Also in this issue...

Bin collections are changing this summer - everything you need to know ahead of the new service

In it to win it:
Local Lotto set to boost good causes
Keeping in touch with us

Daventry District Council provides a wide range of services including waste and recycling collections, street cleaning and grounds maintenance, Council Tax collection and benefits, elections, Homechoice lettings, economic development and regeneration, community safety, planning and development control and environmental health issues such as dealing with food safety, noise, pollution and environmental crimes.

Call: 01327 871100
Email: comments@daventrydc.gov.uk
Web: daventrydc.gov.uk
Write to: Daventry District Council, Lodge Road, Daventry NN11 4FP

Other useful contacts

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC)
NCC deals with various services including: roads, paths, street lighting and drainage, potholes, bus passes and bus services, Blue Badges, road gritting, social care, schools admissions, register of births, deaths and marriages, libraries, household waste and recycling centres.

Call 0300 126 1000
northamptonshire.gov.uk

Your town or parish council
Daventry District has 72 parishes and one town council covering services such as allotments, village halls and recreation grounds, grass cutting and street cleaning, cemeteries (outside of Daventry Town). To find out contact details for your parish, visit daventrydc.gov.uk/parishcouncils

Northamptonshire Police
Call 101 or visit northants.police.uk
Always dial 999 in an emergency

Harvest Money (formerly Northamptonshire Credit Union)
Call 01604 250016 harvestmoney.co.uk

Futures Housing Group
Call 0300 4562531 futureshg.co.uk

Bromford Housing Association
0330 1234034

Job Centre Plus
Call 0845 6043719

Government services and information
gov.uk
In the week of writing this column our County Council has announced it has issued a section 114 notice imposing immediate spending controls on the organisation. This comes at a time when a Financial Best Value Review is already being undertaken by Government-appointed inspectors following many concerns raised around their financial situation.

This is clearly creating a very uncertain time for residents across the County and staff of all local authorities in Northamptonshire with respect to the sustainability of existing services. As one of seven district/borough councils across Northamptonshire we receive approximately 9% of your total council tax bill which will equate to £2.66 per week on an average Band “D” property. We deliver, according to the District Council’s Network, 86 out of 137 essential local services.

Whatever happens in the short term following the Government Inspector’s report on the County Council, we are determined to continue delivering our services at the lowest possible cost to the local taxpayer whilst promoting our positive economic agenda for the longer term benefits of all residents who live in our beautiful 257 square mile District area of Northamptonshire.

Our new 123 + waste and recycling collection service commences from June 2018 in a new joint venture between the Council and Norse Commercial Services Limited. These changes are being made for both environmental and financial reasons and already we are aware of residents eagerly awaiting the replacement of the existing red and blue recycling boxes with a new blue-lidded wheelie bin, which will encourage more waste to be recycled, protect recycling from the weather and prevent it being blown across streets in windy weather.

Tickets are set to go on sale this month for Local Lotto, our new online community lottery which will benefit good causes across the Daventry District area with prizes ranging from £5 to £25,000. Hopefully many of you will participate in this lottery to help the local voluntary and community groups who will benefit and play such an important role in our local communities whilst potentially winning some cash for you and your families. For more details visit local-lotto.co.uk

So, focusing on what we, the District Council, are involved in, there are a number of new initiatives commencing in the months ahead highlighted in more detail in this edition which include the following:

In it to win it: Details of the new Local Lotto coming to Daventry District to help raise funds for good causes. Page 11

You can also find out more about the grants and funding available to support those who are struggling to afford vital repairs or adaptions to their homes and details about funding available up to £1000 to groups wishing to help elderly, vulnerable and isolated people in our communities.

Finally we are celebrating 40 years of our excellent award-winning Daventry Country Park which has been enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of visitors over the years – definitely one of the jewels in our crown.

Councillor Chris Millar
Leader – Daventry District Council
Could you support spring clean efforts?

Support is being offered to volunteers planning a spring clean in their community.

Daventry District Council (DDC) has litter picking kits available to loan for community groups or individuals across the district who would like to help keep their local area clean.

The kits, which have recently been updated with new equipment, include litter pickers, high-vis tabards, heavy-duty gloves, and litter bags with loops to assist litter picking.

DDC can arrange for any rubbish collected to be picked up and disposed of by its waste and recycling contractor as well as providing forms to assist with risk assessment and health and safety guidance.

The kits are offered as part of the Council’s ongoing Clean up my Community campaign, which takes a proactive approach to addressing environmental crimes across the district.

The Council funds a Clean and Green coordinator at Daventry Volunteer Centre, who helps communities organise litter picks, and has also organised a growing network of volunteers taking part in DDC’s innovative spray painting scheme to reduce dog fouling, which is now in its fourth year.

Councillor Jo Gilford, Environment Portfolio Holder on Daventry District Council, said: “We have great support from a range of groups and individuals across Daventry District who regularly borrow our litter picking equipment to help keep their local park and open spaces looking their best.

“Volunteering for something like a litter pick can be very rewarding and is a great way to meet fellow members of the community. We are always keen to support groups and individuals who care about the areas in which they live, so please get in touch and let’s work together to make a difference.”

Find out more at daventrydc.gov.uk/CleanUpMyCommunity or phone 01327 871100.

Funding of up to £1,000 is available to groups wishing to set up new schemes to help elderly, vulnerable and isolated people in our communities.

Daventry District Council is working with Northamptonshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) to develop the projects across the district.

The aim is to offer practical help to older people - whether it’s collecting a pension or a repeat prescription, walking the dog, offering a lift to the shops, or just changing a light bulb.

Moulton Parish Council launched their scheme in April 2017, and Braunston and Crick are in the process of following suit. There are talks in progress to establish further schemes elsewhere in the district.

Residents of villages who can spare some time to help are encouraged to sign up as volunteers. Good Neighbour coordinators are also needed, to help recruit new volunteers and match people who need help with volunteers in the area who are willing to give that help.

Groups or Parish Councils wishing to set up schemes can access up to £1,000 to help them get started, as well as gain access to a toolkit and a wide range of support and advice.

For more information, contact Daventry District Council on 01327 871100 or Northamptonshire ACRE on 01604 765888.
Progress for major new retail development

Work is set to start this year on a new retail and leisure development north-west of Daventry town centre.

It follows a decision by Daventry District Council’s (DDC) Planning Committee to give the go-ahead for new scheme on land at the Waterloo, Gasworks and Chaucer Way area of Daventry – known as Town Centre Vision Site 5.

The new development is set to include new food stores and shops, family and fast food restaurants and a hotel, plus around 380 parking spaces.

The retail scheme is being brought forward by DDC’s development partner Henry Boot Developments Ltd which has negotiated terms of lease with several national retailers.

Work to clear and prepare the land for the development will take place first, with a view to the construction phase getting underway in Autumn 2018. The first shops could open their doors in 2020.

Councillor Colin Poole, DDC’s Economic, Regeneration and Employment Portfolio Holder said: “The Site 5 scheme is a vital development site in our ongoing vision to regenerate Daventry by enhancing the retail and leisure offer and attracting further investment into the area.”

Help with home repairs

People who are struggling to afford vital repairs or adaptions to their home are urged to get in touch with Care & Repair Daventry District.

The service, which is based at Daventry District Council, administers a number of grant schemes that aim to help older people, people with disabilities, children and vulnerable people to live in safety and with dignity in the comfort of their own homes.

Home Repairs Assistance Grants can provide up to £5,000 to fund a range of work including the replacement or repair of central heating boilers and radiators, new security measures, replacement windows and doors, roof repairs, and much more. Eligible homeowners can also access a £5,000 interest-free loan, repayable only when the property is sold.

Disabled Facilities Grants can provide up to £30,000 to help people with a disability pay for a range of necessary improvements and adaptations to their home, including ground floor bedroom and bathroom extensions, walk-in shower rooms, widening of doorways, stair lifts and more.

The service also operates a Hardship Fund to help people of limited means carry out minor repairs.

All of the grants are subject to eligibility criteria. For an informal chat about the grants and to find out whether you are eligible, phone Care & Repair on 01327 871100. Alternatively, visit daventrydc.gov.uk/careandrepair

Come along to a committee meeting at civic offices

All the meetings listed (right) start at 6.15pm and take place at the civic offices in Lodge Road, Daventry.

All meetings are open for the public to attend. For more information visit daventrydc.gov.uk/meetings, email governance@daventrydc.gov.uk or phone 01327 871100

To listen to an audio recording of a meeting, visit daventrydc.gov.uk/audiorecordings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date of meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning Committee</td>
<td>Wednesday 14 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrutiny &amp; Improvement Committee</td>
<td>Tuesday 3 April</td>
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<td>Planning Committee</td>
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<td>Strategy Group</td>
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<td>Corporate Governance Committee</td>
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<td>Planning Committee</td>
<td>Wednesday 25 April</td>
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<td>Council</td>
<td>Wednesday 16 May</td>
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<td>Planning Committee</td>
<td>Thursday 17 May</td>
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Work on new Heartlands business project under way

Daventry District Council (DDC) is constructing the 1,760 square metre premises on land it owns off Newnham Drive in Heartlands Business Park for laser systems company Coherent (Rofin-Baasel UK), which will lease the site from the Council for 15 years under the deal.

The build, being carried out by the Council’s contractors Conamar Building Services, is expected to be completed in July this year.

DDC came up with the design and build scheme for Coherent after it was approached by the company, which has been based in the town for 22 years and was searching for new premises.

The build is being funded from the Council’s capital budgets, money that is specifically used to invest in land and property and not spent on the day-to-day running of Council services. Once completed, rental income from the new development will be used by the Council to provide services.

Councillor Colin Poole, DDC’s Economic, Regeneration and Employment Portfolio Holder said: “We’re delighted to be able to support the company’s relocation to modern bespoke premises that could also accommodate their future expansion if required.

“Our Council has a strong track record of working with local businesses on redeveloping commercial land and property, including the new headquarters for Hi-Force at Prospect Way and for Hambleside Danelaw at Long March.

“These types of projects not only breathe new life into our industrial heartlands but help us to both retain and attract national businesses that prove to be a real boost for our local economy.”

Allan Hardisty, Coherent’s Head of Service for UK & Ireland said: “Our current premises are getting a bit tired and are no longer fit for purpose. It will be fantastic to move into a new facility designed specifically for our needs as a growing business. The new facility will also help to reduce our running costs with state of the art energy efficient design including solar panels. The added extra of the feature window overlooking the old railway line is a nice touch as well.”

New primary school set to open this year

A new primary school and nursery is set to open on the Monksmoor Park housing development in Daventry later this year.

The £4.275million project is being built by Willmott Dixon Construction for Daventry District Council and is funded by contributions from Monksmoor’s housing developer Crest Nicholson as part of its planning obligations.

Construction is expected to be completed in May, with the school set to open its doors to pupils in September.

It will be a Church of England School run by the Diocese of Peterborough, which has a number of other primary schools in the area including Braunston, Flore and Staverton.

The single-storey building is being built to high environmental standards and will include a range of teaching spaces alongside general classrooms and a school hall, plus staff, welfare and administrative rooms and a large outside learning area.
Your bin collections are changing this summer

From June 2018

Collection Service

Food Recycling Waste Garden

1 Every week
2 Every 2 weeks
3 Every 3 weeks
+ Opt in for £35 per year

To increase recycling and reduce waste, Daventry District Council is making changes to waste and recycling collections this summer.

When the new service starts you will receive:

1 weekly food waste collection
2 weekly mixed recycling collection in new blue-lidded wheelie bin (fortnightly)
3 weekly general waste black bin collection (every three weeks)
+ Plus an optional 2-weekly garden waste service for an annual fee of £35 a year.

Why the service is changing

The new 1-2-3+ collection service will start in June 2018, delivered by Daventry Norse, a new joint venture between the Council and Norse Commercial Services Ltd.

Daventry District cannot afford to carry on with the same waste and recycling collections, both environmentally and financially. Three-weekly waste collections help encourage more recycling and will reduce the money spent on treating and disposing of rubbish. Improving your recycling service so you can recycle more of your waste will save energy, reduce costs and free up space in your rubbish bin.

If the changes to the service are not made, the cost of the service would rise by around £1.25m a year.

It is likely that your collection day will change from June 2018 in order to introduce the new service arrangements across the District.

We will let you know the exact details of this closer to the time.

A full pack of information about the new service, including a new calendar and collection day information will be sent to you in May.

Read on for more details on your new collections
Your new and improved recycling collection

In June 2018 we are improving your recycling collection by replacing your red and blue boxes with a new blue-lidded wheelie bin.

- You won’t need to sort your recycling – items can be placed in the bin mixed together.
- All the same recyclables will still be collected and you can now also add large cardboard.
- A larger wheelie bin will help you to recycle more over two weeks than you did weekly with the smaller blue and red boxes.
- Your recycling will be covered and protected from the weather, so it won’t get wet or blow away.

You can’t use your new bin for mixed recycling until the new service starts, so please keep using your recycling boxes until then.

Why is the Council changing recycling collections from weekly to fortnightly?

By replacing the smaller boxes with a larger wheelie bin which can take mixed recyclables, we hope this will encourage more people to recycle.

The wheelie bin also provides an extra 40 litres of space for recyclables over two weeks than the blue and red boxes collected weekly.

Can I still recycle the same things?

Yes, you will still be able to recycle the same things and you will also now be able to add large cardboard. You also no longer need to sort your recyclables first as all recycling can be placed into the wheelie bin together.

Can I still use my red and blue recycling boxes?

No - when the new service starts you will no longer be able to use your recycling boxes – this is due to the new way that recycling will be collected by recycling crews at the kerbside.

The Council does not intend to collect your red and blue boxes after the switchover.

However once they have been washed out, the boxes have a range of different uses including storage in the garden, home, shed or garage – they can also make great raised flower beds and planters and could even be converted into composters.

Collection Service
For more details visit daventrydc.gov.uk/binchanges
Focus on

Every 3 weeks

From June 2018 your black bin for general waste will be collected every three weeks.

- The change is being made to increase recycling and reduce money spent on the treating and disposing of rubbish.
- An improved recycling service is being introduced to help residents recycle more and slim their black bins.
- If the changes are not made, the cost of collections would rise by around £1.25m a year.

Daventry District Council’s Environment Portfolio Holder Councillor Jo Gilford said: “The three-weekly black bin collection will support our goals to improve our environment by encouraging more people to recycle as much of their waste as possible.

“We cannot afford to keep the status quo of two-weekly collections as the cost of the service would effectively double.

“We understand some residents will be concerned about whether they will cope with an extra week between collections. However we are confident that the improved recycling service and weekly food waste collections will really help people to slim their black bins.”

Food Waste

- Uneaten food from your plates and dishes
- Fruit and vegetables, raw and cooked
- Meat and fish, raw and cooked including bones
- All dairy products
- Bread cakes and pastries
- Tea bags and coffee grounds
- Fats - solid and semi-solid but not liquid

Every 1 week

food collections to help slim bins

Food waste collections will continue to take place weekly in June 2018.

All households are encouraged to give the service a go, as recycling food waste will also help to slim the waste in the black bin and reduce potential smells from it.

All leftover raw and cooked foods can be put into the caddy, which can also be lined with paper, compostable bags or plastic carrier bags.
Important changes to garden waste collections

From June 2018 garden waste collections will become an optional, chargeable service. Sign up for the new service from 1 April at daventrydc.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Households that wish to continue having their brown bin collected each fortnight will need to opt in to the service and pay an annual fee of £35.

The new arrangements are part of the new 1-2-3+ Collection Service being introduced on 4 June by DDC and its environmental services partner Daventry Norse.

Daventry District Council’s Environment Portfolio Holder Councillor Jo Gilford said: “The plain truth is that in the current challenging financial climate, we can no longer afford to collect garden waste free of charge.

“Garden waste is not something that councils are required by law to collect free-of-charge, and not everyone uses the service, so by charging a small annual fee we will be able to keep the collections going for those who still wish to have them.

As a non-essential, opt-in service, it is not paid for by the Council Tax.

“This change takes us in line with around 50% of councils nationally that now operate a chargeable garden waste service.”

How much does the service cost and how often is it?

The annual subscription costs £35 per bin, which runs from June 2018 until the end of May 2019. Collections take place fortnightly with a small break over Christmas, equating to £1.40 per collection over the year.

How and when do I sign up?

You can register from 1 April at daventrydc.gov.uk/gardenwaste. Here you can also request an email alert to remind you to sign up.

You should sign up for the service before it begins on 4 June. The annual charge of £35 per bin does not change if you join after this date.

I don’t want the service.

This is an opt-in service so you only pay if you wish to use it. If you do not wish to sign up, you may like to consider home composting or taking your garden waste to your local household waste recycling centre. We would not advise you put it in your black bin, as it will not be recycled. It will also quickly fill up your black bin, which will be collected every three weeks.

How will you know I have joined the service?

All homes that sign up will receive a registration sticker to put on their brown bin. Bins that do not show the sticker will not be emptied.

Can I share a bin with a neighbour?

Yes, if you wish to share, then one of you will need to pay the charge and you can arrange between yourselves how you split the use of the bin.

Every 2 weeks for £35 per year

Sign up from 1 April at daventrydc.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Home composting offer

Composting bins are being offered at bargain prices to residents wishing to recycle their garden waste at home as an alternative to the new service.

Daventry District Council has teamed up with the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership and getcomposting.com to offer a limited number of home composting bins for only £9.99 each including delivery (usually £17.98 plus £5.99 delivery). The black 220-litre bins are available at getcomposting.com – type in your postcode for the offer – or call 0844 571 4444.
It’s game on for good causes with Local Lotto

Tickets are set to go on sale this month for a new online community lottery to benefit good causes across Daventry District.

Run by Daventry District Council and lottery organisers Gatherwell, the new Local Lotto offers a weekly draw with a top prize of £25,000 for anyone lucky enough to match all six numbers in sequence.

And because half of the money from every ticket sold goes direct to good causes, it’s also a great opportunity for people to support their local community group, charity or sports club.

Tickets cost £1 from local-lotto.co.uk and are set to go on sale on March 13 ahead of the first draw, which is due to take place on Saturday 21 April.

A wide range of different community and voluntary groups have signed up to the lottery, and ticket buyers will be able to elect for 40p of their £1 ticket price to go to their favoured group.

A further 10p from each ticket sale will supplement the Council’s community grants budget so it can be distributed to local good causes.

Of the remaining 50p of each ticket sale, 30p will go to the prize fund, 17p will go to the lottery operators Gatherwell, and the remaining 3p is the VAT on the operator’s charge, which will be recovered by DDC and used to cover their costs for running the scheme.

Voluntary and community groups that join the scheme do not have to pay anything and receive their own web page on the local-lotto.co.uk site as well as marketing help to promote their cause.

The Council distributed more than £160,000 of grant funding to around 50 community and voluntary groups across the district in the last financial year, so the Local Lotto will allow even more good causes to benefit.

Based on community lotteries operating in other districts, the Council estimates it could make 50,000 annual ticket sales each year, netting £25,000 for local groups.

Councillor Alan Hills, Community, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder at Daventry District Council, said: “It’s a great way for local groups to generate a regular income while offering their supporters a chance to win some great cash prizes. We’ve been doing a lot of work with groups in our area to get them signed up to the Lotto, and we’ve been very encouraged by the enthusiasm shown so far.

“The scheme really is a win-win for everyone involved, so we hope residents will get behind it. And if you go to buy a ticket and your favourite local group or club hasn’t joined the scheme yet, please tell them to get in touch and sign-up so they can benefit.”

How to be in it to win it

1. From March 13, you will be able to buy tickets for the Local Lotto from local-lotto.co.uk
2. At the time of Daventry Calling going to press, the expected date of the first draw was Saturday, April 21. Draws will take place each Saturday after that.
3. Tickets can only be bought online and cost £1. You can elect for 40p of each ticket you buy to go to any of the community and voluntary groups that have signed up to the Lotto. You will be able to choose which group receives the money from a list when you buy your ticket.
4. Six numbers will be drawn each week, with a jackpot of £25,000 for matching all six in sequence. The other prizes are as follows:
   - 5 numbers in sequence - £2,500
   - 4 numbers in sequence - £250
   - 3 numbers in sequence - £25
   - 2 numbers in sequence - £5
5. Look out for additional prizes which will be offered over the course of the year to encourage further ticket sales.
6. Visit local-lotto.co.uk for more information
7. Community and voluntary groups interested in applying to be part of the Local Lotto should contact DDC’s Community Development Co-ordinator on communitygrants@daventrydc.gov.uk or 01327 871100.
Your chance to vote in local elections this May

Elections for Daventry District Council are being held on Thursday, 3 May, 2018. One-third of Daventry District Council’s seats are due to be contested this year. A councillor for each of the following wards will be elected:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Villages/areas contained within the ward</th>
<th>Seats to be elected</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abbey North</td>
<td>Headlands, Part of Ashby Fields (Dennetts, New Forest Way and Highlands Drive), Drayton Park, Middlemore, Timken</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbey South</td>
<td>Part of Ashby Fields (Shackleton Drive, Speke Drive), Daneholme Park, Daventry Town Centre, Inlands, Priory Estate, Jubilee Road</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brixworth</td>
<td>Brixworth, Cottesbrooke, Creaton, Draughton, Lamport, Maidwell, Scaldwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drayton</td>
<td>Stefen Hill, Grange, Cherry Orchard</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hill</td>
<td>Borough Hill, Southbrook, Lang Farm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Buckby</td>
<td>Long Buckby, Long Buckby Wharf, Guilsborough, Watford, West Haddon</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moulton</td>
<td>Moulton, Overstone</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spratton</td>
<td>Boughton, Chapel Brampton, Church Brampton, Harlestone, Pitsford, Spratton</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weedon</td>
<td>Brockhall, Dodford, Everdon, Farthingstone, Flore, Newnham, Norton, Stowe IX Churches, Weendon, Whilton</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welford</td>
<td>Arthingworth, Clipston, East Farndon, Great Oxendon, Haselbech, Kelmarsh, Marston Trussell, Naseby, Sibbertoft, Sulby, Welford</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodford</td>
<td>Badby, Byfield, Catesby, Canons Ashby, Chanwelton, Fawsley, Hellidon, Preston Capes, Staverton, Woodford-cum-Membris</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yelvertoft</td>
<td>Clay Coton, Cold Ashby, Elkington, Lilbourne, Stanford on Avon, Thornby, Winwick, Yelvertoft</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Parish council elections

Elections are also due to be held for seats in the following parishes: Creaton, Guilsborough, West Haddon, Moulton, Overstone, Brington, Church with Chapel Brampton, Harlestone, Spratton, Everdon, Byfield, Preston Capes, Woodford cum Membris, Lilbourne, Yelvertoft, Cold Ashby and Daventry Town.

Polling stations for both the Daventry District Council elections and the Parishes that are being contested will be open between 7am and 10pm on Thursday, 3 May.

Make sure you’re registered

You need to be on the electoral register to vote. The deadline for registering in time for this year’s May elections is midnight on Tuesday 17 April, 2018.

If you are registering to vote for the first time you can do this online at [gov.uk/registertovote](http://gov.uk/registertovote)

You will be asked for your date of birth and your National Insurance number. These details are checked against government records to help make sure that registrations are genuine.

These elections are an opportunity to make your voice heard and have a say on who represents you on issues that directly affect day-to-day life in Daventry District.

But if you’re not registered by 17 April, you will not be able to vote.

Registering to vote has other benefits too - being on the electoral register can help you when applying for a credit card, mortgage or even a new mobile phone contract, as it is one of the things that is looked at by companies when carrying out credit checks.

If you’re not sure whether you are registered, or you have recently moved house, you should contact Daventry District Council Electoral Services on 01327 871100 or email [electoralservices@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@daventrydc.gov.uk)
Your Council

For more details on this year's elections, visit daventrydc.gov.uk/elections

How to vote….

…In person

You can vote at your designated polling station, from 7am to 10pm on Thursday, May 3.

Please ensure you check your poll card for the correct address – this will be on your polling card that will be sent out to you a few weeks before the elections.

You will also be able to view a list of locations by inputting your postcode in our mapping system from daventrydc.gov.uk/online or by phoning 01327 871100. If you lose or forget your poll card you will still be able to vote without it, but it is easier if you have it with you.

…by post

If you are 18 or over and on the electoral register, you can apply for a postal vote. You will need to complete a Postal Vote Application Form and send it to DDC’s Electoral Registration Officer by 5pm on Wednesday 18 April, 2018. A postal vote may be arranged for one election, indefinitely or for a specific period.

Postal vote packs are sent out about 10 to 15 days before election day. Once you’ve received your postal vote, mark your vote on the ballot paper and make sure you send it back so that it arrives by close of poll (10pm on election day). If it arrives later than this, your vote won’t be counted.

…by proxy

Voting by proxy means that you can appoint someone you trust to vote on your behalf if you are unable to get to the polling station, for example if you are working away, on holiday abroad, or fall ill and are unable to get to the polling station.

Anyone can be your proxy as long as they are eligible to vote in that type of election and they are willing to vote on your behalf at your own polling station. A proxy cannot vote for more than two people unless they are relatives.

You will need to fill in an application form and send it to DDC’s Electoral Registration Officer by 5pm on Wednesday 25 April, 2018. If an elector falls ill or is called away on business after this date they may be able to apply for a proxy vote up to 5pm on May 3.

To request an application form for a postal or proxy vote call 01327 871100, or email electoralservices@daventrydc.gov.uk

Thinking of becoming an election candidate?

DDC is hosting a briefing for prospective candidates and agents for these elections at its offices in Lodge Road at 5.30pm on 20 March 2018.

Anyone interested in becoming a candidate this year should contact the elections team on 01327 871100 or email electoralservices@daventrydc.gov.uk

If you’re interested in standing for forthcoming elections or becoming an agent, you can find out more at daventrydc.gov.uk/elections

2018 marks 100 years since Parliament passed a law which allowed some women, and all men, to vote for the first time: the 1918 Representation of the People Act.

The UK Parliament’s Vote 100 project will feature a series of significant exhibitions and events across the UK to celebrate the centenary and enhance our understanding of the struggle for the vote.

Find out more at ukvote100.org
What’s on this Spring

Saturday 3 March to Saturday 14 April
Art exhibition showcasing work by District-based artists Belinda Collett and Gill Denbigh as well as Broughton-based Alison Bull. The exhibition runs at the Alfred East Gallery in Sheep Street, Kettering (NN16 0AN) which is open from 10am to 4.45pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

Friday 9 March
Race Night at Overstone Village Hall from 7.30pm. Tickets cost £8, which includes a fish and chip supper. Phone 01604 670029/645510 for tickets.

Wednesday 21 March
Public Forum at Daventry Leisure Centre from 2 to 4pm featuring guest speakers, promotions and a raffle, organised by the Daventry & District Forum for the over 50s. More at daventrydc.gov.uk/DDF

Saturday 24 March
Dinner & Dance with Eric Darlington and the John Cleveland Band at Highgate House, Creaton at 7pm in aid of the Chairman of Daventry District Council’s chosen charity, Macmillan Cancer Support. Tickets cost £30 for a three-course meal, including welcome drink. To reserve tickets email chairman@daventrydc.gov.uk or phone 01327 871100.

Sunday 25 March
Spring Wedding Fair at Skylarks Farm in Staverton from 11am to 3pm, featuring displays by local wedding suppliers. Admission is free.

Good Friday, 30 March
Easter Egg Hunt at Daventry Country Park – see panel for details.

30 March to 2 April
Cadbury Egg Hunt at Canons Ashby from 11am to 4pm each day, entry is £3.

April 20-29
Brixworth Music Festival featuring a week of concerts offering a mix of classical and contemporary music at the village’s All Saints Church. Visit brixworthmusicfestival.co.uk for information and tickets.

Sunday 22 April
Open Gardens at Cottesbrooke Hall from 2 to 5.30pm as part of the National Garden Scheme. Entry costs £7 (children £4) and the tea room will be open serving teas, coffees and homemade cakes.

Saturday & Sunday, 28-29 April
Photographic Show at All Saints church, West Haddon from 10am to 4pm each day, featuring a selection of printed and digital images taken by amateur photographers from the local area. Submissions are welcome – visit whphoto.club for more.

May Bank Holiday
Sunday & Monday 6-7 May
Plant Fair at Holdenby House from 11am to 4pm each day, organised by the Northamptonshire Group of the Hardy Plant Society. The gardens will be open and there will be falconry displays.

Friday & Saturday, 11-12 May
Woodworks Show at Daventry Leisure Centre in Lodge Road, hosted by Tudor Rose Woodturners. The show runs from 10am to 4pm each day and features woodturning demos and competitions as well as stalls selling tools and woodwork products, and a raffle. Entry is free. More at tudor-rose-turners.co.uk

Spring Bank Weekend
26-28 May
Crick Boat Show at Crick Marina – see panel for details.

If you would like to include forthcoming events in the District in Daventry Calling please email news@daventrydc.gov.uk

Please note that due to distribution schedules, some areas of the district may receive Daventry Calling later than the date of some featured events.

Discover more days out at lovedaventry.com/whats-on
Youngsters are invited to join Daventry Country Park’s free Easter Eggsplorer Trail and Bonnet Competition this Good Friday (30 March).

The event runs at the Park’s Visitor Centre between 10am and 11.30am when children are invited to complete a trail and meet the park’s Easter Bunny Wiggles for a special Easter treat.

Children are also invited to design colourful bonnets on the themes of ‘bunnies and birds’ and ‘chocolate’ and bring them with them for a chance to win prizes in the Easter Bonnet Parade, which starts at 10.30am.

Councillor Alan Hills, Daventry District Council’s Community, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder, said: “The Easter Trail and Bonnet Competition is a great tradition at Daventry Country Park and the event always proves very popular. Families have great fun taking part and of course it’s completely free, so please join us for a fantastic morning at the park.”

**Mini Adventures**

The park is also hosting two mornings of fun activities for children during the Easter holidays.

The Mini Adventure events are aimed at children aged between 4 and 11 and take place at 10.30am on Thursday 5 April and Tuesday 10 April at a cost of £1.50 per child. Activities will include nature scavenger hunts and pond dipping.

Children must be accompanied by an adult during the events and participants should wear suitable clothing and footwear for being outdoors as some areas may be muddy. Spaces on the Mini Adventures are limited so please book your place on 01327 871100.

For more information about activities at the Park like the Facebook page at facebook.com/DaventryCountryPark or visit daventrydc.gov.uk/countrypark

Join sports camps at Leisure Centre

Youngsters can join in a range of sporting activities at Daventry Leisure Centre during the Easter holidays.

Daventry District Council’s leisure partner Everyone Active has organised sports camps at the centre in Lodge Road, Daventry, on weekdays between Tuesday April 3 and Friday April 13.

The camps are aimed at children aged 5 to 12 and offer a range of different sports at a cost of £14 a day. Discounts are available for those booking the entirety of the camp.

Youngsters taking part in the camps can also be booked into the Connections Club, which offers a variety of games and activities before and after the camps.

The morning session runs from 8.30am to 10am and the afternoon session from 3pm to 5pm at a cost of £2.40 per child, per session.

For more information about the sports camps and the Connections Club, please contact the Leisure Centre on 01327 871144 or visit everyoneactive.com/daventry

Discover more days out at lovedaventry.com/whats-on
Your Community

Forty years of our Country Park

From dog walkers to bird watchers, park runners to mini-adventurers, hundreds of thousands of visitors have enjoyed Daventry Country Park since it first opened to the public in 1978.

To mark its 40th anniversary, Daventry Calling looks at the history of one of the District’s most beloved spots.

While the Country Park has a relatively recent history, the reservoir it surrounds is considerably older, having been completed by the Grand Union and Oxford Canal Companies as a feeder for the canal in 1804.

A map of 1803 shows the outline of the proposed Daventry Reservoir and the landholdings that would be flooded, including part of the hamlet of Thrupp.

Located within walking distance of the town, the reservoir soon became a popular spot for recreation, but the origins of the park in its present form would not take shape for more than 150 years.

With Daventry growing rapidly in the mid-70s, Daventry District Council agreed with British Waterways (now the Canal and River Trust) to manage the site for recreational and conservation purposes. A circular path was built and the site opened as Daventry Country Park in 1978.

The Visitor Centre and café followed nine years later after the old reservoir keeper’s cottage was adapted for the purpose, and the park was expanded in 1994 with the construction of the Northern Way road, opening up new areas including Wild Acres and the Community Orchard.

A Green Flag Award winner on 17 occasions, the park was designated as a Local Nature reserve in 2007 and its experienced Rangers look after the site in line with a regularly reviewed management plan.

Outdoor gym equipment, a nature trail, and a sensory garden are among its most recent additions, and thousands of visitors enjoy its annual programme of family activities.

Ranger Tony Newby said: “I have worked at Daventry Country Park for almost 30 years and have seen many changes in that time, but the park remains as popular as ever. I enjoy working here and being part of the team that makes the park a pleasant and enjoyable place for visitors.”

The work of the Rangers is supported by volunteers from the Friends of Daventry Country Park. Chair of the Friends, Dennis Cooper, said: “The Friends are proud to support the work of the Country Park and it’s been a pleasure to see it develop over the years. We very much enjoy getting involved with conservation and practical projects to benefit the park and its users and we are looking forward to that continuing.”

Councillor Alan Hills DDC’s Community Culture and Leisure Portfolio holder, said: “The park has been enjoyed by many hundreds of thousands of visitors in the last 40 years, and its appeal has spanned the generations, with people who enjoyed visiting the park as children now bringing their children and even their grandchildren.

“It’s a real jewel in the District’s crown and we will continue to work with our partners to maintain and enhance it, so the park can be enjoyed by many more generations to come.”

Look out for events to mark the 40th anniversary taking place at Daventry Country Park this year at facebook.com/DaventryCountryPark or daventrydc.gov.uk/countrypark

See page 15 for details of the free Easter Egg Hunt at the Park on Good Friday, March 30.