

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT 2023-24

Daventry Town Council
3 New Street, Daventry, NN11 4BT
Tel: 01327 301246
Web: www.daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Facebook: @DavTC
Twitter: @Daventry_TC
Instagram: @daventrytowncouncil

Welcome to the Annual Report 2023/24

THE COUNCIL

We are the parish authority for the town of Daventry. We are committed to make Daventry Town a better place to live, work and visit.

Daventry Town Council consists of 16 councillors representing four wards (areas) who are elected every four years. Councillors and officers of the council work together to

- Provide a democratic and representational voice of the community.
- Support and contribute towards the economic and social growth of the local community.
- Provide quality services at the most effective cost.
- Work in partnership with other agencies providing public services for the Town.
- Striving to improve quality of life in the Town.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Council Committee meetings are held at the Town Council offices 3 New Street and open to everyone. Below is a list of the meetings scheduled for 2024/25.

2024	TOWN COUNCIL 18:30	FINANCE & POLICY 18:30	PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT 18:30	MUSEUM 18:30	COMMUNITY SERVICES 18:30
MAY	20	1 (WED)	8 & 29		
JUNE	24	10	19		3
JULY	29	15	10 & 31		
AUGUST	19	12	21		
SEPTEMBER	30	9	11		2
OCTOBER	28	14	2 & 23	21	
NOVEMBER	25	11	13		
DECEMBER	16	9	4		
2025	TOWN COUNCIL 18:30	FINANCE & POLICY 18:30	PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT 18:30	MUSEUM 18:30	COMMUNITY SERVICES 18:30
JANUARY	27	13	8 & 29		
FEBRUARY	24	10	19		3
MARCH	31	10	12		
APRIL	28		2 & 23	14	

Details, together with copies of Agendas, Minutes and reports can be found on the Town Council website [Daventry Town Council](http://www.daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk) . If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the office on 01327 301246 or pop into the office on 3 New Street and we will provide you with the information you are seeking.

At the beginning of every meeting, there is an Open Forum, this provides members of the public with an opportunity to speak on any item on the Agenda or raise concerns and ask questions on community matters. If your concerns and/or questions cannot be answered at the meeting it will be referred to either the Chief Officer to investigate and respond or be deferred, as an Agenda item for discussion on the next Town Council or relevant committee meeting.

THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Annual Town Meeting is an informal meeting, that must be held between 1st March and 1st June (inclusive each year). The meeting is to enable residents to ask questions of the Council and/or give their views on matters relating to the parish of Daventry for members to consider when making decisions on behalf of the community.

The Council submits its Annual Report to this meeting, to give a summary of the Council's activities over the previous financial year.

The Town Mayor presides over the meeting and everyone is welcome to speak but not all questions can be answered, some may need to be deferred to the Chief Officer or put on the Agenda of another meeting of the Council, for discussion.

DAVENTRY TOWN COUNCILLORS AND WARDS

Town Ward Map



Town Council elections were held on 6th May 2021. The next election is scheduled for May 2025.

Details of your Town Councillors can be found below and, on the Town Council website, www.daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk.

DAVENTRY NORTH WARD	
Scott Cameron	cllr.cameron@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Alan Knape	cllr.knape@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Katie Thurston	Cllr.Thurston@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Karen Tweedale	cllr.tweedale@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
DAVENTRY CENTRAL WARD	
Dawn Branigan	cllr.branigan@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Stephen Dabbs	cllr.dabbs@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Ted Nicholl	cllr.nicholl@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Phillip Silk-Neilsen	Cllr.silk-neilsen@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
DAVENTRY EAST WARD	
Mike Arnold	cllr.arnold@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Malcolm Ogle	cllr.ogle@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Janet Matthews	cllr.matthews@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Holly Steenson	cllr.steenson@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
DAVENTRY WEST WARD	
Lynn Jones	cllr.jones@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Wendy Randall	cllr.randall@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Lynne Taylor	cllr.taylor@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk
Glenda Simmonds	cllr.simmonds@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk

MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

Daventry Town Council voted against awarding allowances to its Members (Daventry Town Councillors), however any expenditure incurred whilst on Council business is reimbursed.

An annual allowance of £3000 is awarded to the Mayor/Chair of Council to facilitate Mayoral/Civic duties.

COUNCIL SERVICES

It can be confusing knowing which council to contact for the many services that both Town and Unitary Councils provide, as a rough guide for

Services provided by Daventry Town Council (list of services below):

Tel: 01327 301246

Email: Customerservices@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk

- Allotments (Daneholme, Drayton East and West, Staverton Rd, Welton Rd)
- CCTV
- Children's Play Areas & Skate Park
- Civic & Mayoral Functions
- Community Transport (Daventry Town Community Bus)
- Community Ranger
- Community Representation
- Council Meetings
- Events & Community Engagement
- Funding (Community grants)
- Hanging Baskets & Christmas lights
- Holy Cross Closed Churchyard
- Management & maintenance of tree stock & highway verges
- Management & Maintenance of Parks, Open Spaces, Lakes, Ponds & Ditches
- Markets
- Museum
- Open Spaces
- Sheaf Street Gazebo & Town Sculptures
- Street Furniture (seating, bins)
- Town Management
- War Memorial & Remembrance Day Parade
- Welton Road Cemetery & Burials

Services provided by the West Northamptonshire Council

Tel: 0300 126 7000

Email: contactus@westnorthants.gov.uk

Adult social care

Children's services

Council tax

Environmental Health

Garden waste collection

Highways

Housing

Household waste and recycling (bins)

Parking

Daventry Town Council, 3 New Street, Daventry, NN11 4BT

Tel: 01327 301246

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MAYOR/CHAIR OF COUNCIL

The Mayor/ Chair of Council

The Mayor's role is to chair the council and engage with the community to raise awareness of local charities and organisations. The Mayor/Chair is elected by members of the Town Council, at the Annual Town Meeting, held every year in May.

If you would like the Mayor to learn more about your organisation or charity, or attend an event please

Email mayor@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk or download a mayoral engagement form <https://www.daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk/the-mayor.html>

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR FOR THE COUNCIL YEAR 2023/24

Having had the privilege of being Mayor of Daventry and Chairman of the Town Council for the past year it has been wonderful to meet and connect with so many of the people of Daventry.

Visiting our schools and meeting so many of our youngsters either at school or in the museum has been a joy and the Mayoral engagements I have attended have shown me not just how strong our community spirit is, but also the regard in which other towns' mayors hold Daventry.

Community Events in the Town continue to grow, with the Foodies' Market in September, the Fireworks Display and Christmas Market in November, the Living Advent Calendar event in December, the Easter Market in April and, at the time of writing Daventry Motor Fest and Bark in the Park still to come in May and June.

Daventry's Museum continues to thrive, thanks to our amazing group of volunteers and stewards that work to develop our Museum and give visitors a taste of Daventry, whether the town's past or during the special exhibitions, by sharing their vast combined local knowledge through the exhibits or when stewarding.

Our Town Ranger and sponsored PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) have also contributed to improving the Town by working jointly with the CCTV Control Room helping to make Daventry Town a safer place to live, work and visit.

DTC Councillors and Officers continue to listen to residents, working on your behalf to improve the services offered in the Town. Although this continues to be a time of uncertainty, please be assured that Daventry Town Council continues to put the best interest of all residents uppermost in everything that it does.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make my year as Mayor so enjoyable.

Cllr Ted Nicholl
Mayor and Chair of the Council

REPORT FROM FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

The accounts for 2023/24 financial year will not be audited until early Autumn. The final accounts have been reviewed by the Town Council's appointed internal auditor and will be considered for approval at the meeting of the Town Council on 20th May 2024 and will be available for public inspection from 3rd June 2024 to 12th July 2024.

Daventry Town Council's accounts are audited annually, in compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The accounts for 2022/23 have been duly audited and certified by the external auditor with no areas of concern or actions required.

In 2023/24 the Town Council awarded the following grants to community organisations offering a service that benefits the local community:

- £10,000 to Citizens Advice Daventry & District to support the work of Citizens Advice in Daventry Town for residents of Daventry Town.
- £7,500 to Daventry Area Community Transport, to provide a community bus service to residents living in Daventry Town with mobility and access challenges.
- £3,000 to support Daventry Motorcycle Festival.
- £1000 to Daventry Community Centre Short Matt Bowls Club towards the purchase of equipment.
- £1,000 to Daventry Town Football Clubs Community Hub towards the purchase a container to store donated food and items distributed via the hub.
- £1,000 to Daventry Community Shed towards the purchase of equipment.
- £1,000 to support the Daventry Motor Festival,
- £1,000 to Drayton Grange Football Club towards the purchase of training equipment.
- £1,000 to Mayfield Park Sports Club to upgrade the community building,
- £900 to support the Daventry Allotment and Garden Association (DAGA) to hold the Daventry Flower & Vegetable Show.
- £720 to Daventry & District Memory Café (DemCafe) towards the purchase of volunteer uniforms.
- £432 to support the Middlemore Residents Association Summer Fete.
- £100 to support the Daventry Advent Calendar Windows Project 2023.

We continue our efforts to make improvements to our services and to the town, we are mindful to ensure that our finances can sustain this level of quality and improvement well into the future, whilst at the same time minimising the impact of any Precept increase on our residents.

Further information is available on the Town Council website

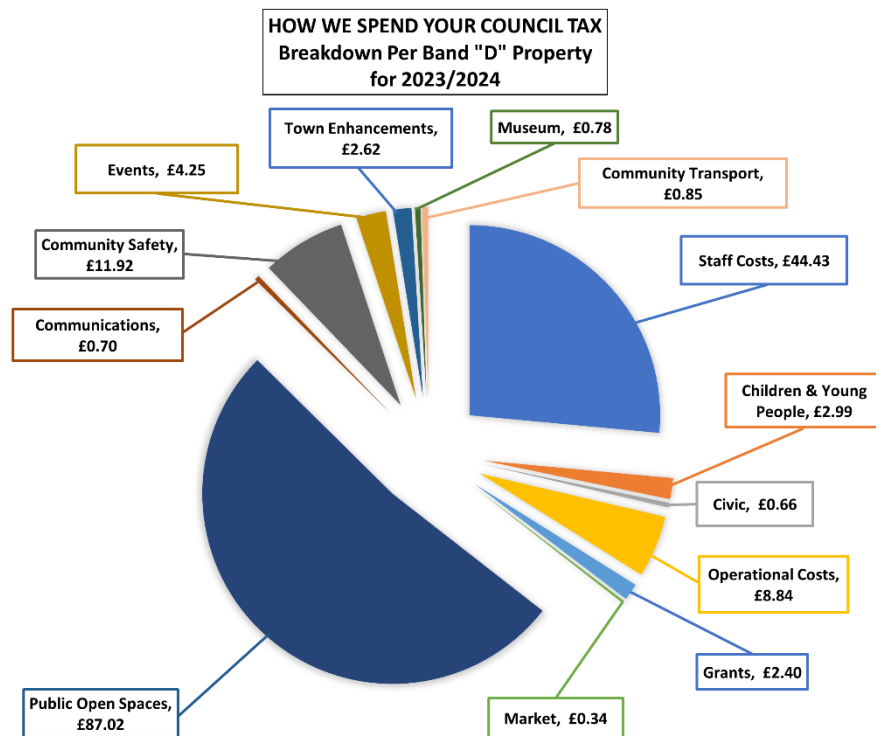
[Finance | Daventry Town Council](#)

or email the Responsible Finance Officer to make an appointment

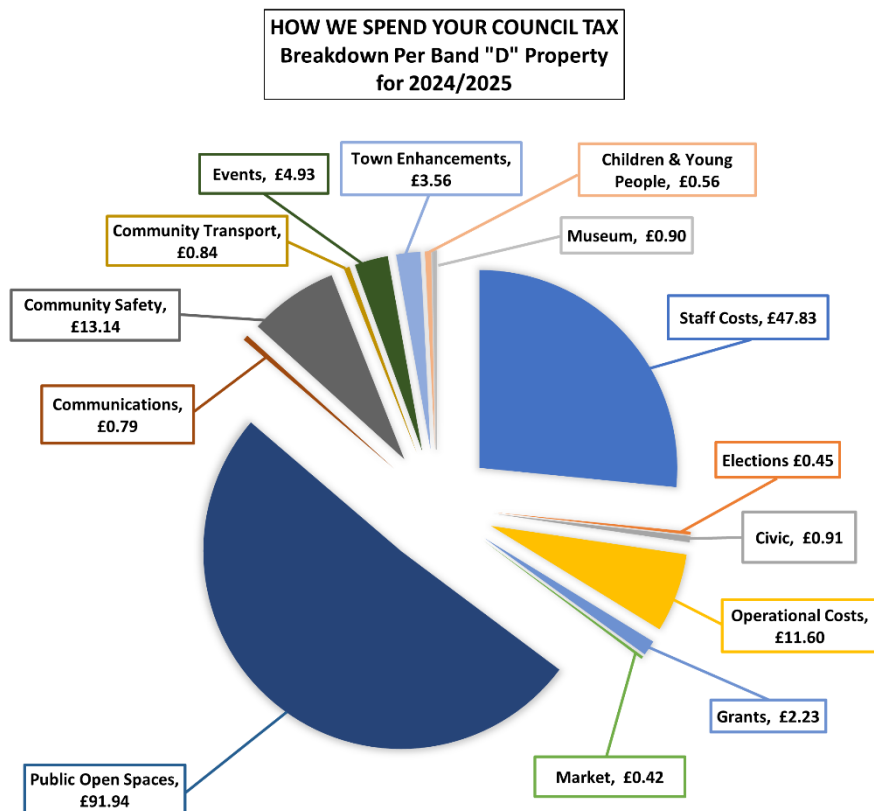
rfo@daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Lynne Taylor
Chair Finance and Policy Committee

Town Council Expenditure 23/24



Town Council Budgeted Expenditure 24/25



REPORT FROM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Planning & Development Committee meet every 3 weeks to review any new or amended planning applications as required by the consultations relating to the Parish of Daventry. Comments submitted on large-scale, strategic applications are considered and approved by Full Council.

In 2023/24 Daventry Town Council submitted comments on 97 planning applications, and is monitoring the progress of developments at Middlemore, Monkmoor, Micklewell and the newer developments on London Road, Staverton Road (Malabar and Staverton Lodge) and recent applications for Daventry North-East Sustainable Urban Extension, a residential development adjacent to the Care Home on Middlemore, a Retirement Home in the Town Centre and a further retirement complex adjacent to the Welton Road Cemetery.

The Town Council works tirelessly to highlight the need for new developments to consider adequate parking provision, conservation of trees, bin storage and green open space, however it has no power to approve or refuse a planning application.

Daventry Town Council is disappointed to advise that the Daventry Town Centre Vision 2035, adopted by Daventry Town Council and Daventry District Council in 2021 is not being taken forward. The reason for this change in direction, is lack of government funding, as the Town doesn't score very highly in relation to need. This is a positive statistic, but the result is that any future investment in the Town has to come from receipts from development. West Northamptonshire Council have been working in partnership with Daventry Town Council and urban designers to develop a framework for the public realm within the Town Centre. Ideas from the previous Town Vision and exploratory workshops with members of the Town Council and the Retail Forum will be available following a planned public consultation, in Bowen Square, on 18th May 2024. Please take time to consider the proposals and give your feedback to help shape the Town to benefit existing and future generations.

If you have a planning application you wish to support or one that causes you concern, then please contact your ward councillor or the town council office, to be guided on the best way for your comments to be considered in the planning process. Representations are encouraged as its your town, and this is your opportunity to feed into the planning process.

Cllr Lynn Jones
Chair Planning & Development Committee

REPORT FROM PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Parks, Open Spaces and Environment Committee oversees the management, maintenance and development of the cemetery, Holy Cross churchyard, street furniture, bus shelters, parks, trees, play areas, open green spaces, ponds, lakes and ditches, owned or leased by Daventry Town Council.

Recent projects include:

No Mow May - Daventry Town Council supports the annual No Mow May campaign by identifying areas where grass cutting can either be left or suspended.

Following last year's No Mow May campaign, Daventry Town Council worked with its partners at Norse to review the mowing strategy and put a plan in place that promotes biodiversity and protects wildlife habitats. Although No Mow May only lasts a month, Daventry Town Council chooses to leave many areas uncut and takes a less intensive approach to grass cutting, which is better for nature all year round.

Waterways – Daventry Town Council continues to commission an external contractor to manage and maintain the condition of its lakes, ponds and ditches. The result of this investment is extremely rewarding as we see a noticeable increase and variety in wildlife making a home in these areas.

Recreation – Daventry Town Council is currently looking to invest monies gained from new developments in improving play provision in key areas of the Town. Once initial surveys have been completed a public consultation will be launched to give residents a chance to have a say on proposed plans.

Trees – The Town's trees are regularly inspected as part of the Council's management and maintenance of tree stock. Residents are encouraged to report any trees they are concerned about, so they can be assessed and any necessary works carried out, to improve the health of the tree or felling if there is no other option.

Cemetery – Initial investigations are taking place to extend burial land within the Welton Road Cemetery. Once an assessment has been made of the land, plans will be put in place for the land for burials to be extended. This could take 4-5 years.

Allotments – Daventry Town Allotments continue to be popular and we await news of land set aside on the Monksmoor development for the transfer of land to the Town Council for approximately 50 plots.

Cllr Lynne Taylor
Chair Parks, Open Spaces and Environment Committee

REPORT FROM MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Over the last year, Daventry Museum has continued to build on its engagement with the community through its free, family-friendly events and exhibitions, as well as

through tailored school and group visits within the locality. Visitor figures have continued to increase and feedback about the museum experience is positive.

At the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum Awards 2023, the museum was awarded a Highly Commended for its Borough Hill and its History exhibition. The exhibition aimed to engage the community by bringing the historic ages of Borough Hill alive through fascinating displays and fun activities. The judges of the 'Best Exhibition' category were particularly impressed with the museum's archaeological displays and the various ways in which the museum engaged with the community, especially with local schools.

The virtual tours of the museum exhibitions that were introduced during lockdown continue to be created and added to the revitalised museum website, which attracts a growing online audience.

The museum is supported by an invaluable team of dedicated volunteers, who are the lifeblood of the museum. Volunteers give their time to steward and carry out research as well as support exhibition open days, events, school and group visits, Town and Borough Hill guided walks and British Science Week, without them none of these events could take place.

Below is a list of some of the fascinating exhibitions and community engagements Daventry Museum has held over the past year.

Exhibitions

- Borough Hill and its History
- Made in Daventry and its Surrounds
- Coronation Display
- Remembrance Display
- World War Two: D-Day 80 Years On

Events & Outreach

- Finds Days (metal detectorists bring their finds for inspection by the Northamptonshire Finds Liaison Officer).
- Work experience placements
- Pen Pals scheme with local nursery
- School & group visits to museum
- British Science Week event
- Coronation Crafts
- Borough Hill History Walk
- Creativity Unwrapped – Heritage Open Days event
- Halloween half term crafts
- Living Advent Calendar

Cllr Lynn Jones
Chair Museum Committee

REPORT FROM COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Community Services Committee meets to consider provision of community focused services, events and activities.

In 2022 the Town Council recognised the need to invest and provide services for children and young people, and it continues to fund and support several youth projects and services which include:

Daventry Youth Hub – Led by Youth Inspired, sessions are held every Friday from 4:30-6.00pm, during term time, at the Southbrook Community Centre

GYM Bus Project: Empowering Youth, Building Community – Led by Guiding Young Minds (GYM) the GYM Bus provides a safe space for youth, empowering young people by addressing topics like online safety and peer pressure, gangs, promoting personal growth and resilience.

The GYM Bus can be found at New Street Park every Wednesday 4.30-6.30pm until the end of October.

Teen Clinic Daventry – Now in its second year, the award-winning Teen Clinic Daventry, supported by a host of countywide partners, including Daventry Town Council, Service Six, NHFT, NCT, Daventry E-Act academies, Daventry Primary Care Network and local businesses, offers a free, confidential service for local teens, including access to a GP, mental health support, and advice around sexual health and contraception.

Teen Clinic Daventry is held monthly and can be found at Daventry Mind, Old Gas Works Car Park from 3.30-6.30pm

Summer Holiday Activities – After the huge success of the last few years, DTC continues to provide Free Summer Activity Days, for toddlers to teens.

Daventry Town Council consistently seeks to work, in partnership with West Northamptonshire Council and Daventry organisations to create a lively and vibrant town, through its extensive events and community engagement programme.

In 2023, DTC funded and supported:

- Daventry Town Community Bus
- Summer Activity Days – holding forest school sessions, beginner scooter and skateboard sessions, circus and balance skills workshops and football workshops.
- 7 Litter picks on Southbrook, Headlands, Grange, Wimborne Place and the Town Centre
- Fireworks
- Feel-Good Fest
- Kings Coronation Family Activities and Crafting sessions in the Museum.
- The Easter, Foodies and Christmas Speciality Markets

- Daventry Heritage Bus Tours, provided by Northamptonshire Heritage Transport
- Knitting and Crochet Drop-in Sessions
- Random Acts of Crafty Kindness Christmas Trees 2023
- Remembrance Day Parade and Armistice Day

DTC also supported the Daventry Motorbike Festival, Daventry Allotment & Garden Association Flower & Vegetable Show, Water Safety Information Day, Daventry Pride Party in the Park, The Emergency Fun Day and the Southbrook Community Day

All Town Council activities are free community focused, family-friendly, and free for all to attend and promoted widely via the Town Council website and social media.

FREE ACTIVITIES 2024

SUMMER ACTIVITY DAYS -

*FOREST SCHOOL - HULA-HOOP MEGASTRUCTURE -
MULTI-SPORTS - FOOTBALL SKILLS
Various dates in July & August (dates to be published
in June)*

EVENTS 2024

BARK IN THE PARK	Sunday 2 nd June
SUMMER GAMES	Saturday 3 rd August
SKATE JAM	Saturday 3 rd August
DAVENTRY FOODIES MARKET	Saturday 7 th September
HERITAGE BUS TOURS	Saturday 7 th September
DAVENTRY FIREWORKS	Saturday 2 nd November
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	Sunday 10 th November
ARMISTICE DAY	Monday 11 th November
CHRISTMAS MARKET & FESTIVE FUN	Saturday 23 rd November

OTHER EVENTS SUPPORTED BY DTC

DAVENTRY PRIDE*	Saturday 29 th June
DAVENTRY MOTOR FEST*	Sunday 11 th May
DAVENTRY MOTORCYCLE FESTIVAL*	Saturday 8 th June
DAGA FLOWER & VEGETABLE SHOW*	Saturday 17 th August

** Events supported by Daventry Town Council but organised by volunteers*

Follow us to stay up to date on all our FREE events or visit our website:

Cllr Malcolm Ogle
Chair Community Services Committee

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Daventry Town Council manages CCTV provision in Daventry Town who work in partnership with the Daventry Neighbourhood Policing Team, the Retail Crime Initiative, Retail Radio Scheme and the DTC Community Ranger to support vulnerable people and promote a safe environment for residents and visitors to the Town.

In the Autumn of 2023, the Council made the difficult decision to withdraw funding for the sponsored PCSO, as they considered the additional funding from government to provide more officers to expand local policing teams negated the need for the Town Council to provide further public monies for this service. PCSO Kirsten Bates and Steve Sangster will continue to work in partnership with the Town Council CCTV and Community Ranger with the aim of promoting safer communities.

The Town Council is also a key partner in Operation Fragment, a Police initiative introduced to bring together a multi-agency task group to address long-term neighbourhood issues in Southbrook, build a closer community and encourage civic pride. Litter picking, installation of barriers to prevent motorcycle nuisance, youth hub, Community Café are small steps in achieving the aim to make people care for their community and their environment.

This is a drop in an ocean of need, but working with partners it is hoped that these are initial steps to identify need and increase provision across the Town.



FEEDBACK

Please use this page to submit any questions or comments on any of the Town Council facilities or services:

Name:

Address:

Tel:

Email:

DATA PROTECTION STATEMENT

Your details will be kept securely by Daventry Town Council under the terms of the Data Protection Act and Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) Daventry Town Council are collecting this data to enable us to manage your enquiry. We will only use it for that purpose and will not pass your information on to third parties.