

**West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) Councillor Update for
Parish Councils and Village Magazines
in Hackleton & Grange Park Ward**

August 2021

**Serving and supporting residents, business, groups and communities across the villages and parishes of
Brafield on the Green, Castle Ashby, Chadstone, Cogenhoe, Denton, Eakley Lanes, Grange Park, Hackleton,
Hartwell, Horton, Little Houghton, Piddington, Preston Deanery, Quinton, Salcey Forest,
St George's Fields Wootton, Whiston, Yardley Hastings**

This last month has been a little quieter in terms of Council, Parish and Group meetings due to the holiday season, but we've enjoyed being out and about across the Ward visiting village, parish and community summer events and meeting more of our residents and local businesses, learning ever more about our beautiful 'Hackleton and Grange Park' Ward.

Here's a quick round up of recent news of relevance and interest to you.

Meeting Updates

Full Council meeting

The next full council meeting will be on 23 September 2021.

If there is anything you would like to propose to Councillors and have your say at this meeting, please contact Democratic Services in advance to register to speak.

You can also watch the meeting live or on demand – it will be live streamed and recorded and can be viewed on the West Northamptonshire Council YouTube channel.

Other News

A huge well done to our young people

Last week was a big week for young people after A-Level results day on Tuesday followed quickly by GCSE results on Thursday. We congratulate all students for the results and hard work thought the difficulties of studying during lockdown, and also remind students that further education and higher education are great options for their futures, but also that there are other options and we'd like to signpost young people to Apprenticeships and National Careers Advice.

Northampton Market Square Survey

In April, the Government confirmed that Northampton Forward's bid to the Future High Streets Fund had been successful and that the town would receive £8.4 million for redevelopment. A great deal of planning has been done since then to set out the programme for the project, to ensure work can start late next year. The team is in the process of being appointed, including architects, engineers, and quantity surveyors. MK Surveys started work in July and the company's task is to complete a range of survey tasks including ground-penetrating radar, CCTV investigation of drainage and mapping of the site. Let's watch this space!

Adult Safeguarding - #ReportIt

The Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) launched a campaign on Monday 16 August to raise awareness about how people can register a concern if an adult they know is at risk of harm or abuse. The #ReportIt campaign follows a survey carried out in December 2020 which found that 45% of respondents didn't know how to report a concern. Everyone should know how to spot signs of abuse and the actions that should be taken if they have a concern. Statistics show that last year in Northamptonshire (2020-21) 5,118 concerns were received. Of those: 1,368 required further action, 54% of abuse was due to neglect, and 31% occurred in the person's home. The #ReportIt campaign includes social media messaging, vinyl banners in town centre car parks, publicity materials for hospitals and businesses, as well as posters to display on buses. Follow the NSAB on Twitter to support the campaign or visit their website for more information. www.northamptonshiresab.org.uk or call 0300 126 7000.

Public Consultations

- **Have your say on how WNC communicates**

Citizens across West Northamptonshire are being encouraged to give your views on how your new council should keep you informed and updated on the many local services we provide. West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) launched in April, replacing the previous councils covering Daventry, Northampton and South Northamptonshire and bringing all their services under one roof, from bin collections, housing, planning and highways to education, social care and public health. The Council is keen to hear from residents and businesses about how you currently find out news and information about our services and offer suggestions for how this can be improved to help shape the way we communicate in the future. You can give your view by completing a short survey on the council's Consultation Hub at www.westnorthants.gov.uk. **Survey closes 30 August.**

- **Council Constitution**

Citizens are invited to have their say on West Northamptonshire Council's (WNC) Constitution. The Constitution, which sets out how WNC operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed, was agreed at the annual meeting of council on 20 May 2021. Because it was developed over a relatively short period to ensure the new council had governance arrangements in place, councillors agreed that a review process should also be put in place. The review, led by a task group made up of five councillors from different political parties, including your Cllr Fiona, will aim to ensure the Constitution reflects WNC's values, and that it is transparent, accountable, efficient, accessible, inclusive and concise. Residents' views are encouraged as part of that review, and people can have their say during a four-week consultation. People can view the Constitution and complete a short survey about it by visiting the council's Consultation Hub at <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com>. **Survey closes 31 August.**

Paper copies of the questionnaires for both public consultations are also available on request by contacting Tracy Tiff, Deputy Democratic Services Manager, Democratic Services, West Northamptonshire Council, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE, as well as available at local libraries.

Waste and recycling collections in Northampton

Active steps are being taken by West Northants Council, and environmental services contractor Veolia, to address the ongoing impact to waste and recycling collections caused by staff sickness and a national shortage of HGV drivers and agency staff, worsened by the holiday season and the recent pandemic. WNC continues to update residents on a daily basis about disruption to the waste and recycling collections in Northampton via the website, social media and the call centre. Food waste continues to be the priority and weekly collections are taking place. The main impact is now on dry recycling and residents are being asked to leave their bins out until they are emptied. Please also be reminded that if your recycling bin is full, you can put additional recycling in clear sacks next to your bin and it will be collected. Please follow WNC on Facebook and Twitter, as well as the website, to receive updates as soon as they are published.

Northampton Heritage Open Days: 10-19 September

The Heritage Open Days 2021 festival runs for ten consecutive days from Friday 10 to Sunday 19 September. Each year the festival has grown and further developed and in Northampton, this national annual event, adopted locally, has become very popular with local citizens and visitors to the area alike. Historic buildings, churches and venues across West Northamptonshire will be open to the public for free during the 9 day event, as part of the national Heritage Open Days initiative. The event, coordinated locally by West Northamptonshire Council and run by a team of dedicated volunteers, is a once-a-year opportunity to explore some of the area's unique historic buildings and sites, many of which are usually restricted access or charge for entry. The 900-year old Delapre Abbey will open its doors to the public free of charge, including tours of the walled gardens and talks by local historians, covering the Battle of Northampton and the Eleanor Cross. Visit WNC website for more information and links to the booking system and the Heritage Open Days website.

Beat The Streets

An exciting new activity which is free to young people and adults and has proven to get more people active all over the country, is about to hit the streets of Northampton. Beat the Street is like a digital treasure hunt. Adults are given a card and children a digital token which have to be swiped at units, or 'Beat Boxes' which will be placed on lampposts around the town. The object of the games is to visit as many Beat Boxes as you can by walking, running, cycling or rolling! Participants, playing on their own, in teams or with the family receive points for every box they visit and can keep track on their performance compared against others via the Beat the Street website. There are special events planned while Beat the Street is active and there are prizes up for grabs. To find out more, click on the image above or visit our WNC website and search Beat The Streets.

Oxford Cambridge Arc which includes our area

The Government has launched a consultation on future development across the Oxford Cambridge Arc, which includes our area.

This is your chance to have a say in how West Northamptonshire might contribute to, and benefit from its inclusion within the arc, so please take some time to fill in the survey if you're able.

www.placebuilder.io/futureofthearc.

Comments received in the consultation will help create the vision for the area to 2050 and guide local planning and investment decisions in four areas: environment, economy, connectivity and infrastructure, and place-making. You can find out more background detail on the Government's website.

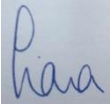
Help with highways

Do you have a query or concern about our highways? Street Doctor/FixMyStreet remains the first port of call for any residents wishing to report issues with the our West Northants highways and we encourage you to log any concerns you have via this portal, which can be found via www.westnorthants.gov.uk.

Northamptonshire Highways aims to respond to all enquiries within five to ten days and will provide information about their investigation, and what action they will take. However, for more complicated matters or where you feel a Street Doctor query could do with more input, please don't hesitate to contact one of us (Fiona, Steve, Andrew) and we can escalate your query to the Highways Community Liaison Officers. Information on highways work is communicated on Twitter via the @nnhighways account, and another great website for an up-to-date picture of roadworks taking place across the county can be found at www.one.network. Work to create a new section of the website displaying a future programme of planned works is also underway.

To ensure we are updating you, and canvassing views, about the things that are most important to you, we very much welcome your feedback about our updates and work we are undertaking in general. And please do get in touch if there is a matter you believe we can support you with.

With warm wishes



Cllr Fiona Cole


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To get in touch with us, and also keep up to date about local matters, you can reach and follow us at:

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 @Hackleton and Grange Park Conservatives