in a friendly informal setting, with complimentary hot drinks and homemade cake. Details of other local dementia groups and resources are provided on a dedicated dementia friendly webpage on the council's website. To promote this work the council holds free 'Dementia Friends' talks, hosted by the local Alzheimer's Society Dementia Champion. Topics covered include dementia and how it affects a person, plans to establish Harpenden as a Dementia Friendly Town and what residents can do to make a difference locally.

### **Holsworthy Hamlets Parish Council, Devon**

Electorate: 798

Precept: £11,750

Expenditure: £15,532

Purchased a defibrillator and arranged training on how to use it. The council determined Chilsworthy Village Hall to be the most suitable location for the defibrillator and approached the village hall committee for permission to site the machine by the front entrance of the hall. The training session was run by the South West Ambulance Service and saw over 60 people attend what was described as a very hands on session. Funding for the defibrillator came from the Babbington Wind Turbine Fund.

### **Moulton Parish Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 3,343

Precept: £294,424

Expenditure: £1,574,488

Worked with Moulton Surgery to develop a health and wellbeing strategy. The strategy covers four priorities that the council aims to build on at a local level, including giving every child the best start, taking responsibility and making informed choices, promoting independence and quality of life for older adults and creating an environment for all people to flourish. A community connector works alongside the council and Moulton Surgery to promote the strategy and the regular meetings and events taking place at the community centre. The community connector also promotes the Good Neighbour Volunteer Scheme, set up to help the more isolated people in the community who are in need of a neighbourly helping hand, transport or company. Opportunities for volunteering listed on the community connector page of the council website include befriending, volunteering as a driver, helping on outings, helping at functions and events and organising a new interest group or talk. A number of documents which complement the strategy are also available to view on the council's website, including *A Practical Guide to Healthy Ageing, Over 60s Activities, Support*

*Groups and Societies 2019, Fit Plan for Moulton and Surrounding Villages and Moulton and Surrounding Villages Mums and Tots Activities.*

### **Nailsea Town Council, Avon**

Electorate: 12,785

Precept: £485,474

Expenditure: £881,066

Purchased the former Youth House building and transformed it into a digital health and wellbeing centre. Staff and volunteers at No. 65 High Street help people to improve their digital skills and confidence so they can engage with online services. As of December 2019 1,340 people had received help with online activities, including contacting friends and family over Skype, ordering a repeat prescription and choosing a preferred hospital provider for a surgery or appointment. A number of local organisations and national charities have also run group meetings and hosted private sessions at No.65 High Street, including the Renal Patient Support Group, First Steps and Citizens Advice. The project is a partnership between local NHS services, Nailsea Town Council and Healthwatch.

### **South Normanton Parish Council, Derbyshire**

Electorate: 7,428

Precept: £250,000

Expenditure: £381,347

Works in partnership with Bolsover District Council to deliver the Active Communities Programme. The programme includes a wide range of formal and informal activities designed to keep children and young people active and occupied, a social activity hub for adults aged 50 plus and an accredited learn to cycle programme for children aged 3 to 6 years old. South Normanton Parish Council circulates marketing and promotional materials advertising the programme, determines the cost of participating in each activity, collates a register of participants and operates a reserve list where necessary.

## **HOUSING AND PLANNING**

### **Rye Town Council, East Sussex**

Electorate: 3,681

Precept: £174,545

Expenditure: £321,644

Operates a discounted housing scheme. The council owns a two/three bedroom property close to Rye town centre which is let to qualifying applicants at a discounted rent. The property comprises of a lounge, dining room, wet room, two bedrooms and rear courtyard garden. Applicants to the scheme must be at least 18 years of age and have a local connection with the parish of Rye, with priority being given to households with the strongest connection. Successful applicants

are offered an initial one year tenancy with the possibility of being offered up to four further one year tenancies.

### **Uley Parish Council, Gloucestershire**

Electorate: 961

Precept: £17,797

Expenditure: £13,675

Worked with Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC), Gloucestershire Rural Housing Association and Severn Vale Housing Society to deliver affordable housing in Uley. Seven properties for rent exclusively by existing residents of Uley were built following a process instigated by Uley Parish Council. The council commissioned housing need surveys, invited landowners to submit land for affordable housing, and led on engagement with local residents. In doing so the council provided reassurances that the affordable housing development was a standalone project, the number of houses built would not exceed the number of people identified as in need in the housing need surveys and the homes would be reserved for current residents of Uley. The council also gave a number of presentations and ran question and answer sessions during council meetings.

## **PUBLIC TOILETS**

### **Baildon Town Council, Yorkshire**

Electorate: 13,024

Precept: £282,500

Expenditure: £273,306

Took over the running and maintenance of Baildon public toilets from Bradford Metropolitan District Council following an asset transfer process. Baildon Town Council has since undertaken an extensive improvement programme, including renewing the external wall pointing, installing new toilet fittings, repairing lighting, completing a full internal redecoration, renewing and improving the cleaning contract, installing a new baby changing facility in the disabled toilet and installing energy efficient lighting and new flooring. The council is committed to taking action to reduce the carbon footprint of all activities and services, including public toilets. With regards to that the council has monitored utility usage and since moved to a new electricity supplier, considered and declined unnecessary waste contracts and associated travel by expecting users to take waste away, used a locally based cleaning business to clean the toilets and installed water saving devices in every cistern. In 2019 the council won a platinum award in the unattended public toilets category of the Loo of the Year Awards.

### **Bodmin Town Council, Cornwall**

Electorate: 11,268

Precept: £ 1,433,125

Expenditure: £1,134,936

Manages four public conveniences in Bodmin. The facilities in Fair Park, Higher Bore Street and Priory Park are open from around 6:30am to 18:30pm all year round, while those at the New Cemetery are open from 8:30am to 14:30pm Monday to Friday, in line with the cemetery's opening hours. All four public conveniences include both male and female toilets, with unisex disabled toilets provided in Fair Park and Priory Park. A Radar key is required to access the disabled toilets. These can be purchased from the council reception in the visitor information centre between 8:45am-4:00pm Monday-Friday. The toilets are cleaned and checked every day. Anyone who spots any issues is encouraged to report them to the council either by phone or in person at the Visitor Information Centre.

### **Colne Town Council, Lancashire**

Electorate: 13,196

Precept: £590,432

Expenditure: £512,361

Developed a community toilet scheme in response to the closure of public toilets in Colne. The toilet scheme enables members of the public to use toilets in shops, cafes, pubs and markets without being required to make a purchase. At present two businesses, the market hall and British Legion club participate in the scheme. Details about the scheme and opening times for each participating venue are clearly set out on the council's website. Leaflets advertising the scheme are also available from the Town Hall, Pendle Leisure Centre and the Muni.

### **Wells City Council, Somerset**

Electorate: 8,837

Precept: £435,530

Expenditure: £716,878

Provides a Changing Places toilet at the rear of Wells Town Hall. Changing Places toilets are designed for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities and physical disabilities. Each toilet contains a height adjustable adult sized changing bench, a tracking hoist system or mobile hoist, a screen or curtain to provide privacy, a centrally placed toilet with space either side, wide tear off paper roll to cover the bench, a non-slip floor and a large waste bin for disposable pads. The toilet also has enough space for the disabled person and up to two carers. Wells Town Council's Change Places toilet is open from 8:00am-18:00pm Monday to Saturday and from 9:30am-13:00pm on Sundays. The council provides reserved car parking immediately outside the toilet entrance.

## **SPORT AND LEISURE**

### **Hayle Town Council, Cornwall**

Electorate: 6,986

Precept: £492,582

Expenditure: £440,138

Manages Hayle outside swimming pool. The pool has been heated by a solar cover since 2016, with the water temperature regularly reaching between 24 to 26 degrees Celsius. Passes for a daily swim session cost £3 for juniors (ages 3-15) and seniors (age 60 plus) and £5 for adults. Family passes for up to two adults and four juniors can be purchased for £12 per session. The council also sells season tickets at £40 for adults and £30 for juniors and seniors. All residents in Hayle and the TR27 postal code area are eligible for free entry every Tuesday when the pool is open. Also on a Tuesday the council runs an adult evening swim session from 18:30pm to 19:30pm, with entry costing £3. In 2019 the outdoor swimming season ran from 29 June to 8 September. The pool was also open on Saturday 25 May for the Whitsun bank holiday weekend, the summer half term week and on weekends until 29 June.

### **Immingham Town Council, ERNLCCA**

Electorate: 7,291

Precept: £ 324,550

Expenditure: £455,619

Operates a swimming scheme for Key Stage One children in the town. Parents of children aged 4-7 who live in Immingham can register for their child to receive 13 weeks of swimming lessons free of charge. The sessions are run by Lincs Inspire at Immingham Swimming Pool.

### **Winkfield Parish Council, Berkshire**

Electorate: 11,463

Precept: £525,739

Expenditure: £724,623

Owns and manages three tennis courts at Ascot Jubilee Recreation Ground. Residents can use the courts by joining the council's annual membership scheme. A season ticket for the scheme costs £44.75 for an adult, £21.10 for a junior (ages 12 to 17) and £7.10 for a child (ages 5 to 11). A family season ticket is also available for £90.50. The tennis courts are open annually from January to December.

## **LIBRARIES**

### **Countesthorpe Parish Council, Leicestershire and Rutland**

Electorate: 5,924

Precept: £ 314,636

Expenditure: £545,873

Manages Countesthorpe Library. The library is open five days a week and offers a wide range of facilities and services, including children's area, audio and talking books, use of a photocopier, scanner and printer, tourism information, study space and homework help and access to courses and classes. The library also plays host to a number of activities and group meetings, including Little Bookworms, Scribblers on the Fosse writers group and the summer reading challenge.

## **Redruth Town Council, Cornwall**

Electorate: 11,268

Precept: £620,298

Expenditure: £647,943

Took over management of Redruth Library and Information Service as part of Cornwall Council's devolution programme. The library is currently open four days a week and offers a wide range of facilities and services including free wifi, computers with internet access, national and local newspapers, scanning, printing and photocopying and processing of national concessions bus pass applications. Council payments can also be made in the library and documents brought in to be passed on to other council departments. Alongside this the library plays host to activities and group meetings including computer classes for beginners, Redruth Library Bookworms and Redruth Readers. For children the library offers bookstart rhyme time sessions for the under 5's and a young readers book club for ages ten and over.

## **PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

### **Burstow Parish Council, Surrey**

Electorate: 3,508

Precept: £73,560

Expenditure: £280,719

Worked with Tandridge Trust Leisure and Culture Ltd to oversee development of a community art garden. The Smallfield Community Art Garden was conceived to support the health and wellbeing of the residents of Smallfield. A local artist was commissioned to design and project manage the garden, which has become a community gathering place for all generations. The council is always on the lookout for willing volunteers who can help with tasks including maintenance, growing and planting throughout the year and pruning and dead heading depending on the season. Funding for the garden also came from Tandridge District Council.

### **Stondon Parish Council, Bedfordshire**

Electorate: 2,135

Precept: £61,830

Expenditure: £66,447

Worked with Mulberry Homes to agree improvements to the open space at Pollards Way. Work to be carried out by the developer includes levelling and creating a kick-about area the size of a 5-a-side football pitch, extensive improvements to drainage, improving the look of the hedgerows and vegetation by thinning them, creating an open vista from Pollards Way across the Brunswick Gate Gardens and installation of seating areas for all to enjoy the open space.

## **PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

### **Midsomer Norton Town Council, Avon**

Electorate: 8,974

Precept: £367,467

Expenditure: £303,946

Launched a Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) in Midsomer Norton. The partnership is made up of a wide range of local stakeholders, including Midsomer Norton Town Council, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group, Police, schools, retailers and local publicans. Together they work closely to reduce under aged drinking, irresponsible adult drinking of alcohol and alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour, with the aim of making Midsomer Norton an even better place to live, work and play. Through the CAP a greater focus is placed on a wide variety of actions to educate, enforce and change public perception around drinking alcohol. This includes Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group working with schools and youth groups to educate young people and families on the health implications of under aged drinking. Enforcement is carried out by Trading Standards, who work with partners, including the police and local retailers. There is also increased training provided for retailers and publicans on age related products.

### **Woodley Town Council, Berkshire**

Electorate: 21,214

Precept: £ 1,123,528

Expenditure: £2,022,772

Works with the Reading Road Allotment Tenant's Association to grow food for the homeless. Three designated allotments have been set aside by Woodley Town Council to supply fresh fruit and vegetables to Launchpad, the local homelessness charity. Since the initiative began in October 2018 many tenants have volunteered to help with the allotments, including by joining in on volunteer days watering and seeding plants, as well as providing tools, seeds and other equipment.

## **PLAYGROUNDS**

### **Kegworth Parish Council, Leicestershire and Rutland**

Electorate: 2,922

Precept: £110,050

Expenditure: £98,947

Carried out refurbishment of the Whatton Road play area in Kegworth. New items installed as part of the refurbishment include a basket swing, roundabout and teddy bear swing. The new play equipment is inclusive and was chosen following

consultation with pupils at Kegworth Primary School. Funding for the refurbishment came from Section 106 contributions.

### **Welwyn Parish Council, Hertfordshire**

Electorate: 7,400

Precept: £402,399

Expenditure: £573,153

Manages two play areas in Welwyn. Whitehill Play area is aimed at younger children and contains an obstacle course play house and swing suitable for a parent and child to use together. Ottway Walk Play Area is designed for older children and has climbing equipment, a zip wire and large roundabout with 'chariot' seat suitable for those with physical disabilities. There is also a kick wall for football practice and a basketball net. The council undertakes weekly checks of all equipment in both play areas and commissions an annual full inspection by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).

## **POST OFFICES**

### **Hailsham Town Council, East Sussex**

Electorate: 17,091

Precept: £1,059,811

Expenditure: £1,294,387

Took over the running of Hailsham Post Office following a successful bid for the franchise. The post office is open six days a week from 9:00am-17:30pm and provides a number of key services, including drop and go parcel service, bill payments and top ups, passport checks, DVLA photocard renewal, National Express tickets and current account servicing. Hailsham Town Council believes this to be the first post office in the UK to be operated by a local council.

## **STREET LIGHTING**

### **Wollaston Parish Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 2,719

Precept: £76,278

Expenditure: £104,575

Regularly inspects street lights in Wollaston. The council aims to ensure that all village street lights are maintained in working order and that lights which haven't yet been adopted by the county council are brought up to the standard where they can be. Duties undertaken by Wollaston Parish Council's street lighting working party to achieve this include touring the village once a month to ensure all street lamps are functioning correctly, reporting any repairs needed to the county council via the Street Doctor Service, continuing to upgrade those lamps that have not yet been adopted by the county council to the standard required for adoption, obtaining quotations for the cost of new lamps where necessary,

consulting and liaising with residents and other interested parties regarding new lighting or impediments to existing lighting, keeping the council informed of any matters of concern that cannot be dealt with by the committee. Wollaston Parish Council also owns and maintains ten street lamps in various locations in the village.

## **TRANSPORT**

### **Goring Parish Council, Oxfordshire**

Electorate: 2,678

Precept: £134,614

Expenditure: £135,4447

Jointly funded production with Great Western Railway of an *Accessible by Train* leaflet for disabled visitors to Goring and Streatley. The leaflet sets out how users of wheelchairs and mobility scooters can request assistance at Goring and Streatley train station. It also provides an overview of accessible facilities in the two villages, including: hotel accommodation, pharmacy and a public toilet and highlights areas of the nearby countryside with level towpaths or gently graded footpaths. As well as being available to view on the council's website and the National Trails website, the leaflet is also on display at local railway stations, libraries and tourist information offices in and around the Thames Valley.

### **Great Houghton Parish Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 521

Precept: £20,738

Expenditure: £20,517

Funded a community transport start up following the withdrawal of the local bus service. Ability Northants is a not for profit social enterprise providing a community bus service. Residents can register to become a basic member free of charge or pay up to £36 to receive additional help getting out and about. The mini bus makes a number of prescheduled trips, including to supermarkets, the town centre and lunch clubs and can also be hired by groups and clubs. Passengers are required to book in advance and pay a cash fare for each journey to the driver.

### **Wilsden Parish Council, Yorkshire**

Electorate: 3,782

Precept: £53,502

Expenditure: £50,292

Established a volunteer car scheme for local residents without access to their own transport or suitable public transport. The scheme was set up primarily to help residents attend hospital and doctors' appointments, however transport can also be provided to local shops, hairdressers, dentists, the Wilsden Luncheon Club and the Thursday Afternoon Group. Residents who require a lift can call the scheme

coordinator, who will identify if a driver is willing and able to make the required journey.

### **Wye with Hinxhill Parish Council, Kent**

Electorate: 1,891

Precept: £99,176

Expenditure: £311,787

Runs the Wye Flyer community transport scheme in partnership with Lady Joanna Thornhill Primary School and The Friends of Lady Joanna Thornhill Primary School. The scheme aims to meet local demand and integrate the needs for a range of community transport services in Wye and the surrounding parishes. An initial trial programme in early 2020 saw the council hire a 16 seater minibus and offer free trips to locations around Kent, including Tunbridge Wells, Bluewater, Hythe and Dungeness and Rochester Cathedral. The council will be bringing representatives of potential user groups together to shape the project moving forward.

## **WINTER READINESS**

### **Belper Town Council, Derbyshire**

Electorate: 17,462

Precept: £284,271

Expenditure: £372,507

Provides over 70 grit bins in the parish for use by members of the public on public areas. The council has also produced a grit bin policy containing instructions on how to use the grit and the circumstances in which the council will consider applications for new grit bins.

### **Warnham Parish Council, West Sussex**

Electorate: 1,632

Precept: £73,217

Expenditure: £129,921

Developed a winter management plan. The plan sets out the role of the community winter team in coordinating the local response to ice and snow. It also contains county council gritting routes and the locations of all grit bins in the parish, as well as providing details of arrangements with local farmers to grit roads that are not included in the West Sussex County Council precautionary salting network.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUTH SERVICES**

### **Aldenham Parish Council, Hertfordshire**

Electorate: 7,723

Precept: £670,486

Expenditure: £673,110

Hosts a youth council for residents aged 11 to 18. Radlett Youth Council meets once a month and has a number of aims, including giving young people a voice and say in their local area, listening to what young people want and taking action by speaking to the relevant services, empowering young people to improve the area themselves, improving young people's employment opportunities by promoting volunteering, and running events and supporting initiatives to make Aldenham a safe area for young people. Activities undertaken by members include fundraising for the local special school, quizzing local MP Oliver Dowden and organising a family sports day.

### **Burwell Parish Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

Electorate: 5,505

Precept: £145,295

Expenditure: £839,805

Provides support for a number of youth related activities in the village. This includes funding for the summer reading challenge at Burwell Library, discounts on the hire of local council controlled amenities for youth clubs and societies and provision and maintenance of recreation grounds throughout the village. Anyone involved in a youth group in the village is invited to get in touch with the council to see how the council can help.

### **Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council, Hampshire**

Electorate: 7,764

Precept: £410,570

Expenditure: £457,367

Operates the Y-Zone youth centre in partnership with Eastleigh Borough Council and Bishopstoke Parish Council. Y-Zone is open every weekday and caters for young people aged 10-17. Activities and facilities on offer include table tennis, Wii, computer access, xbox, air hockey and a pool table. A youth worker is also available to provide information, advice and support on topics including bullying, anger problems, relationships, sexual health, sexuality, alcohol and drugs on a one to one basis. The youth centre is home to two youth clubs, an afternoon club for young people aged 10 to 13 and an evening club for 13 to 17 year olds. Both clubs meet every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Attendance at the afternoon club costs 50p per session while the evening club is free to attend.

### **Haverhill Town Council, Suffolk**

Electorate: 18,749

Precept: £954,799

Expenditure: £1,409,681

Employs a youth skills manager to help young people reach their full potential. The youth skills manager works with local businesses to secure apprenticeship opportunities for young people; provides advice and guidance to young people at risk of finding themselves not in education, employment or training; encourages local businesses and the education sector to work closely together; helps young people secure work experience and taster days and coordinates local training programmes. The youth skills manager role was created as part of the One Haverhill Partnership, an alliance bringing together all three tiers of local government, the business sector, education, police, health, voluntary sector, Havebury Housing, Abbeycroft Leisure, education and the faith communities to provide one voice for the town.

### **Shenley Brook End and Tattenhoe Parish Council, Milton Keynes**

Electorate: 18,541

Precept: £658,749

Expenditure: £1,085,403

Employs a youth team providing vital outreach to young people in the parish aged 8 to 18. The youth team runs two weekly youth clubs. Furzton Youth Club takes place every Tuesday from 16:30 to 18:30pm at Ridgeway Community Centre. Activities on offer include cooking, games, crafts, projects, trips and sports. Shenley Brook End Youth Club runs every Thursday from 15:45pm to 17:45pm at The Oak Tree Centre and includes games, arts and crafts. Entry is free and the youth team welcomes new members with ideas for new activities. The youth team also provides football sessions at Tattenhoe Pavillion.